

The Cowboy Chronicle

The Monthly Journal of the Single Action Shooting Society®

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August 2010

BUFFALO STAMPEDE 2010

The Four Corners Regional

By Capt. George Baylor, SASS Life #24287

Founders Ranch, Edgewood, New Mexico, April 22-25, 2010 – “We have a cold range here,” said Coyote Calhoun at the Buffalo Stampede shooters’ meeting, “a dayum cold range.” That was Friday morning. He was right. It was COLD!

A Little Background

Buffalo Stampede, annually held in April, has been the END of TRAIL Preview match where the targets and some ideas for scenarios are tested out before a live audience, so to speak. It has been the New Mexico State Championship on alternate years. The Four Corners Regional has been Outlaw Trail at Founders Ranch in August. This year Outlaw Trail will be the SASS Wild Bunch World Championship. So, Buffalo Stampede became the Four Corners Regional. With that it inherited the spirit of the Four Corners Regional, which lately has been designed as a shooters match with emphasis on shooting.



“It’s a cold range ... a dayum cold range!” So said Coyote Calhoun as he opened the Buffalo Stampede shooters meeting. The unstable weather turned on the cowboys during the earlier Wild Bunch match, but warmed up as the event went on. Always bring long Johns when shooting in the New Mexico mountains in April!

Wednesday

Long Hunter taught a one-day SASS University class. If you’re ever at an event where Long Hunter is teaching, take his class. You will no doubt find it’s money and time well spent. The Long Range match was late in the afternoon. Both got excellent weather. After that we had 17 people in Camp Baylor having cake and Margaritas celebrating our anniversary, The Redhead’s birthday, Weaver Gal’s birthday, our cat’s birthday, and six or seven holidays I’d never heard of, but didn’t care after a few Margaritas.

Thursday

Thursday morning. It was cold and clear, beautiful shooting weather if you brought your long Johns and hand warmers.

The morning started with a six-stage warm up match. We soon figured out the stages were simple and easy to understand, more like gun-fights than memory tests. Then, next came a six-stage Wild Bunch match. That’s when it started raining.

Then the rain turned to sleet.

Then the sleet turned to snow.

Then the snow became horizontal.

I believe I moved up in the

See **HIGHLIGHTS** on pages 62, 63

standings with each of those changes in the weather, as sensible people put their guns up and went off to their RVs or hotel rooms for hot toddies. But I hung on. When I dragged back into the bus, people were already drinking Margaritas. They didn’t shoot the Wild Bunch match. I’m not sure what the lesson is there. Actually I know; I’m just ignoring it.

Shooting Wild Bunch is a lot of fun. Each stage had 20-25 rounds of 1911, 4-6 rounds from a stoked ‘97, and 6-10 rounds from a rifle that actually experiences a phenomenon forgotten in modern SASS. It’s called recoil.

Thursday Night Chili Cook-off

This is New Mexico. Every dish is served with your choice of red or green chili. Green chili is akin to swallowing a lit cigarette. Red chili is more like swallowing an acetylene torch. Pancakes come with red or green chili. Ice cream comes with red or green chili. (Four words every visitor to New Mexico should know: “Green on the side.”) We had a chili cook-off. Awards were given for best red and best green chili. Rumor has it some of the cooks used some of the fine chilis for which New Mexico is famous. Others found chili peppers that are normally reserved for crowd control sprays. First aid was provided. (Continued on page 62)

SASS Cowboy Chronicle

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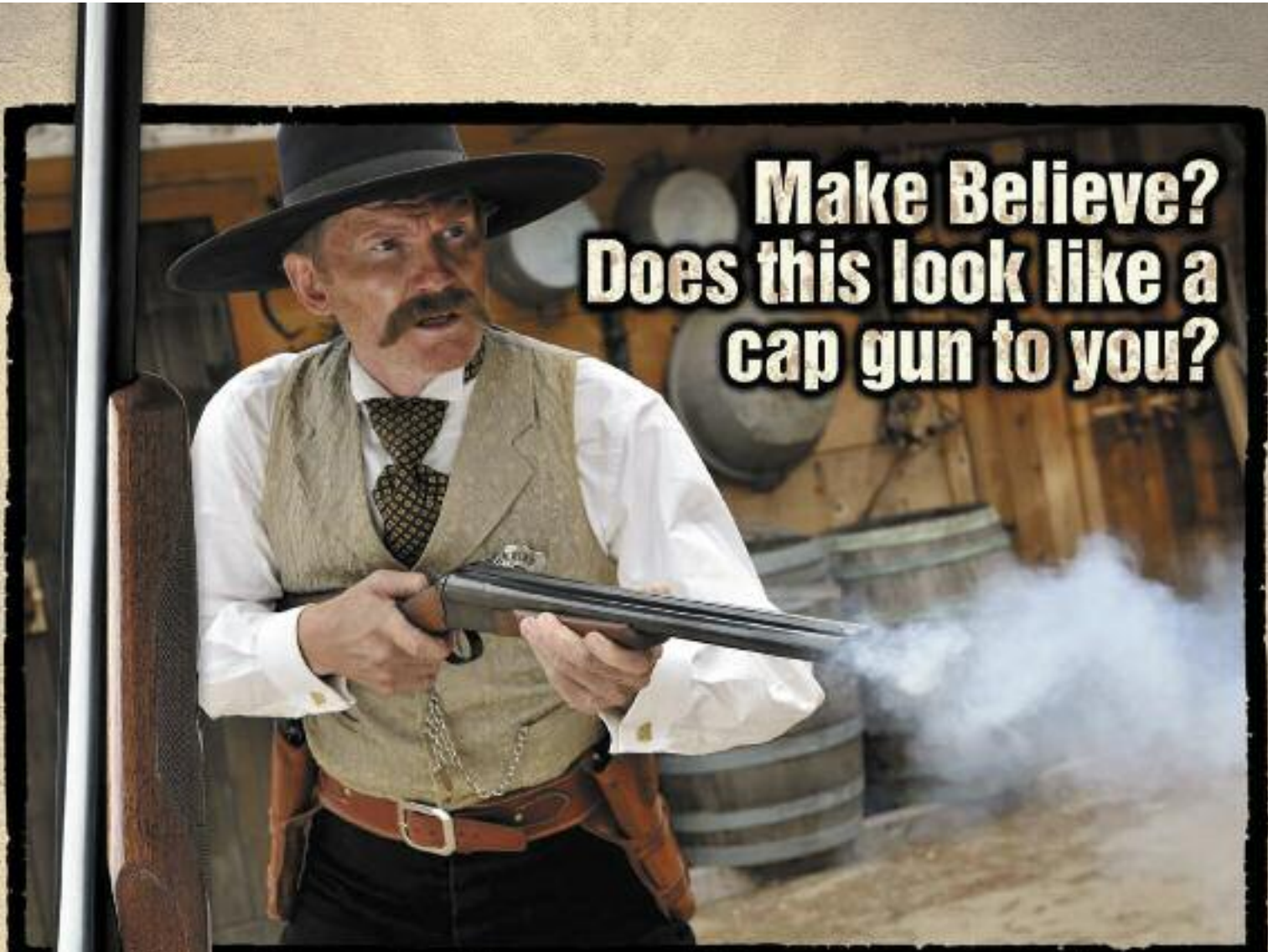
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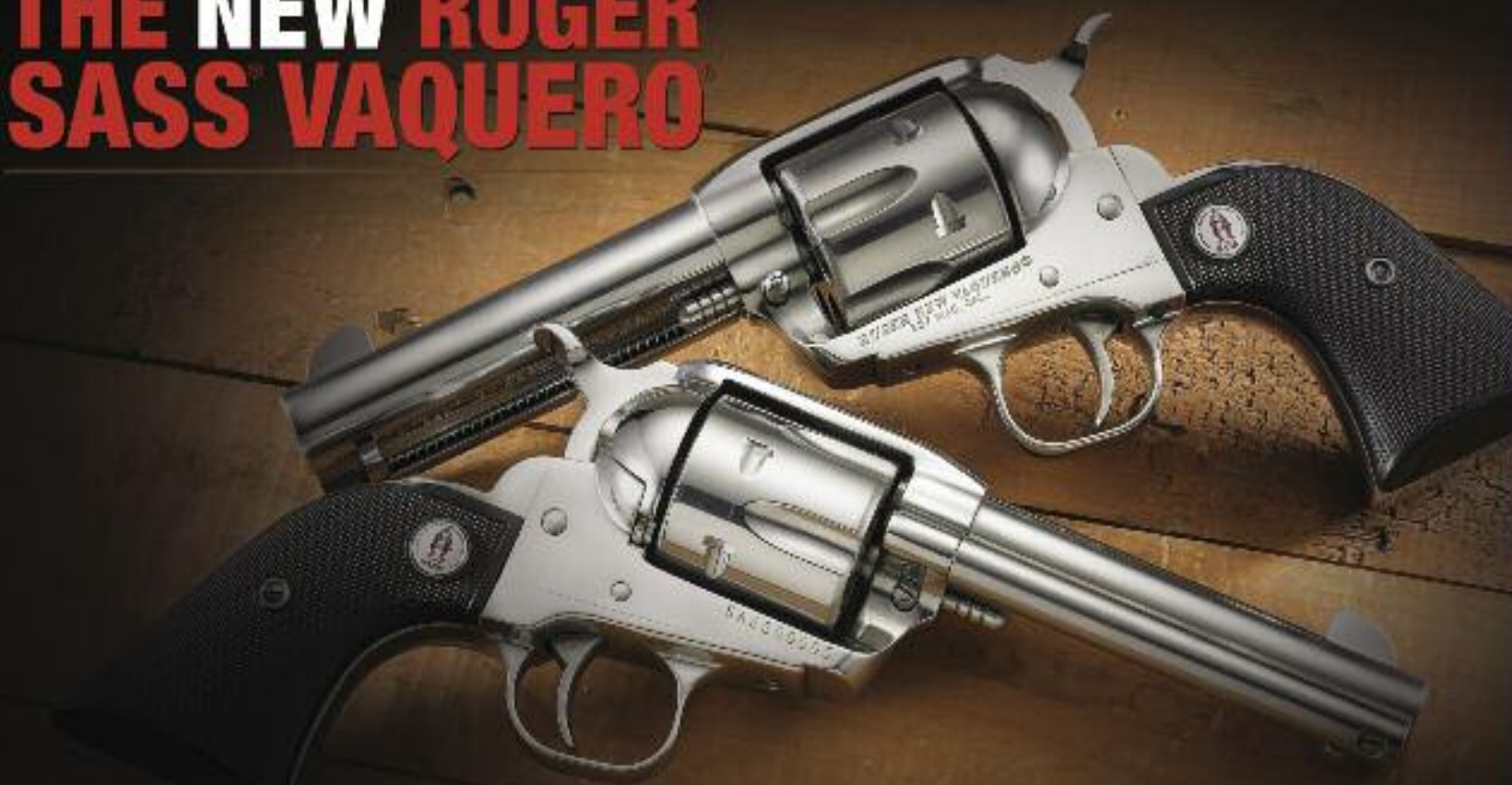
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Blazing six-guns, thundering hooves, and exploding targets were all part of the excitement at this year's END of TRAIL! The new Wild Bunch arena at the north end of town was an instant success as Dr. Buck Montgomery and his selection of outstanding western entertainers kept the public spell-bound for the last four days of the event. The grandstands were full for every performance!



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Tex, SASS #4
~SASS Hall of Fame Inductee~

REGULATORS

What Does It Mean to Have the Right Stuff?

By Tex, SASS #4

Early on the Wild Bunch realized the appropriateness of recognizing individuals who were of special significance to SASS. In those early days these special people were very helpful in running the organization, producing END of TRAIL, or were exemplary representatives of the organization that dealt with the public. All of these folks had special skills, and SASS was noticeably better for them. The individuals often worked

tirelessly, provided demonstrable benefits, and simply didn't know the meaning of the word "no." Within their area of expertise, they did whatever was required so SASS and our budding national (and later international) program could grow and prosper. These recipients were truly special, and their service truly appreciated. Their contributions affected us all.

When the organization was small, the Wild Bunch knew virtually everyone in SASS. Most members were Southern Californians, and as the organization grew, the Wild Bunch traveled frequently to the emerging clubs

across the country. Many of the friendships nurtured in those early days are still in evidence today. When special people emerged and had a noticeable impact on the growth of SASS, SASS policies, or the structure of the SASS programs, these folks became prime candidates to become Regulators.

As SASS became more and more successful, its growth far outstripped the Wild Bunch's ability to personally know everyone or to even fully appreciate the impact of the various clubs' activities across the country. The Wild Bunch became dependent upon the rank and file members to nomi-

nate appropriate Regulator candidates ... and they have!

Most of the candidates suggested by local clubs and by individuals have certainly been worthy candidates, but not all; and more so in recent years.

The more savvy members have learned how to submit an acceptable recommendation, and some individuals and clubs have gone out of their way to garner the recognition of being a Regulator, but it has not always been appropriate.

Part of the problem has been the informal process adopted by the Wild
(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)
 Bunch. If you think someone is deserving, start a petition and get some signatures, and submit it to SASS Headquarters. The actual criteria for being a Regulator has never been stated, and, indeed, even today it is a nebulous criteria. The net result is we are now recognizing some 80 new Regulators each year, and they are not all being well received by those who know them. While no one is doing anything wrong, the system is running "open loop," has no adult supervision, and is deflating the significance of the Regulator badge and recognition. Almost anyone who wants to be a Regulator can be one ... and that's not right.

Starting immediately, a new set of ground rules will be used to recognize future Regulators. As has occurred in the past, petitions with numerous signatures are appropriate and requested. The Wild Bunch doesn't know everything that's happening, but the local clubs know what's happening in their area. These petitions will get things started, but there is no guarantee the recognition will be forthcoming. The Wild Bunch will circulate these requests among the Territorial Governors in that Region, soliciting their input. The collective opinions of the Wild Bunch and the respective Territorial Governors will be the determining factor in whether or not the petition will be honored. The considerations by this group are not taken

lightly, but this is a very subjective process. After a consensus is achieved, the petitioner will be notified either "yes" or "no" with no justification given. The objective is to ensure the recipients are truly deserving.

Suppose there is a very dynamic club led by a very dynamic individual. The matches are fun, and the members are happy. Is this Regulator material? If this is the extent of it, the answer is "no." The definition of a good club President/Range Officer is to have a happy, merry club and happy members. If the club doesn't have this, it should be looking for a new club President/Range Officer. A potential Regulator might be instrumental in the establishment of multiple Cowboy Action clubs in the area, might be active in state Second Amendment related politics, might have special outreach programs where gun shows and other public events are used to raise awareness of Cowboy Action Shooting™ and the recruitment of new members. A Regulator might be instrumental in fostering cooperation between multiple clubs to jointly organize and host annual or state championships. A Regulator might be an RO instructor who travels extensively, ensuring consistency in Cowboy Action regionally, nationally, and even internationally. A Regulator's activities are beneficial and felt far outside one's home club. His or her activities should benefit SASS, or promote SASS growth, or provide international uniformity. Regulators really are very special people! 🤠

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MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND PICKING UP SPEED!

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375



Palaver Pete,
SASS Life/Regulator #4375

The Cowboy/Cowgirl Memorial Chapel Fund Drive kicked-off with a touching ground breaking ceremony at END of TRAIL, 2010. The following Poem by our own Utah Bob was read to the solemn and appreciative audience. Some tears were shed. It's a masterpiece—ENJOY!

The Campfire of the Spirit

By Utah Bob, SASS #35998

The campfire of the spirit never
burns low in the heart,
The ones we've known who've
left this earth are now a treas-
ured part
of memories that brightly shine
like twinkling well-known stars
who light the way to Heaven's
gates, as cowboys journey far.
The joy we felt in knowing
them!
The friendship in their eyes.
The good times that we shared
with them
as we dreamed of Western skies.
The dear departed we called
friends have left us all too soon.
But life goes on.
It always has.
Beneath this Western moon.
The pain we feel when good
friends go, with time, just might
subside
as we recall a beat up hat, worn
with a cowboy's pride.
The laughter that rang like a
bell, from a pretty cowgirl's
smile.
Can still warm up a winter's
trail, and will for quite a while.
And as we work to raise at last
this place of tears and love
We know our friends
are with us still
In these Western skies above.

We thank Utah Bob for giving us permission to repeat these copy-righted words above! Greater words



Five sets of these beautiful Lindholm Brothers spurs are the first set of Cowboy Memorial Chapel raffle items. Several END of TRAIL vendors have also stepped forward with desirable merchandise for additional fund-raising efforts.



Following the dedication service lead by Mo and Long Jim, the Wild Bunch participated in a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Cowboy Memorial Chapel.

of encouragement to raise the funds necessary to build this noble edifice could not have been spoken!

FUND-RAISING PROGRESS IS BEING MADE!

The Pine Mountain Posse of Bend, Oregon sold 48 \$10 insurance policies at their recent annual shoot, raising \$240 for local kids and \$240 for the SASS Cowboy Memorial Chapel. At the same Oregon shoot,

Long Jim Hancock sold \$170 worth of raffle tickets for chances on the Lindholm Brothers "Praying Cowboy Spurs," and Mo and the Circle K Regulators up New York way raised \$171 in contributions and raffle ticket sales. Each ticket that Long Jim and Mo sell is good for five chances on the Spurs when "drawing time" rolls around in December at the Las Vegas SASS Convention. Mo also received a whopping pledge of \$1000 from the upcoming NY State Championship Shoot, "Heluva Rukus!"
<http://www.circlekregulators.com/heluvrukus.html>

So Pard, as you can see, the fund drive is picking up speed and heading in the right direction. Perhaps you might suggest your club follow the idea of sharing insurance proceeds with the Chapel fund. It's a clean-cut existing way of raising funds while helping so many good causes, and remember, all contributions are tax deductible.

Estimated cost of construction for the Chapel will be between 40 and 50 thousand dollars. Funds will continue to be raised by raffling items donated by our devoted vendors and through club and membership contributions. The Lindholm Brothers, Wimpy Hank Yoho and Whiney Henry Yoho, have already donated five pairs of specially crafted Spurs with praying Cowboy motif for raffling—estimated value: well over \$1,000. The Lindholm Brothers, both

SASS Regulators and Life Members, are renowned makers of Old West Custom Bronze Spurs. The quality of their products can be viewed at www.lindholm Spurs.com/ — we thank you, Wimpy and Whiney!

In addition to Vendor contributions, each SASS Affiliated Club will be asked for their participation and donation. Individual SASS members will also have the opportunity of contributing, and SASS will keep the membership advised of the amounts collected through occasional notices and ads in The Cowboy Chronicle. Contributions are to be sent to:

SASS Western Heritage Museum
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The Chapel as well as the rest of the "town" at Founders Ranch are all part of the SASS Museum, a 501(c) 3 Corporation; therefore, all contributions are tax deductible. SASS will provide appropriate receipts. Your thoughts and ideas are welcome and solicited. You can either write to SASS Headquarters (use address above), or send an email, subject: Cowboy Memorial Chapel to sass@sassnet.com.

Okay, you got the picture—what we need now are your contributions. Open up your wallets and purses, Pard. You're a Daisy if Ya do. (There were over 100 (!) cowboy/girls at END of TRAIL's Cowboy Church this year and \$600 in the collection plate! Mo and Jim are now lobbying for a 200 capacity church!!) 🐾



Following the ground breaking the Judge rang the bell donated by T-Bone Dooley from his Bar 3 Ranch in Texas.

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THE HEART OF A COWBOY

By Snapshot Susie Q, SASS #75419

The heart of a cowboy is as sure
as his word,
His beliefs are strong, his voice
will be heard.
A defender of right, the weak,
and the small,
He loves God, his Country,
and Freedom for all.

Standing tall as a mountain,
he refuses to run.
He will fight for his honor,

his horse, and his gun.
His word is his bond, and his aim
always true.
A friend to many, yet his enemies
few.

He sleeps under the stars,
thanking God on his knees
For the life he's been given,
having all that he needs.
The heart of a cowboy is as sure
as his word,
His beliefs are strong, his voice
will be heard.

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in my life ~

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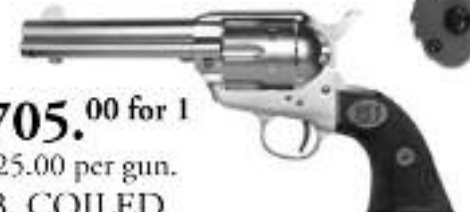
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ENTERTAINMENT

By Madd Mike, SASS Life/Regulator #8595

back of my brain thinking 'bout this.

For many years I bought into the concept that shooting matches are entertainment. Then, over the years we started "dumbing" down Cowboy Action Shooting™ competitions. Shooters had to carry the gold, throw the tomahawk, or ride the stick horse. Then, throw in a dash of moving targets closer, and in some cases, ridiculously close. We do very little on the clock these days 'cept fer shootin,' and the overall categories have multiplied like rabbits out by the spring vegetable garden.

Trust me, I am all about doing what is best for SASS/Cowboy Action Shooting™ as a whole. Attracting new shooters, and holding on to the ones we already got is the very life-blood of this competitive type hobby we have grown to

love and enjoy so much.

To me SASS/Cowboy Action Shooting™ is a shooting competition first, like bowling, golf, tennis, etc. You go somewhere to do something that is structured, with rules and boundaries, and results that are shared at the end of the event. During these events, there are friendships maintained, camaraderie, and some horseplay as well. In other words, my comparison is on a "lighter level," not of Olympic stature. Friendly competition is what I am trying to get across.

I have lived around Las Vegas, Nevada for more than 30 years, so entertainment to me is more like going to the movie theater with my daughter, Chantelley Lace, once in a while, or perhaps seeing a show at one of the grand hotel showrooms on

the Las Vegas Strip. It might be getting tickets for the National Finals Rodeo, or watching NASCAR at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway. What I am trying to get across is entertainment is non-competitive. When we go to these entertainment venues, there are no awards given for the best movie watcher in rows 5 through 10, further broken down by powder type, age, and so forth.

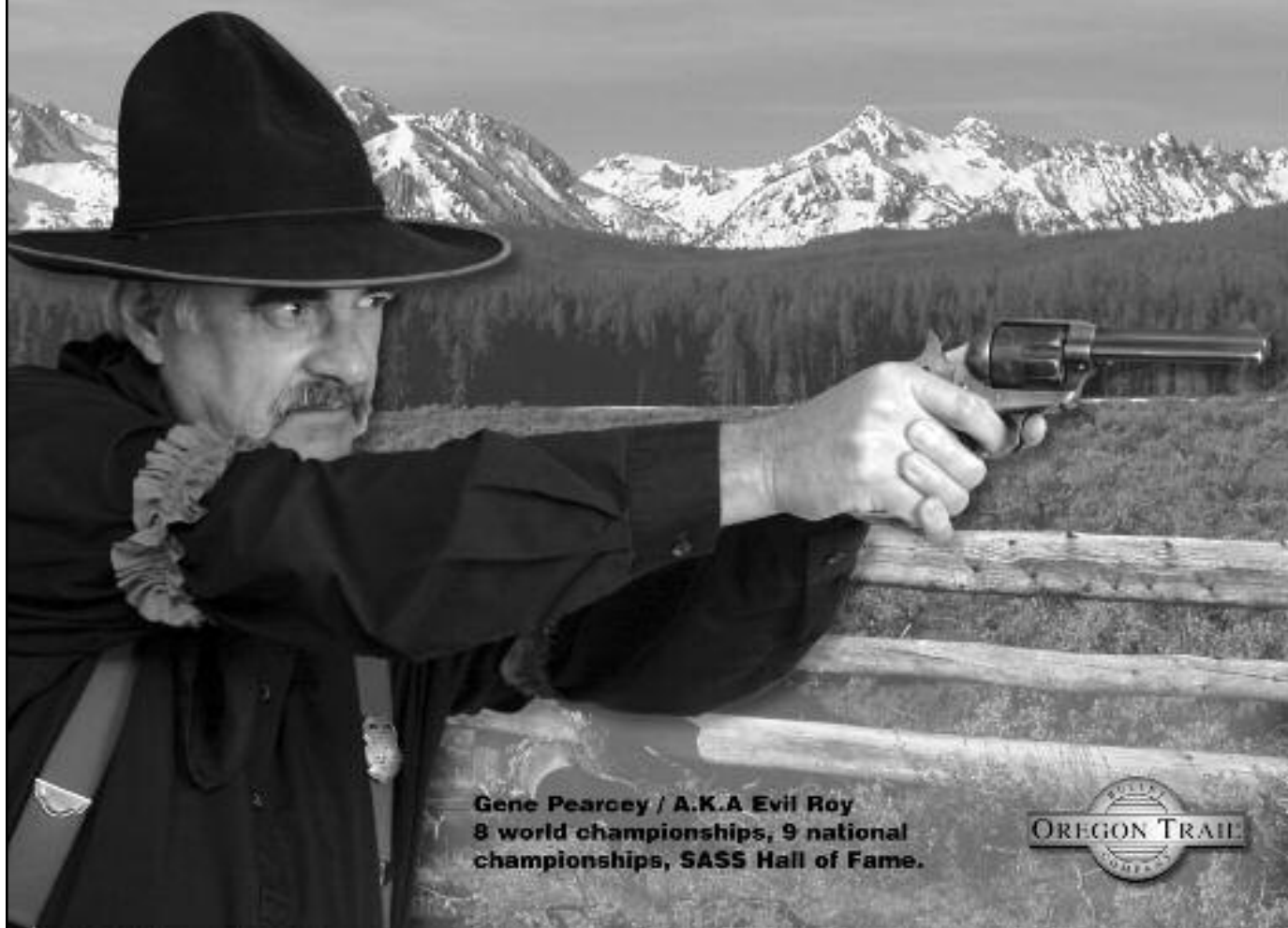
Now with that being said, I think the match is the match, and it is not entertainment, but hold on before ya say I must be mad. Sure there can be entertaining aspects within a competition match. Have ya ever watched Spur Roberts shootin' an END of TRAIL shoot off? What a hoot, but the REAL entertainment is after shootin'; things like Fredrick Jackson

(Continued on next page)

Ever so often, be it on the SASS wire or on a SASS shooting range, you will often hear the never-ending discussion about how match directors need to cater to the idea our shooting competition matches are entertainment. Comments like "we are drawing folks away from other things like golf, or the big screen theater movies, you fill in the blanks.

I can fully understand folks only have so many disposable \$\$ ta spend, and it is their personal decision, on, how and where to spend it. But I got ta burning some old powder in the

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(Continued from previous page)
 Turner slappin' out the tunes, and busting a gut, singing in the real saloon and shooting façade at Double R Bar range in California. Or, another example of entertainment is Tom Knapp or Bill Oglesby performing for the folks at END of TRAIL.

So I think SASS/Cowboy Action Shooting™ matches are competition events due to the fact there are rules and parameters to stay within, a timer is used, and awards given. Continually telling monthly shoot Match Directors they are in the entertainment business can become confusing. My case in point is large matches like END of TRAIL and Winter Range divide the two aspects both in their websites and pamphlets: part A, the shooting schedule and posse assignments; then part B, the entertainment schedule, where and when ta git entertained.

sassmaddmike@yahoo.com

(Where to begin ... Yes, SASS matches are a competition—there are rules, courses of fire, and we keep score. Some folks work very hard at attaining the very epitome of excellence in the sport. They are a joy to watch and deserve all accolades bestowed. And, yes, there is a separate part of the event dedicated to singing, dancing, and educating—entertainment. But, we haven't covered the gamut of the event, yet.

Most of us don't compete in

NASCAR, IPSC, pro-ball, Rodeo, or any of dozens of other sports. Why? Simply because we're not competitive. We're too old, too lazy, too clumsy, too ... you fill in the blank ... and, yet, many of us would love to "play the game" because it looks exciting. Who wouldn't want to drive their car around a racetrack at over 100 mph? It's the only place we can drive that fast without fear of getting a ticket! And, it's the same with the other sports I mentioned. We'd love to play, but for whatever reason, we can't be competitive.

Cowboy Action is no different. 95% of our folks are NOT competitive. Yes, we all want to do as well as we possibly can ... as well as we're willing to work for ... and there's the rub. Most of our competitors are what many would call "weekend warriors." They practice at their once a month monthly matches. They travel to the "big matches" to fulfill their fantasies

of helping Roy, Gene, and Hoppy make the west safe for God-fearin' families. They want to see their old friends and feel like they shot well (hit all their targets) and at least "came close" to a clean match (their only real hope of recognition unless they chose their category VERY wisely!). They must come off the line smiling ... otherwise they won't come back. If the stages are too difficult, too convoluted, targets too far away or too small, or the posse marshal is too over bearing, or the match officials have a haughty attitude toward all but the top competitors, folks won't come back.

*SASS is a membership organization. Happy members are its life-blood. If only the top competitors (those with a real chance of winning) came to END of TRAIL, we'd have 20 competitors—not 600! Yes, even the "competition" portion of our shooting events **MUST** be entertainment as well! ... Editor in Chief)♫*

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Chronicle CORRECTION

In the July '10 issue, the article "The Cowboy Code Comes to Life Again," (p. 31) was written by our oft-contributing writer, Palaver Pete, SASS #4375. Palaver Pete's byline was omitted by mistake.♫

Sorry, Palaver!

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PROUD COLT OWNER

I'm writing in response to Tuolumne Lawman's article on the Rock Island 1911 in the May '10 *Cowboy Chronicle*. His article was well written with a good history of the Colt Government 1911. But, I think he stepped on some toes when he used the term "Colt 1911 snobs."

I have been an avid fan and collector of Colt Firearms all my adult life. I enjoy the rich history of the firearm designs and the company behind them. I do not purchase, collect, or shoot my Colts in an effort at elitism or snobbery toward my fellow shooters. I don't know of any fellow Colt owners who would say any different.

I work hard for my paycheck and was not born with a silver spoon in my mouth. I make my firearm purchases as very careful decisions. There are not many material objects one can purchase new today that has its lineage traced back to a 174 year old American company. Over the years, I have enjoyed not just the history, but the quality and reliability of these guns. I own a wide vari-

ety of Colt products, including some SAAs, several 1911s, and a good sampling of their other wheel guns. I can say they are the most reliable brand of handguns I own.

One other nod to Colt is investment value. I am proud to say every Colt I own has held its purchase value and many of them have increased in value. I have a few guns I purchased in the 1980's that in their used state are now worth over twice what I paid for them new. I should mention I don't believe in "safe queens" — I shoot all of these wonderful handguns.

John Ittner, a writer for the *Wall Street Journal*, wrote a very nice piece on November 5, 2009 comparing the Colt Peacemaker to the value of gold. To quote Mr. Ittner: "The venerable Peacemaker turns out to be a better gauge of inflation than gold is and a better investment." I'd have to add that spinning the cylinder on a Peacemaker is a whole lot more fun than jinglin' a bunch of \$20 Double Eagles in your pocket!

I have many friends who purchase "knock off" guns. I own a few, too. I have no opposition to a fella

saving a few bucks when he can. I do it all the time. The economy is tough, and we all do what we can to save some money. I have chosen to save up my pennies for awhile and spend a little more on a firearm brand I've found to be reliable, enjoyable, of high quality, and a darn good investment. I don't think that is grounds for snobbery on my part.

Pancho Peacemaker,
SASS #75813
Rockwall, Texas 🤠

COLONEL DAN — RIGHT ON TARGET!

Colonel Dan — Every month I look forward to your column; in fact, it's the first read. I've never commented in the past but felt, after this last article, ("A Salute of Appreciation", May '10), I should. I was surprised you would come under attack from members of our organization. I had always thought people joining an organization like this or, IDPA and USPCA were somewhat of a like mind, and so far what you've said is completely consistent with

my thoughts and feelings, though you express yourself far more eloquently than I.

I'm an instructor for the State of Louisiana Concealed Handgun Permit and the State of Florida non-resident Concealed Weapons License for ten years now, and I have found the people in the classes are of a like mind and share the same fears and concerns as I and you do. I can't find any fault in anything you have been saying; you're right on target! Keep the articles coming, as most of us are with you. Just thought you should know—not all of us let you know how much we approve, but we do!!

Whiskey River Jack,
SASS #61014
Sunset, LA 🤠



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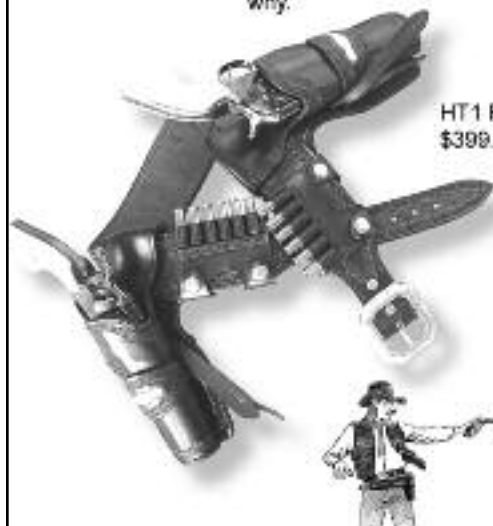


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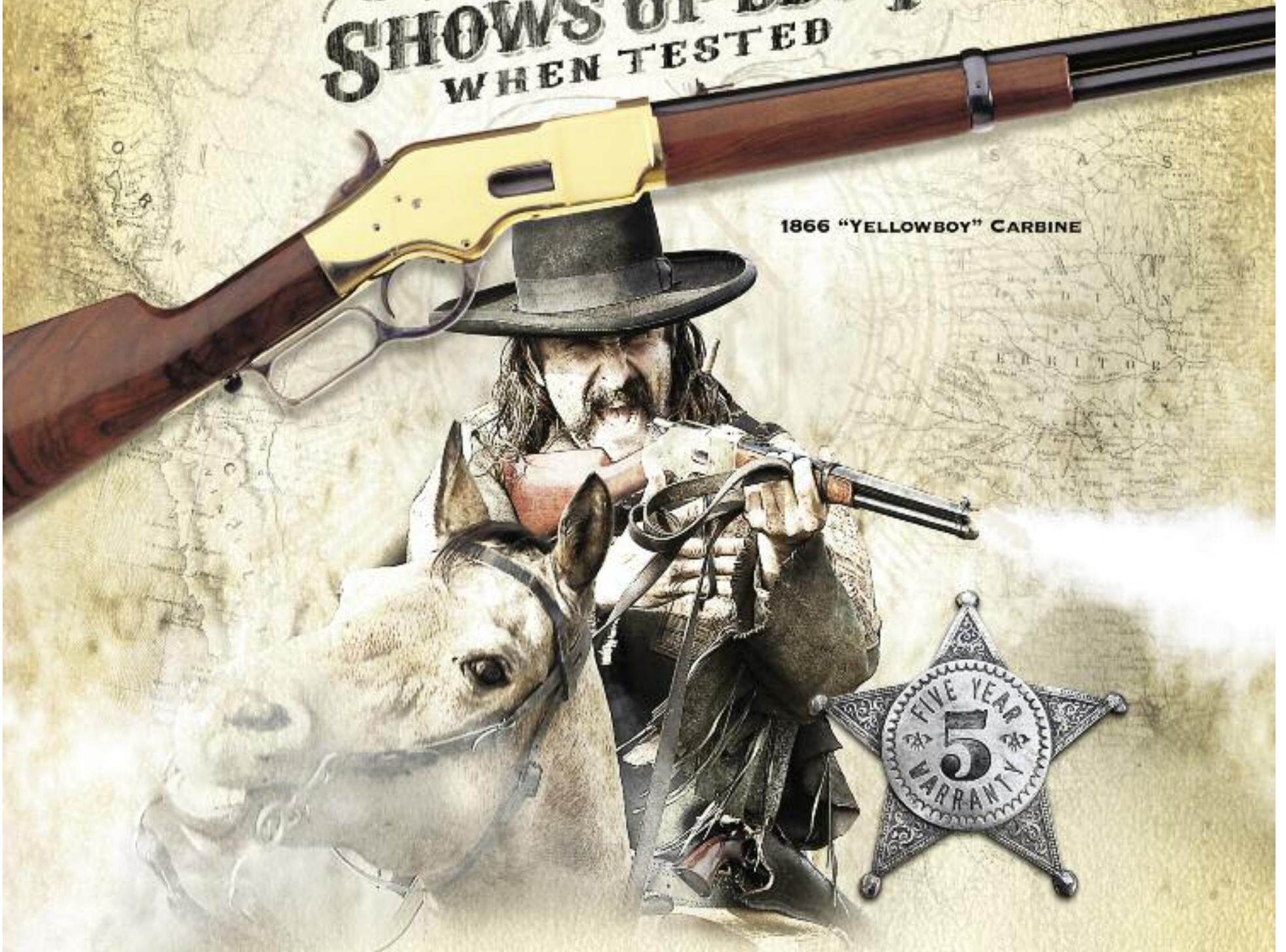
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MY TWO CENTS WORTH REVISITED



The May 2010 edition of *The Cowboy Chronicle* contains the article I sent entitled, (page 23) "My Two Cents Worth." As the title suggests, it was merely my opinion, and I fully expected to hear opinions both pro and con regarding the matter. Most, happily, were of the opinion it was a point well taken and perhaps should be further discussed and debated.

One, however, was negative in a

manner that caught me totally off guard and sent my thinking down a path I consider unlike that of my Cowboy Action friends. The comment was, "Model 12's? What's next, paint balls?"

I then explained, as I thought my meaning clear in the article, that the more shooters made available to the game the better. In addition, it was in keeping with the movie's (*The Wild*

Bunch) story line. I further pointed to the fact that unlike the time period of the movie, modern 1911's such as 1911A1s and enhanced, stainless steel models were unavailable at the time. So why allow them, (although in a separate class) and refuse admission to a gun of the period?

I point to the attached photo of a 1911A1 and an enhanced model. Also an additional article, again in the May issue on page 58, written by the Tuolumne Lawman, entitled: The Perfect "Wild Bunch™" Pistol, depicting a true reproduction of a 1911.

It's long been the thinking of the NRA as well as shooting clubs all across America that we should do everything possible to promote the expansion and membership of shooting clubs, all the while encouraging youths, male and female alike, to join us in the wholesome sport of firearms competition. The only way this will happen is to open as many doors as we can to give the shooting public as many choices as we can make available.

Craven Cowboy,
SASS #7433.
Sun City, AZ

CUP vs. PSI

Most of us Cowboys reload our cases for the obvious economics involved. In some of the major powder/bullet manufacturers' manuals, some pressure values are shown as PSI and others are in CUP. There is a lot of confusion about the two technologies and safety factors. I wrote *Accurate Powder*, now absorbed into RAMSHOT powders, about the differences between the two. Below is the reply I received from Johan Loubser, one of their ballistic engineers.

Blackthorne Billy,
SASS #74914
Vandalia, MI

Reply

PSI vs CUP – In the case of rifle calibers the true pressure or PSI is calculated 18% higher than the CUP value. In the case of handgun calibers, the difference is less and depends on the caliber, which makes it more complicated.

Johan Loubser
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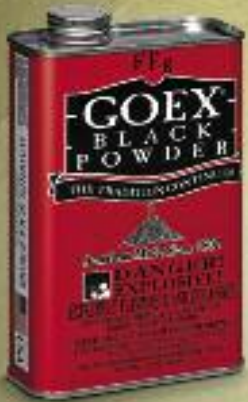
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*Cat Ballou, SASS #55
~SASS Hall of Fame Inductee~*

WHAT WOMEN WORE: A PRIMER FOR COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING™ COWGIRLS

*Pioneer Women:
1840 – 1900*

By Miz Annie Ross, SASS #60919

History tells many stories about the pioneers who headed west, but most of them are about men. Few chronicle the lives of the women who headed west right along with them. Pioneers had crossed the Mississippi by the 1840s. For the next five decades, tens of thousands of men, women, and children headed further and further westward.

A lady who began her journey west in a traveling dress with white cuffs and collar soon found herself wearing homespun. Most early pioneers lived at the sustenance level, and their clothes, like their dwellings, were plain and simple.

A pioneer woman had to know how to sew since most of the family's clothes were homemade. Their clothing was made of simple, sturdy materials. Pioneers tanned the skin of animals and used the leather to make coats, shoes, hats, and sometimes pants and shirts.

Soft cotton burlap-type fabric of flour sacks was used for nightgowns, underwear, and sometimes trousers. These sacks were either bleached or unbleached, left plain, dyed, or printed. Since



*Osage Bumblebee, SASS #64672,
dresses in the style of her Oklahoma
pioneer ancestors.*

As traditional gender-specific work roles began to shift, a few women wore bloomers or men's clothing if necessary to get the job done!

As towns grew and homesteaders became successful ranchers, the ladies began to copy their peers back East. General stores in the towns sold bolts of materials such as flannel, cotton, gingham, denim, wool, linen and muslin. Dyes, buttons, pins, scissors, needles, and thread could be bought at the store as well as ready-made clothing, hats, and shoes.

The transcontinental railroad was completed in 1869, and as the railroads expanded, connecting more and more of the towns of the West with the Eastern cities, the mail order catalog opened the world of fashion to women in even the smallest towns.

As you can see, many Cowboy Action Shooting™ cowgirls choose to wear pioneer-style clothing ... calico or gingham cotton dresses, ankle-length skirts, or split skirts with blouses. For winter, the dresses might be made of flannel or wool, and the skirt may have a matching jacket or cape. To find out more about "What Women Wore," email:

mizannie@dixiecowgirls.org
for a copy of her book! 📖



*Ozark Annie, SASS #87094,
wearing an outfit reminiscent of
the early Pioneer Women of the Ozarks*

mass-produced textiles were not readily available to the early pioneer women, many spun their own thread or grew their own flax to make cotton and linen cloth to clothe themselves and their families. Those who raised sheep had wool available for heavier winter garments.

Women's garments were most often simple ankle-length dresses or ankle-length skirts gathered at the waist and worn with long-sleeved blouses. The shorter ankle-length skirts were much more practical in mud and dirt. The sleeves of the blouse might reflect the Eastern styles, if there was enough fabric available.

An apron, usually tied at the waist protected the garments while the women worked. (It was easier to wash the apron!) Bonnets or wide-brimmed straw hats were worn outside to protect a lady's complexion from the sun. Ladies usually wore at least one petticoat, but might wear more in cold weather, if they had them.

On Sundays, a lady put on a shawl or a clean apron to wear to church. For attending church gatherings or parties, a lady might add ruffles to her hem, the sleeves, or the neckline of her dress.



*Unarmed Bandit, SASS #35667,
wears an outfit she made for herself,
influenced by the "latest" magazines
and fashion plates from back East.*

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*Coyote Calhoun, SASS #201
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REFLECTIONS OF END OF TRAIL PAST

By Coyote Calhoun, SASS #201

END of TRAIL 2010 was a huge success! We had more entertainment, more registered participants, and more fun than we have had in a long, long time. Congratulations go out to our new World Champions, Badlands Bud and Sage Chick on the Action side and Morning Dove and El Paso Bob on the Mounted side. These are great competitors and will represent us well in the up-coming year.

Our entertainment this year was the best ever! Dr. Buck Montgomery, aka Buck Bloodsworth, the Trail Boss of the Wild West Performing Arts, headed up our entertainment. He did a fabulous job putting together our Wild West Show and bringing together all of the acts that were not only part of the show, but also entertained us all over town. There were many hours of work to put this Wild West Show together and Dr. Buck made it happen. Back again this year by popular demand was the Pietta Firearms Silver Screen Saloon Show. Miss Tabitha, Peaches O'Day, and the Dancehall Darlings Can-Can

Dancers were, again, just fabulous and treated us to a new show from top to bottom. Syd Masters and the Swing Riders put on another great show on Thursday, and Frederick Jackson Turner and his band, Big Red Sky, brought the house down on Saturday night. WHAT A PARTY! I did not want it to stop!

We had some of the best food we have ever had! I mean, what about those onion rings from Handlebar Hank's? Best onion rings west of the Varsity. (It's a Georgia thing.) And, how about the Longhorns being ridden down the middle of town? Now there is a sight you don't see every day! What A Hoot! There was so much to see this year, it was almost non-stop.

To put on our little extravaganza, we had some of the best help we have ever had at END of TRAIL. First, a huge thanks to all our Waddies. Fancy Free, Foot Loose, Verda Valeria, the winner of the Waddie Spirit Award, and the rest of the gang worked like clock work this year in making sure all our needs were filled.



Wild Shot and Bighorn were in charge of the Waddies and also Security. Jack Diamond tended to all of our electrical needs and gun transfers. Laramie Jack is the master of so many different trades we could not do without him. Riverside Ruger did just about everything and always with a big smile on his face. Parking

was expertly run by Captain Cooper and his grandson, Kid Cooper. More or Les and Giggles handled all aspects of the camping area. These folks did a wonderful job.

On the shooting side of the fence, a big thank you goes to TA Chance, Snakebite, and Virgil Earp for keeping the range under control.

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Also included in the Cowboy Cultural Committee is our SASS Staff. I cannot say enough about the people that work for SASS. This is the hardest working staff SASS has ever had, and without them END of TRAIL just would not be. They are the people behind the scenes at END of TRAIL who make it happen. Our staff is as follows: Mac Daddy – Graphics Design and END of TRAIL program layout and design, Adobe Illustrator – *The Cowboy*

Chronicle layout and design, Broomhilda – Accounting, Angela Bellarosa – Customer Service, Slipnoose – Customer Service, Prairie Mary – Clubs Administrator, Sassy Swede – *The Cowboy Chronicle* Advertising Manager, Misty Moonshine – Office Manager and Marketing Manager, and Wild Shot – Operations Manager. This year we had an intern from the University of New Mexico, Lauren Nelson, assist us in marketing. Her newly acquired alias is Lauren Order.

The Wild Bunch also would like to thank you, our members, who support not only END of TRAIL, but the other projects, matches, and conventions. Without you, none of this would be possible.

We hope to see you next year at the 30th END of TRAIL and Wild West Jubilee. The theme will be “The Ghosts of END of TRAIL Past.”

Also, a big thanks to all the posse marshals, who made our Range RO's job a little easier. Thanks to Lassiter for heading up the Side Match Volunteers, he made everyone's job a little easier, and a special thanks to my pal, More or Les, who just can't quit helping even when his back is telling him not to.

There is also a big thank you to Buck Cantrell and the other Mounted Shooters that pitched in to make the mounted match the best one we have ever had in New Mexico. All went smoothly, and the arena was in great shape. All 45 riders were

smiling after four days of riding.

This year we revived our old group called the Cowboy Cultural Committee. We hoped to entice a few people to step up and take ownership of a part of END of TRAIL, and we were blown away by the response we received. We have over 20 members of our Cowboy Cultural Committee. They not only worked on their jobs on the committee, but also many helped as Waddies. This year we were truly blessed to have this group of volunteers. The committee is as follows: Brushy Briggs, Ten High, Jack Diamond, Les

NOTICE Statement of Policy

From time to time some of our cowboys fall on hard times, sometimes of their own making and sometimes through no fault of their own. Being generous and caring as most SASS members are, we always want to do what we can to help struggling members along. However, there has been a long-standing policy of not allowing personal solicitations and advertising on the SASS wire and an informal policy of not allowing personal solicitations in *The Cowboy Chronicle*. These policies have worked well for SASS in the past and will be continued.

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THE PERFECT "WILD BUNCH™" MATCH PISTOL

Excellent article but have a couple of comments:

The original 1911 came with the wide spur hammer. It was changed to the narrow hammer with the advent of the 1911A1. The first 1911s were finished in a polished blue until the Army spec was changed to the rough dark blue, often referred to as "black" pistols. The picture in the article reflects a "true" 1911, wide spur hammer, flat mainspring housing, and lanyard loop attached to the main-spring housing and magazine.

As for clones, another option is the Chinese Norinco. These pistols were imported until "Slick Willie" put a ban on them several years ago. I picked up three of them for around \$300. They are excellent shooters and were very under priced, in my opinion. As a fan of the original 1911, I dressed two of them up to replicate the original 1911—wide spur hammer, flat mainspring housing, double diamond walnut grips, and early safe-

ty. I also did some accuracy work. I fitted an EGW oversized barrel bushing, welded up the barrel shroud and refitted it to the slide, welded up the barrel lug and had it fitted to the frame, and stoned the hammer and sear for a three pound, no creep trigger pull. The pistol locks up like a bank vault and will shoot with the high priced Colts and Kimbers—consistent 2" groups at 25 yards from a Ransom Rest. Better than I can do. I also picked up three 1911 magazines with lanyard loops from Sportsman's Guide to go with a military belt, 1911 holster, and magazine pouch.

You still see an occasional Norinco at the gun shows. They are great clones and well worth the money. I have less than \$400 invested in mine.

Cherokee Jac,
SASS #56679
Layton, UT 🐾

IT IS FINALLY TIME!

Tex, thanks for a wonderful article in the March issue of *The Cowboy Chronicle*, "All Right – It's Finally Time."

It does complicate things to have so many categories. But as an aging one, I do appreciate competing against my peers.

Here's another spin. How about creating a balanced scoring system to have an over-all champion at each match? Somewhat like golf with handicaps calculated by averages, some kind of overall average can be calculated for each category that becomes an offset score so there can be an overall champion. Some years, the overall champ could be a very young or a very old cuss. That would really be fun.

Wild Rose Willie, SASS #57197
Mounds View, MN 🐾

LES WHISKERS

I am prouder than all get-out to be a member of an organization, SASS, that would rescue a cat. (May 2010, p.5). Les Whiskers has a lot of character and with all of us taking personas and monikers, he should fit right in! I'm proud my membership fee feeds such a fine animal, but prouder still of your kindness. Just goes to show true cowpersons have a tender side. Plus Les Whiskers looks to be a good mouser, too!

South Philly Joe,
SASS #81841
San Diego, CA

(We think Les Whiskers is the "cat's meow" too, but your membership fee doesn't go toward his food or care. Tex and I are his sponsors and pay all costs associated with his care ... Cat Ballou) 🐾



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COLONEL DAN'S MAY "RANT"

Colonel Dan – It was a surprise to discover your sophomore year was ten years after my graduation. It is also refreshing to find someone your age that feels the same as I do. I deal with a lot of youth, ages 20-40. They are searching for something to hold on to. Many times after my classes we would sit and discuss history for two or more hours. Also, they often call me later with questions. Some of them I don't remember, but they reference the class, so I play the role.

Health has taken me out of the Cowboy Action game physically, but not mentally. I was about to let my membership drop, then you came along and my passion is stirred. I do relish your "rants!"

Semper Fi
Kid Kurt, SASS #52102
Springfield, OR

NRA MUSEUM VISIT

Really enjoyed the article, "A Trip to The National Firearms Museum" by Marshall John Joseph in the March 2010 issue of The Cotaboy Chronicle. Then I went right to the NRA Site at www.nramuseum.org and took the virtual tour. It was very impressive. Although I've been a Life Member of the NRA since the 1960's, I never realized how vast a collection of firearms their Museum held.

Thank you Marshall John Joseph for a great essay on the role firearms played establishing and maintaining our God given Liberty.

Cree Vicar Dave,
SASS Life #49907
Sterling, MI

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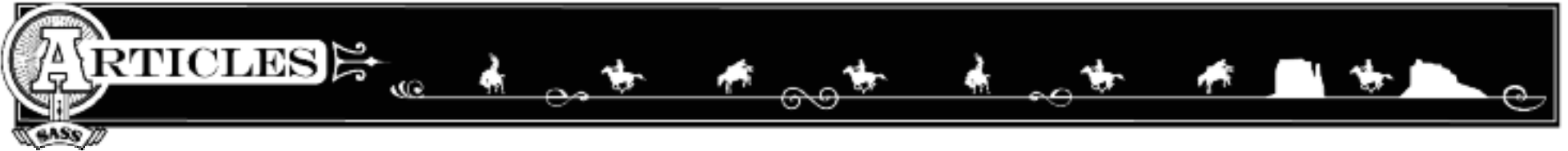
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MARCH 6TH, 1836

A Line in the Sand? Well ...

By Sweetwater Jack, SASS Life/Regulator #28885

Photos by Gaye Abandon, SASS Life #44556, and Delta Queen, SASS #39203



Father Jack, a enigmatic priest who condemned the sinful living, but prayed for the salvation of departed souls.

It was not yet daybreak, on the early morning of March 6, 1836, and the defenders of this tiny piece of the new Republic of Texas, under siege for 12 days by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's Mexican troops had already repulsed two attacks.

While the defenders of the



We found the "other" Judge Roy Bean on this adventure!

Alamo Mission in San Antonio de Bexar numbered only between 180 and 190 fighters, they faced approximately 1500 of Santa Anna's troops. (Historians disagree on the EXACT numbers of both defenders AND attackers, but in any case the Texians were outnumbered at least 8 - 1, and by some reports of Santa Anna's strength, as much as 15 - 1.)

On the 13th day of the siege, March 6th, the Texians would put up their final fight. On this day, the battle cry of "Remember the Alamo" would be born! General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna had decreed there would be no "quarter," and that each and every man defending this former religious outpost, hastily con-



Alamo Chapel interior looking down from cannon ramp. The church was unfinished at the time of the battle.

verted to a makeshift fort, was to be put to death. It is said after the battle was over and the smoke and dust settled, a mere handful of survivors, between 5 and 7, who it is reported, (Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page) were either sick or wounded, attempted to surrender. General Santa Anna then ordered their immediate execution ...

It was barely daybreak on the early morning of March 6, 2010 and nearly two dozen SASS members from all over the United States had descended on San Antonio de Bexar, now strangely renamed San Antonio, Texas, having heard rumors the Alamo was going to be attacked! We had come to help save the lives of Lt. Col. Travis, James Bowie, and former Senator (from Tennessee) David Crockett! It appears we arrived a bit too late!

Yes, yet another adventure in American History by Single Action Shooting Society members! Though my high school classes in American

History were not my favorites, it seems our country's history has become a lot more important to me,



Custer strikes a pensive pose while visiting the Alamo. He would learn later in life the bitter taste of losing the battle, but ultimately those who followed would win the war.

as I have "aged." (I'd say "matured," but those of you who know me would laugh at the concept of my being "mature.") None the less, here we were, standing in the lobby of the

famous Menger Hotel, directly across the modern street from the Alamo Courtyard and Chapel. Why famous, you say? Well, it IS sup-
(Continued on page 24)



Alamo Village as seen from the Alamo fortress ramparts.



The fortress front gate and position of the 18 pounder.



The interior courtyard of the fortress.

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A Line in the Sand? Well ...

(Continued from page 23)

posed to be the "most haunted hotel in America" ... and why wouldn't it be? It stands in the middle of what was the "Battle of the Alamo." The majority of people thinking of "the Alamo" see in their mind's eye the *iglesia*, or church, with its very distinctive architecture, and don't realize the church, the "last bastion" of the defenders was but a very small part of what was the "Alamo." The highest arch, which really gives the chapel its distinctive silhouette, was not added to the structure until years later by the US Army. At the time of the battle, there was not even a roof over the church. Indeed, the Alamo Mission at San Antonio de Bexar was never completed as originally planned.

Our arrival coincided with the 174th anniversary of the battle, and as you might expect, the streets, the hotels, and the Alamo Plaza itself were filled with re-enactors wearing uniforms and civilian garb both Tejano and Mexicano. Throughout the day, cannon fire and musketry could be heard and seen all about the complex, as various portions of the battle were recreated.

Our group was fortunate enough to have been able to enlist the services of one of the most honored historical researchers of those times to be our personal guide to the Alamo com-

plex. Mr. Mark Lemon, oddly enough NOT a Texan, but a native of Louisiana, is regarded by many as the pre-eminent historian of all things Alamo. Mr. Lemon has created a model of the Alamo and the nearby village that is currently housed in a building a block away from the Plaza. This model is accurate and detailed beyond belief and fills a space of about 10 by 14 feet. The book he has written is lavishly illustrated with photos that are close-ups of this model. Mr. Lemon walked us around as much of the original site as can still be seen without entering the buildings and stores that now cover most of the grounds. Small brass markers set into sidewalks and streets indicate where walls and other structures were once located. Unfortunately, the exact spots where some of the more famous defenders fell are NOT marked, as they are now INSIDE some of the stores, as well as the "Ripley's Believe it or Not" gift shop! (Believe it or not!!)

With the encroachment of modern San Antonio on the Alamo, it is difficult to see and understand the magnitude of the original site. Fortunately, John Wayne has come to the rescue once again! The entire MOVIE SET from the 1960 epic, "The Alamo" has been well-preserved and is a full-sized replica of the mission-turned-fort as it was on that

fateful day in 1836. Unlike most movie sets, many of the buildings here are complete with interiors, and are NOT mere facades. The set, including the village, is located near the city of Bracketville, about 120 miles west of San Antonio, on the Shahan Angus Ranch. The only concession to the camera's eye was the village was built 400 yards from the mission walls instead of the actual village's 800 yards.

The "Alamo Village" as the site is called, and referred to by the locals sometimes as "The Wayne-amo," is closed to the general public due to the recent deaths of the owner of the ranch. As our group had made arrangements for visiting the set nearly a year ago, our contract was upheld, and we had the rare privilege of having not only free rein of the place, but the services of Rich Curilla, who is not only an Alamo Historian and Lecturer, he is the man who has coordinated the filming of over 150 movies at the set. Rich told us there is hope once the family's legal matters have been settled, the village may once again be opened to visitors.

There is also a set remaining from the 2004 remake movie, often referred to as "the Billy-Bob Thornton Alamo movie," near Dripping Springs, Texas. This set is reportedly in very poor shape, and is also closed to the public. Motoring rapidly westward, we had time to fire up the bus's video system and reacquaint our-

selves with the John Wayne epic. Note: Santa Anna's boys won, AGAIN!!! (I keep hoping, but ...) Our original plan was to arrive at the "Alamo" on horseback ... thwarted by rainy weather right up to the day of our arrival, and the fact nearly half of us hadn't "forked a saddle" in more years than I like to mention ... and the specter of "ancient cowboys and cowgirls" lying in the dust UNDER their mounts ... we forgot that idea and went to "Plan B" ... (Ride the bus to within 200 yards of the walls and WALK the rest of the way ...)

It was an impressive sight to have this icon of Texas, (well, OK, icon of Texas film-making) appear out of the sagebrush much as the Mexican infantry must have seen it in 1836. Our "walk-in" was much appreciated by Rich Curilla, who said we were obviously "true history students" and not just **tourists**, and he showed his appreciation by spending the entire afternoon with us, telling us a great deal not only about the "reel" Alamo, but the "real" Alamo as well.

As one of our couples was celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary that day, sunset became a special moment as they renewed their wedding vows in the shadow of the Alamo Chapel. The "service" was conducted by a gentleman in the full, hooded robes of a Franciscan Monk. I can't reveal the monk's identity beyond telling you since that date I

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

have been, on occasion, referred to as "Father Jack." At the words "If anyone here present knows any reason that these two should NOT continue in wedded bliss, state them now, etc. ..." the groom, dressed much like Colonel Travis, turned to the gathered crowd and partially withdrew a lethal-looking (but period-correct) pistol. No objections were stated and the ceremony proceeded.

The return drive to San Antonio afforded us the time to watch the "other" Alamo movie (The BBT Alamo) so we could compare the authenticity of the two films with what we now knew to be the "true story." (Or at least as "true" as the various historical scholars have come up with as of this time.) Many of the "absolute truths" of the Battle of the Alamo have indeed, turned out to be myths, disproven by research of not only historical documents, but the remains of the buildings, walls, and battlements themselves.

If you have seen the John Wayne, Billy-Bob Thornton, or even the currently-running IMAX Alamo movie, playing a block from the Alamo Plaza, you have seen Santa Anna depicted as a strutting peacock of a man, his flamboyant crimson tunic, heavily encrusted with gold braid and epaulets, dashing about on either a white or black stallion (depending on the movie you are watching), leading his troops into battle. Not from the FRONT, of course; after all he WAS the "General of Generals," "The Napoleon of the West" (self-proclaimed, of course), and "President" of Mexico! Whatever happened to this man?

Well, on the afternoon of April 21st, flushed with victory and convinced of his invincibility, Santa Anna was attacked by the again much smaller forces of Sam Houston and roundly defeated in 18 minutes at his camp near Lynchburg Ferry, in what has become known as the Battle of San Jacinto. Attempting to flee for his life, this brave slaughterer of surrendered prisoners removed his tunic, cocked hat and all insignia, and attempted to blend in with his soldiers. Unfortunately for him, this little ploy didn't work, as his men continued to salute him and call him "your Excellency" and "mi general" as he had always demanded of them. Whether this was deliberate on the part of his troops as a means of showing their disdain for his attempt to hide among them or just a natural reaction is unknown.

In any case Santa Anna was brought before Sam Houston and had the audacity to say: "That man may consider himself born to no common destiny who has conquered the Napoleon of the West. And now it remains for him to be generous to the vanquished." Houston's reply was: "You should

have remembered that at the Alamo." Rather than execute Santa Anna there and then, and possibly create a martyr, Houston disgraced him, forcing him to order his troops out of Texas, thus ending Mexican control of the "province" and giving legitimacy to the new Texas Republic. He was released in February 1837, and for a time "retired to his estates" in Vera Cruz. When in 1867 he attempted to head an uprising, he was captured, and condemned to death, but spared on the grounds he was in his dotage. At last, worn out by age, he accepted an amnesty and returned to the City of Mexico, where he died in obscurity on the 20th of June 1876.

In the end, the Alamo was sacrificed as a delaying action to allow Houston time to gather sufficient forces to defeat Santa Anna's armies in one definitive battle.

Much of the remainder of our time in the San Antonio area was taken up by "day trips." We explored historic Fredericksburg, for instance, where we visited the well-known, if not historical "Texas Jacks Mercantile." Some of our party added to their stores of clothing and accessories and looked longingly at some of the Cimarron Firearms wares. Each evening we returned to the Menger Hotel, including the Menger Bar, where Teddy Roosevelt recruited his Rough Riders for the Spanish-American War. I looked in vain for one of the famous ghosts, sleeping as lightly as I could. (Gaye Abandon, however tells me I was sleeping "about as lightly as a steam locomotive, if the snoring was any kind of measure.") San Antonio's River Walk is not to be missed, and we didn't. We embarked on an evening cocktail cruise, and then dined on Tex-Mex cuisine in a river-front restaurant. Romantic? But, of course! A final day trip found us at the Enchanted Springs Ranch, another often-seen movie set "town" for lots of "Kodak Moments" and a fine BBQ buffet dinner with entertainment provided by the "local ranch hands," including SASS member, "Pistol-packin' Paula," champion gun-twirler and now a ranch resident there.

Now, what about that "line in the sand" Travis was supposed to have drawn in front of the Alamo church just prior to the last day? And Jim Bowie on his sickbed, having his fellow Texians carry him, bed and all, across that line? Well ... you tell me ... talking to the experts will gain you no enlightenment on that matter. Most agree it is another Alamo myth ... All I can say is that I LOOKED for a line in the sand ... and never found one ... Were the haunting strains of the *Deguella* really played by the Mexican forces in an attempt to unnerve the Alamo defenders with its message of "No Quarter; No Surrender?" Even that is in question ... what do YOU think? ♪

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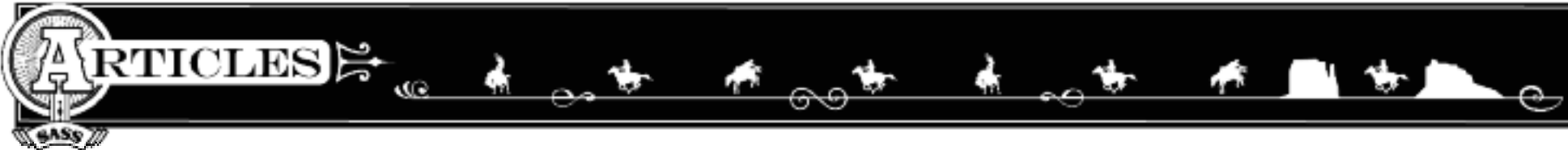




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THE OTHER BULLET

Re-enactors Review

By M. Lou Findley, SASS Life #25192

From an interview with Marc Sternberg, President of Wyatt Earp Gunfighters Wild West Show.

So, what do you think of when you think of Florida? Palm trees, beaches, cruise lines, and Disney World would be my best guess. Well, what if you could have that and get involved with a gun-fighter group from the Old West, too? Not bad!

In 1999, Marc formed Wyatt Earp Gunfighters Wild West Show, a group who loved the "cowboy era." They represent the 1880s in their performances. Many of their members, past and present, have been



SASS shooters. The Gold Coast Gunslingers of south Florida is the local SASS group from which Marc has recruited through the years. Ft. Lauderdale is the major city in their area. But, many members live out-



side in the suburbs in smaller cities such as Sunrise, Coral Springs, Plantation, and Hollywood. One part-timer lives in Key Largo, and one is a part-timer from Orlando, who also is a professional actor and stuntman for Universal Studios and Disney. The women in the group have previously played minor roles in their shows, because many were girl-

friends and wives that only became involved to "be with their man," but Marc is currently expanding the role of women. Hiring Can-Can dancers who could double for saloon girls and adding comedy routines, singers, and other novelty acts will increase opportunities for others who want to develop their roles.

Their shows are intended to reflect American heritage. Each and every one of the performers is proud of his country and its history. They keep in mind they are honoring that cause. However, Marc admits the shows are a combination of Hollywood and history, so they are not 100% historical in facts.

"Marc, where do you perform in a state like Florida, which does not have a strong "Old West" past?" "We



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have performed at festivals, private parties, weddings, and casino cruise ships. We charge for 99% of our shows. We occasionally do gratis charity shows for good causes like the Arthritis Foundation and the American Cancer Society. We generally perform in the south Florida area, but will travel anywhere in the country for the right fee. We have a jail, a cemetery, and a hangman's gallows, as well as embellishments

quite the typical entertainment on a cruise ship to say the least, but the group was loved by guests and crew and always welcomed back. This, by the way, was done following 9/11/2001 when port security was at its highest alert. They would lay out all their guns, knives, and weapons at security check and still have to go through the metal detectors none-the-less. Unfortunately, the cruise ship line is now out of business.



with smaller paraphernalia. Our prices vary depending on how many performers are used, how far from our home base we have to travel, and how long we have to perform."

The Wyatt Earp Gunfighters Wild West Show venues are varied. They have performed for a country club of about 800 people, were featured on a local Miami television show called "Deco Drive," and filmed at one of their jobs. They love participating in the large parades where they don't make a dime, but have a great time doing it.

Their most unusual location was performing on a cruise ship out of Ft. Lauderdale for approximately 2 1/2 years. They performed around the pool deck with pretty limited space. The audiences watched them from ground level as well as upper deck levels. They used background music, and props, like their hangman's gallows in some of these shows. They always got to fire their guns in the shows, and always left audiences speechless, practically in awe. Not

"Marc, do you have a favorite skit?" "One of my favorite scripts involves walking the condemned man to the gallows followed by an elaborate escape and shootout with the Marshals where his gang members come to the condemned man's rescue. It involves lots of shooting in all directions and is very exciting to watch. A blend of comedy as well as dramatic action usually occurs in most of our shows. These more elaborate shows involve the use of scripts, and they are very action packed."

The Wyatt Earp Gunfighters Wild West Show have had as many as 19 members at one time, but currently have 8-10 active members and 2-3 part-timers. They are cowboys and saloon girls of all ages. There are no dues. Marc pays the group out of the money earned doing the shows. He also pays out of his portion for supplies such as ammo, props, food, and the like. The firearms used are 1873 SAA revolvers, lever action rifles, coach guns with rabbit ears, and derringers with .45 caliber full load blanks, both plastic and metallic.

Whenever children are present at their shows, they always teach the Eddie Eagle (NRA) lesson. The Eddie Eagle program simply tells kids: 1. If they see a gun, don't touch it. 2. Leave the area immediately. 3. Tell an adult. Marc then does a demonstration of what a "blank" can do by shooting an aluminum soda



can. He also explains to them that guns don't kill, people do. To demonstrate this he puts his gun on the ground and orders it to shoot. Of course, nothing happens. The kids laugh, but the point is clear enough for everyone to understand.

The audience is always cautioned that real guns are used in their performances and Marc explains to the audience that they keep a good distance apart from one another when performing their shows that involve shooting. It always has the potential for danger. Standard practice is to always check all guns before going out and to make sure no one has any live loads in their guns or on themselves personally. Guns are emptied and once cleared the blanks are handed back to Marc.

"Marc, are there particular goals your group has?" "Our goals are to


continually improve upon our shows to make them as exciting and entertaining as possible. We love performing for all kinds of people, young and old, and especially for people who share our enthusiasm for the Old West and our history and love of cowboys. We all love what we do and wish we could do it full time for a living, instead of our regular jobs. Some of us are just performers, but some of us, like myself, are cowboys at heart." For more information on the Wyatt Earp Gunfighters Wild West Show contact Marc Sternberg, President of Wyatt Earp Gunfighters Wild West Show, <Marshal3@aol.com>.

If you are involved in an old west re-enactment group and would like to share information with SASS members, please contact M. Lou Findley through the web page at <http://mloufindley.com>.

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Cambridge Massachusetts, the son of an engineer/inventor.

Like his Dad, Walter studied engineering in high school, but the acting bug bit him and he started performing in local vaudeville circuits. Just about then, WWI broke out and he enlisted in the Army ... serving in France in the 101st Field Artillery Regiment.

After the War, he got involved in the real estate racket in L.A. and did quite well until the bottom fell out of the market with the approach of the Depression. The bad times wiped him out.

So what's a fella to do? Walter decided he'd try his hand at acting
(Continued on next page)



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(Continued from previous page)
again, but this time in the movie business. Needing to keep body and soul together, Walter accepted bit parts in some pretty unknown flicks.

Westerns were "hot" at the time, however, and he soon got the nod to play supporting roles in films like *Texas Cyclone* with cowboy star Tim McCoy (and another supporting player by the name of Duke Wayne). The picture must have been a hit, for the producers combined their talents in another oater, *Two-Fisted Law*, that same year (1932).

Walter kept busy with all sorts of roles, including a mangy coot named Old Atrocity in the Western melodrama/adventure film, *Barbary Coast*, starring Edward G. Robinson and Joel McCrea.

Walter's talents were admired by his fellow actors, particularly one who asked that Walter be hired as a supporting actor in several of his pictures. I'm talking about the great Gary Cooper (yup) who saw to it that Walter was by his side in *The Cowboy and the Lady*, *The Westerner*, *Meet John Doe*, *Sergeant York*, and *Pride of the Yankees*.

Of these, Walter was most proud of his portrayal of Judge Roy Bean in *The Westerner*, for which he received an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor ... his THIRD!!!

Westerns were always staples for Walter, and he seemed to shine in

all those he worked. You've got to remember him in *My Darling Clementine*, in which he played Old Man Clanton to Henry Fonda's Wyatt Earp, *The Far Country* with Jimmy Stewart, *Bad Day at Black Rock* with Spencer Tracy, and *How The West Was Won* with just about every big name in Hollywood.

Another great Western star who wanted Walter supporting him was our pal John Wayne. Besides *How The West Was Won*, Walter backed up The Duke in the classic, *Red River*, and one of my favs, *Rio Bravo*. Who can forget old Stumpy chewing out John T. Chance after taking a pot-shot at him through the jailhouse door ... or cackling as Duke and Dean and Ricky blew up the bad guys with sticks of dynamite?

Later on, Walter made several great comedy westerns with James Garner, Pat O'Brien, and Fred Astaire. He was one of the most recognizable Sidekicks in Tinseltown.

Now, Walter didn't limit his star quality just to the Big Screen. He also added to his fine acting career by starring in some highly regarded TV shows like *The Real McCoys*, *The Tycoon*, and *The Guns of Will Sonnett*. In fact, he was making these shows at the same time he was making some of his feature films.

No telling what he might have accomplished if he'd lived a little longer. In all, Walter appeared in

over 230 roles in his career spanning nearly five decades!

Unfortunately, Walter rode over The Great Divide in 1974 at age 80, but his fans still say howdy to him at his San Fernando Mission Cemetery gravesite in L.A. and at his Hollywood Walk of Fame star at 6501 Hollywood Boulevard. And, wouldn't you know it, he's been inducted into the Western Performers Hall of Fame at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

If you do go to visit him, you might hear a faint, creaky voice (sounding a lot like Eddie in the

Bogey/Bacall classic *To Have and Have Not*) saying something like "Did you know a bee can still sting ya after it's dead?" That's just Walter ... still acting out one of his famous roles.

Next month we'll learn things about several movie Heavies, all of whom played the role of "Gunslinger" in some famous Westerns. Tune in to see who they are!

Sources: wikipedia.org; imdb.com;

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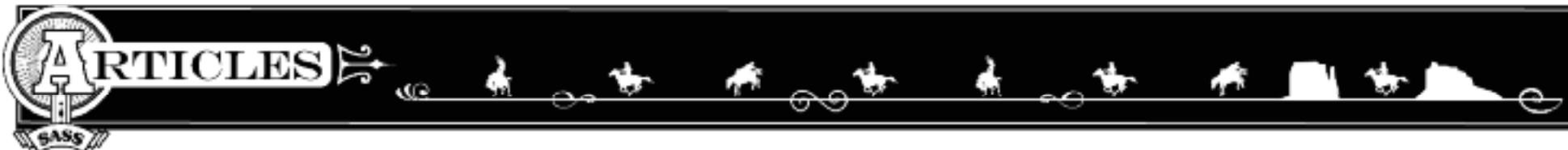
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PROVIDENCE SPRING

A Miracle at Andersonville

By Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907
TG Sucker Creek, Michigan

While spending the winter in Georgia, the Vicar's Wife and I spent some of our free time taking in the sights. When some friends of ours came to visit from Michigan we went over to see the Andersonville Civil War Prison National Park at Andersonville in Sumter County, Georgia.

During the first part of the Civil War prisoners were exchanged from time to time, sometimes right on the battle field. As the war progressed, it is said the North stopped this practice.

In January 1864 slaves were used to clear land and build the stockade

officially named Camp Sumter, now called Andersonville. Some nineteen feet inside the stockade walls there was a wood fence called the "Dead Line." It ran parallel to the wall. Any Federal prisoner stepping between the dead line and the stockade wall was shot. The prison was originally designed to hold 10,000 men on 16.5 acres, but by August some 33,000 were incarcerated there on 26.5 acres. Over 13,000 perished due to exposure, starvation, diseases, gangrene, and dysentery.

Just a note to put things in perspective:

War is sometimes necessary, but



Cree Vicar Dave & friend, Dan Rifenbark



Cemetery Entrance

never pleasant. Both the North and the South held prisoners in deplorable conditions. Camp Douglas set up in early 1862 by the North in Chicago, Illinois near Lake Michigan was dubbed "the Andersonville of the North." Of all the northern prisons, it had the highest death rate. During the cold winter of 1863, 10% of the Confederate prisoners held there froze to death in February alone. Anything of value was taken away from the prisoners and the guards would take pot shots at them at will.

Amongst this grievous backdrop of man's atrocity toward one another a "Ray of Hope" burst forth. On the Andersonville Compound there is a place called Providence Spring. The stockade was built over a small stream that ran through it. This stream supplied drinking water, a laundry, and a latrine for the prisoners. But upstream just outside the walls was a community of workers plus farm animals that polluted the stream. As a result, many prisoners become ill and died from the contaminated water. In August 1864, the death rate was approaching 100 per day. A group of Christian prisoners gathered to pray asking the LORD for pure water to drink. They vowed not to stop their petitions to God until He answered them. After hours of praying, clouds formed right over the prison. The thunderstorm that followed produced a lightning bolt that struck the ground near the praying men. Miraculously no one was harmed. When they looked at the place where the lightning hit, there was a crystal clear spring flowing up



Providence Spring Monument

out of the ground. Later those who saw the event gave their eyewitness accounts. It says in Ezra 8:23, "So we fasted and petitioned our God about this, and He answered our prayer."

The spring came up in the zone between the dead line and the stockade wall. At first the prisoners had to tie a cup to a tent pole to gain access to the water, but the guards soon let them go directly to the spring. In the Book of Proverbs we are encouraged to give water to those who thirst, even if they are our enemies. Compassion happens even in times of war. This miracle of fresh water flow was called Providence Spring. It provided good drinking water for the men. After the war, holding pools were installed and a building was constructed over the area.

Parts of the stockade and dead line
(Continued on next page)

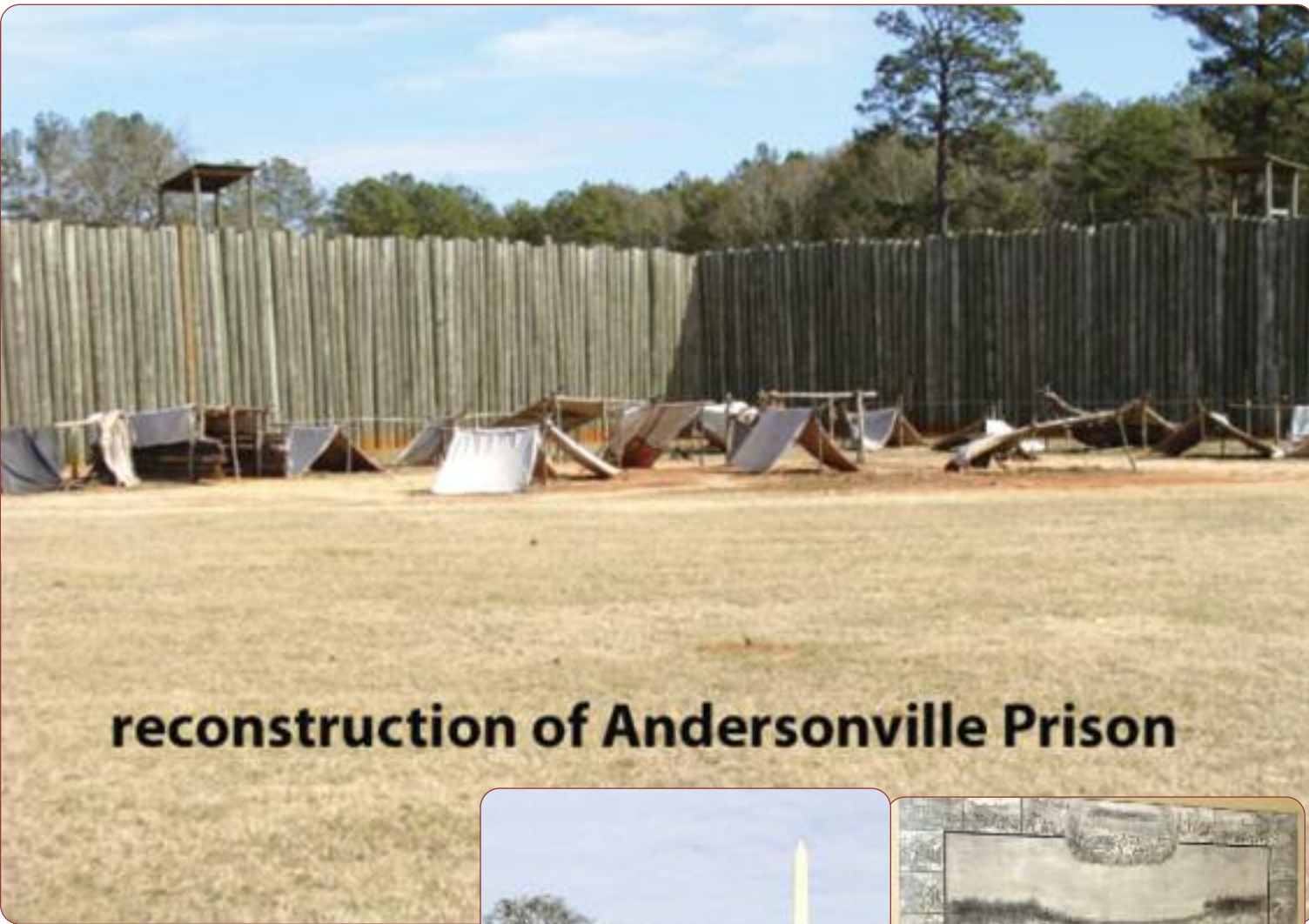
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reconstruction of Andersonville Prison

(Continued from previous page)

have been rebuilt at Andersonville, along with a few prisoner shelters. The graves at the cemetery were marked with headstones using records found at the prison. A few of the old cannons are on display around the park. There are several stone monuments placed on site by women's societies and states involved in the war paying tribute to the souls lost there. Many markers point out spots of interest. Grand old majestic trees now stand guard in the prison yard. We spent most of a day surveying the grounds.

If you are ever in the area of Andersonville, Georgia, I recommend you stop in and spend some time with history. It is said a people that does not know their history are destined to repeat it.

Besides the stockade and cemetery, there is a museum, theater, and gift shop where a CD is provided to use in your car CD player that gives a point by point description as you drive around the area. And to top it all off, the total cost is FREE.



Memorials to fallen soldiers



drawing of prison grounds

Hope to see ya on the trail
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www.timetracts.com/Tracts/Andersonville

www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org

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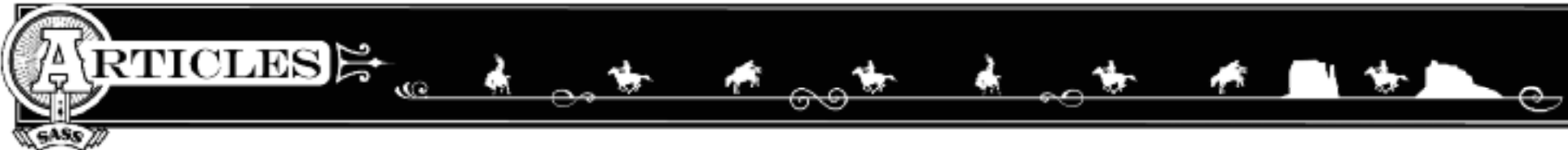
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FORWARD OPERATING BASE

~ Tombstone, Afghanistan ~

Welcome to the O.K. Corral

Past the concrete slabs and guards in heavy combat gear, a wooden board at the entrance to an allied military base in Afghanistan shows an image of Wyatt Earp, the legendary lawman of the American Wild West. His features are stern and angular. He wears a cowboy hat and a drooping mustache, and a black-gloved hand holds a long-barreled revolver across his chest.

The lore of the Wild West and the hard reality of southern Afghanistan, the key battleground of the war between NATO forces and Taliban insurgents, share a few things: danger, men with guns, and desert wilderness. At Tombstone, an allied base deep in the Taliban



A U.S. Stryker armored vehicle leaves the Tombstone base in the Helmand province, Southern Afghanistan, Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010. The sign at the entrance shows Wyatt Earp, the legendary lawman of the American Wild West.

(AP Photo/Pier Paolo Cito)

stronghold of Helmand province, signs and images recalling the 1881 shootout in Tombstone, Arizona give the place a gunslinger motif.

The edgy, theme park touch suits the American soldiers.

"It's a little more entertaining," said Sgt. Maj. Robert Haemmerle,

who is attached to the 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment of Task Force Stryker. "It's got a little pizzazz."

Many U.S. military installations in Afghanistan are named after soldiers slain in combat, or units that first deployed at a particular site. It's unusual to see base features that lighten the mood in a region where the threat of death is a part of life.

Tombstone Base

British and Danish soldiers share the grounds with the Americans, but don't have Wild West logos among their tents and vehicles. On the U.S. side, an "O.K. Corral" sign has been hoisted in the parking area of the Strykers, U.S. armored vehicles that carry infantry.

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The gunfight in Tombstone happened near the O.K. Corral in Tombstone. Earp and his two brothers, along with dentist and gambler John H. "Doc" Holliday, were looking to disarm and arrest the Clanton and the McLaury brothers for violating a town gun ordinance. Frank and Tom McLaury and Billy Clanton were killed in one of the most famous shootouts in U.S. history.

The Tombstone base is near the Afghan town of Lashkar Gah, where insurgents are active. It's adjacent to the far bigger Camp Leatherneck, a U.S. Marine base, and close to the British Camp Bastion. The Wild West theme seems to fit its small size.

"Out here is the John Wayne outpost, surrounded," said Daniel Smith of Mount Holly, N.J., a civilian who supervises the dining hall and other services for the American troops. "It gives a little home feeling, a home away from home."

Civilian contractors say they have added the Wild West decorations since last year. Door signs say Long Horn Saloon and Big Nose Kate's, a reference to Holliday's companion, "Big Nose Kate" Elder. A gazebo where soldiers chat and smoke is named after Tombstone's Crystal Palace Saloon. On the dining hall walls, there are copies of old "Wanted, Dead or Alive" posters

and reward notices for the likes of the Sundance Kid, Butch Cassidy, and Jesse James.

Contrasting Images

One Las Vegas notice hints at a lynching:

"Notice! To Thieves, Thugs, Fakirs, and Bunko-Steerers ... If found within the limits of this City after TEN O'CLOCK p.m., this night, you will be invited to attend a GRAND NECK-TIE PARTY, the expense of which will be borne by 100 Substantial Citizens."

Tech. Sgt. Efren Lopez, a military photographer from Phoenix, Arizona, knows the original Tombstone and plans to compile a display contrasting images of the base in Afghanistan with photographs of the place back home. For example, he'll set photos of the hulking Stryker vehicles alongside shots of stagecoaches.

"This reminds you a lot of the (American) West because of the desert," Lopez said of southern Afghanistan.

There is a somber scene in the British area at Tombstone, where a plaque on a Yorkshire Regiment memorial lists about 30 names of soldiers who died. It tells the reader:

"When you go home, tell them of us, and say: For your tomorrow, we gave our today."

APS Story on MSNBC.msn.com

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- Sportsman's Loft, 2800 South Broadway, Minot, ND 58701 - Sep 10-11, 2010
- No Limits Outdoors, 212 11th st. S,W, Plaza Spencer, IA 51301 - Sep 13, 2010
- D & R Sports Center, 8178 W. Main Street, Kalamazoo, MI - Sep 17-18, 2010
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- Tips Hardware, 218 Main Street, West Creek, NJ - Sep 25-26, 2010
- The Fishin' Hole, 219 N. County Drive, Wakefield, VA - Sep 29, 2010





SHOOTER READY

By Indiana Kid, SASS #76398

I am next in line, and with the point of a finger I take my cue and come to the line. "Shooter ready? Then, say your line," comes the voice beside me. A deep swallow and I speak, "Son of a gun of a cowboy, get your gun out and get to work!" The timer sounds, and I draw my Vaqueros. I double tap target one, then double tap target five, then to target two, then four and end on three. I holster and charge to the table some fifteen feet away where I shoulder my '66. Ten rounds later I grab the coach gun. The first round knocks the target down and the flyer shoots up ... miss! The time is called along with the miss, but this was the thirty seconds I long for—the cowboy dress, the guns, and the many friends I've met and look forward to seeing since I've found my home here in Cowboy Action Shooting™.

You know the feeling ... the sights and smells of gunpowder so thick it seems like forever to clear so you can see your next target.

Yeppers, I can't seem to get enough of it! It starts out small enough ... you stumble onto a club

and show up and some cowboy/cowgirl smiles and offers you their guns so you can shoot a round. Now you're in deep, and it only gets deeper. One or two shoots a month, then you search for any action around, and before you know it, you're traveling every weekend somewhere, meeting new friends and feeding your soul.

You always had it in you, the love of the Old West ... always picking the Western to watch and cheering on the "Duke" as he saves the day and gets the girl. As a child, when playing cops or cowboys, you always picked the cowboy. We all share the same feelings. We long for wide open places and a simpler life. Gene, Roy, Hoppy—they all had it, too, and somehow managed to have a career living out their dreams.

When we show up at our local match, we show up not just to shoot. We come to escape our weekly lives of suits, ties, and coveralls to adorn chaps, spurs, and our ever loved old cowboy hat. We come to enjoy the many friendships we have made along the way, and rest assured, if you forgot ammo, a gun fouls, or any other problem should arise, there



would be no shortage of these good folks to offer you a helping hand.

Time here seems to go by way too fast, and when the dust settles and the smoke has cleared, it's another match for the books, and I'm already planning on the next one! 🤠

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THE DAY I BEAT

JOE BOWMAN

By J. P. Lower, SASS #18563

Joe Bowman was an iconic figure in our sport, having been on the fast draw and exhibition-shooting scene for almost 50 years. His passing last year marks an end to the old school of exhibition shooting greats. The photo I saw of him recently in *The Cowboy Chronicle* reminded me of a forgotten event that took place in 1970, when my interest in single action shooting was just beginning.

Joe had set up his show at the Richmond Mall, Richmond Heights, Ohio, not far from Cleveland. (Try setting up in a mall today with a shooting exhibition!) My future wife who lived nearby suggested we check it out. The mall was part of our routine haunt as young lovers with little money, but a lot of time on our hands. We got there to find fifty or so metal chairs set up in front of a large stage, all occupied, and there was Joe working the crowd, spinning his Colts and shooting blanks at balloons. I noticed a large clock shaped device standing on the stage, which I later discovered was a stopwatch.

The next bit he wanted to perform required someone from the audience. "Come on," he said, "Come on up here and try to out shoot me!" Denise nudged me and suggested I take up the challenge, knowing I had recently bought a .36 caliber reproduction Navy with which I was enthralled. Joe picked up on the nudge, waving his hands at me, beckoning me to the chal-

lenge, since no one else in the crowd of gray hairs seemed interested in going up. I was wearing a fringed leather coat that day, and sported long hair and a mustache, so maybe Joe thought it would make good theater with some "buckskin" on the stage.

With an air of self-confidence, I strode up to the platform and climbed the steps. Joe greeted me with a smile and mighty hand-shake, asked my name, then introduced me to the crowd, who strangely applauded my introduction. He explained to them that reaction times are critical to the fast draw, and it takes a very skilled and experienced shooter to pull a trigger in less than half a second after the action is seen, as in someone drawing a gun. He boasted his typical reaction times were usually two tenths of a second to draw and shoot.

To prove his point, he was going to allow me to fire his single action against the timer, which would stop at the sound of the blank. Joe shot first, probably quite casually, and achieved a time of three tenths of a second. He took off the gun belt, put it around my buckskin coat, and suggested I get the feel of the gun by slowly drawing it out, cocking it, and snapping the hammer. I did this two or three times, after which he quickly asked if I was ready. All I had to do was draw and pull the trigger when I saw that big sweep hand move. Unbeknown to

Joe, I had been recently practicing with my heavy, long barreled Navy in this exact manner, with no timer involved. I had no idea how fast I could draw and shoot.

The timer hand moved, I thumbed the hammer, pulled and fired. The sweep hand stopped at just over two tenths of a second! The crowd applauded while Joe quickly made a comment about the timer being out of order or something to that effect, and suggested I try again. This time I registered somewhere around seven tenths of a second, which Joe happily explained to the crowd as a good time, but not fast enough in a real

gun fight. He quickly removed the gun belt and hustled me off the stage, encouraging the crowd to give me a big hand.

To this day, I'm not sure how I got that two tenths of a second score. Maybe I anticipated the clock just right, or maybe I did pull and shoot because of my Navy practice, but I know Joe was a little stunned and not prepared for it. Maybe he thought I was a "ringer," but he handled it well, practiced showman that he was, and we all had fun. My wife to be beamed and was proud to be walking tall with the man who had just out shot Joe Bowman! Or did he? 🤠

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Captain Baylor modeling the Mernickle Evil Roy Slim Jim rig with matching shotgun belt.

(Photo by Lorrie Lott, Mr. Quigley Photography)

DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR

The Guns of Jimmy Spurs

By Captain George Baylor, SASS Life #24287



Jimmy Spurs hiding behind his Dillon in his clean, well-organized shop

I had heard New Hampshire gunsmith Jimmy Spurs did some really good work and wanted to talk to him at the SASS Convention. Jim McMahon, aka Jimmy Spurs, SASS #65014, is a full time gunsmith from Derry, NH. The name of his company is Cowboy Gunworks. He had a booth there. I shot by it a few times, but it was always two or three deep with cowboys looking at the guns. The floor was slippery from their drooling. I really didn't have time to stop until Sunday morning, but the booth was closed. He was on his way home. I let Splinter Jack and Deuce Stevens, who had worked the booth with him, know I wanted to see his work, and a short time later Jimmy emailed me and promised some guns to test.

At Winter Range one day Deuce came by Camp Baylor with a long gun and four revolvers of Jimmy's, all spectacular examples of his work.

SASS Vaqueros

Jimmy knows how to get a gunwriter-hack to shoot his guns in competition—*send a matched pair!* The pair of SASS Vaqueros looked spectacular with jeweled hammers and triggers. They felt good, too. They have Jimmy's "Full Race Gun Package—Top Gun Action Job, which

includes widening the rear sight notch (from a factory .140 to .156 inches), beveling the cylinder, ejector rod housing and ejector rod, Colt-style half-cock hammers (no more ring-a-round-the-Ruger!), and set-back triggers." The jewelling is an additional \$99.

Their trigger pulls were below 2 lb. (1 lb. 11 oz. on the Lyman Digital Trigger Pull Gauge on one). Cocking pressure was exceedingly light. I compared them to my Vaqueros, which were well-tuned with the standard Ruger action, no half-cock hammer. Jimmy's guns were easier to cock shooting Duelist.

I shot these extensively and even shot a match or two with them. All in all, they were delightful. Despite the light hammers (and the fact I told Jimmy I use Federal primers in competition—ya can't trust these gunwriter-hacks), they popped

Winchester primers.

Jimmy doesn't just put in a spring kit. He makes his own springs. The first thing they teach in a lot of gunsmithing schools is how to make springs. If a gunsmith *can't* make springs, well ...

Bisleys

The other two revolvers were 4-5/8" Ruger New Vaquero *Bisleys*. No, they don't make 4-5/8" Bisleys. They're all 5-1/2". Jimmy starts with 4-5/8" New Vaqueros and magically transforms them into Bisleys by changing all the appropriate parts. Then, these had everything the SASS Vaqueros had, plus the removal of the transfer bar. Of course, with the transfer bar removed, the gun now has to be loaded with five rounds, like a Colt SAA. It has a four-click hammer, so a half-cock notch is included. To open the loading gate the hammer must be moved to the first notch. But, removing all of the mass of the transfer bar and having the hammer hit the frame-mounted firing pin directly means the hammer doesn't have to hit as hard to pop primers. So now you can have the finely tuned hammer similar to a Colt tuned by a master like Eddie

Janis (Peacemaker Specialists). The trigger pull of both guns was below 1.5 lb. The hammer pull was even lighter than the Vaqueros.

The only problem was the hammers were so light I didn't feel comfortable until I'd put about 500 rounds through them. They were far faster than I am. Deuce Stevens, using his four-click Vaqueros, from low ready, has done five shots in 0.84 seconds. Two guns from the holster, 10 shots in 2.49 seconds. Let's just say that my times weren't anything like that, but, compared to my normal percussion Ruger Old Armies (with R & D Conversion cylinders and .45 Colt loads for practice), my practice times were considerably faster with the Bisleys. Colt McAllister now uses a pair of four-click Rugers Jimmy built for him. They have bone case hardened frames and Jimmy's "Top Gun" rear sight package (short description: opening the rear sight in a way that lets a lot of light in, and only the widest part of the rear sight is visible to the shooter.)

(Continued on next page)



A quartet of New Vaqueros by Jimmy Spurs



SASS Vaquero with Jimmy Spurs modifications



Captain Baylor shooting Jimmy Spurs' '73 at Winter Range



Jeweled innards of a '73 by Jimmy Spurs



Crescent butt-plate cut straight and covered with rough-out leather

(Continued from previous page)
"73 Short Rifle

When I opened the box of the fifth gun, I had to exclaim this was the most pimped out "73 I had ever seen! I had asked for a 18-1/2" barrel pistol grip .38/.357. The receiver was polished to a fine luster, as were the barrel bands. I thought, at first, it was high polish electroless nickel. But no, it is careful polishing with industrial buffers. (To answer the question, "won't that rust?" Jimmy says you can't put them away wet and do have to take care of them, but it's not a problem. He offers to repolish any that rust, and none has come back in five years.) The hammer, trigger, lever, and the sides of the rear sight were all jeweled. When the side plates were removed, you could see that *everything* was jeweled. Jewelling the sides of the links and the side plates makes sense. Jewelling allows the metal to hold more oil. But Jimmy got carried away and jeweled everything else that could be jeweled. It sure looks fantastic.

But how does it work? When you work the lever, it feels like there are no springs at all. It is VERY light and smooth. Of course, it has been short stroked. Stock links are used, and the lever has been modified in a manner similar to a Codymatic. When you open the lever, the only movement on the trigger is it resetting, no flop. The trigger pull is below 2 pounds.

The butt stock had been cut straight, eliminating the crescent. It was covered in rough-out leather and stuck to my shoulder well.

The front sight was a white big bead Grabber. That was the only thing I would have changed if I owned the gun. I would have an even bigger *brass* bead. But that is just a personal quirk. I shot the gun at Winter Range after my #1 rifle died the first day, ending any chance of a buckle this year. Winter Range used white rifle targets sometimes. Polished brass shows up over black or white.

Jimmy told me Deuce Stevens had done 10 shots in 1.76 seconds. It was impossible for me to test this because I can't work the lever that fast. I'll take his word for it.

Conclusion

Jimmy does exceptionally good work. His guns are very slick, and they're reliable. As I told him, the only reason I didn't buy the rifle was

I would have to change my alias to George the Pimp. It wasn't the only reason. There is that money thing.

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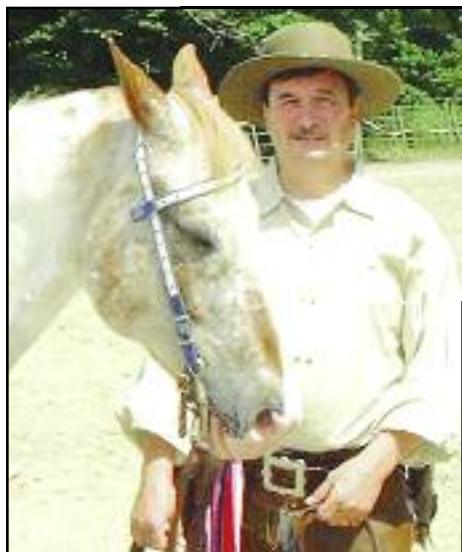
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By The Capgun Kid, SASS #31398

an effort to shoot clean. So ... being more of the historical/movie type of shooter, I am content to never go below a minute a stage.

Why would I take the time to write an article on making your gun-leather a little faster??? I guess the reason is that mostly I'm winter-bored because it's February and we're snowed in again in Pittsburgh and the Western Channel is running another stupid Spanish or German western. You know, the ones where the little kid has his farm burned and mommy and daddy killed by the bad guy, only to grow up and hunt the bad guy down. Meanwhile the bad guy hasn't aged a day while the good guy was growing up. There's about an hour and a half of close ups of dirty and sweaty faces, grunting and groaning incessantly when there is no dialogue, echo-ey and tinny music that is mostly women going oooh-oooh-oooh up and down a sad, dreamy sounding musical scale and so on. Did I forget to mention the dumb dialogue and terrible dubbing? You know ... lines like ... "Why don't wee pros-ee-kyood him according to dee code of dee wess? Den wee can hung him ..."

There's an old saying that a writer sometimes writes solely as an alternative to boredom. I know it's true because I'm old and I said it. So, inasmuch as I already shoveled



This Hollywood B-Western rig from the 1950s is metal lined and great for "fast draw."

and snow-blew again for the second time today, I thought I'd pontificate for a few minutes on behalf of all you other coyotes who also have nothing to do during the winter and are eyeballing their gun leather. Whether you are one of those low slung, Buscadero types or one of those Authentic Charlies with the stamped borders and Mexican loop over the belt, consider this when tackling your gunleather.

The guys running around in the 1800's and the heroes sitting atop

their golden palominos did not have to face down the problem we have. It is not so much getting the gun OUT of the holster, but rather the problem of getting your gun back IN the holster in a safe, efficient, and non-fumbling way. Quick ... run and go get your SASS Handbook out and study the safe-smooth-draw paragraph. After all, you are shooting against a timer and those guys in the movies could do more than one take. So, if you are one of those poor souls who is gonna try to beat the clock every

Let's see ... about an hour to get to the range, maybe an hour to pump my Dillon until I have the round count, and the time it takes to load the car ... Hmm. Then there's all the time I put into my leatherwork because I am too vain to buy anybody else's. Then there's all the cost of transportation and hotels and meals if I am going to one of those dandy Regionals. And, oh yes ... the hat. I wouldn't have a mortgage on that hat if I was not shooting cowboy. So, for all this I am supposed to show up and shoot as fast as I can so I can spend three to five minutes or less of actual shooting time the whole weekend after all that?

Uh-uh. Never was one to watch an Evil Roy VHS, but I do respect those who want to win. It's their high, and it certainly drives the sport.

I wanna see every puff of stinkin' blackpowder smoke, feel every ratchet of the cylinder revolving, watch every shell eject, and feel every thump of my shotgun as I blast away at those bad guy gongs. The monkey on my back is

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time, then this is for you as you start the endeavor. Here's a few notes about holsters you might wanna consider before ordering new ones or going after your existing leather with your X-acto knives.

Take a look at the Slim-Jim, double-curved holster pattern in Figure One. It generated one of my favorite holsters shown in the accompanying photo. Take a look at the arrow on Figure One. It shows where the incoming gun hits the holster head on, first. If you wanna shoot one of those 19 second stages, then this is a problem for you because the gun is going to wanna strike the lip of the holster at the top of the curve and get stuck there. That's why so many shooters have their Cabela Specials

most of us grew up with while watching TV ... the hard shell holsters Paladin, Cheyenne, and Matt You-Know-Who wore and slid their guns out of so fast they looked like holsters with teflon lining. Close, but no cigar. The accompanying photo shows one of the rare instances where I made one of these. I spoke with Arvo Ojala, their inventor, more than three lustums ago, give or take a superbowl or two. Go watch Rooster Cogburn and The Lady to find out what a lustum is. He was filled with stories about teaching those stars to gun handle and how important the metal lined holsters were to their good camera shots. What a great, albeit short, conversation that was.

There are dozens of video's and

or to make a Texas Cut. Don't do it if the holster is lined because you are going to have a whale of a time getting a neat stitch to hold the two pieces of leather together. You are almost certain to ruin the integrity of the holster built into it from when it was made. If you do cut, benefit from the advice an old shoemaker gave me when he trained me, and I showed him the holster upon which I was about to perform surgery.

Take a moment to cut and shape a piece of scrap pine so it fits snugly into the holster. You might also want to make it slightly oversized, round the edges, and bevel the edge of the wood that lays against the side seam. Also leave plenty of wood at the top so you have a handle. This comes in handy when you are gonna oil or treat your holster every so often.

Scribe or pencil the Texas-style cut on your holster while the gun is in it. Slide the gun up and down to get an idea of where it will contact the holster on the way in. Put the gun aside and stuff the wood form into the holster and lay the piece flat on a table. It will act to hold the piece firm while you work and also perform as a cutting board.

Holster terminology seems to have evolved to where the top of the holster is referred to as the curve and the other curve that drops and passes over the trigger guard is called the throat. This was a common type of old-time holster that Rattenbury refers to as double curved or "S" curved. Most Texas Cuts are gonna start at the throat and take out most of the curve. You don't have to get crazy and over-do it. Your cut only has to be at an oblique angle to the line representing the front of your gun's cylinder so said cylinder does not strike the top of the holster head on. I don't like to use ink when drawing a line on a finished piece, hence the aforementioned pencil. Use a sharp knife, preferably an x-acto if you are not used to working with leather. You are guaranteed to botch your cut if your knife is dull. Note, you are cutting with the wood form inside the holster ... that's how you prevent an "oops" moment of shock because you cut too hard and ruined the back of your holster. Don't try that paring motion where you try to slice using your thumb in front of the blade to hold the leather in place.

Figure Four shows a line that gets the job done on S-curved holsters. Notice it is not taking out too much leather, but rather has enough of a slope the gun will graze them on the way into the holster. You'd probably want to change the back of the holster to make it a Mexican loop. Simple enough.

Now, for that extra edge in speed, if you can quit fumbling with your shotgun shells ...

Don't shoot yore eye out, kid 🐶



These Slim Jim holsters clearly show the "S" curve the Fig. 4 pattern is designed to remove.

and hand crafted holsters lop-eared and folded over to avoid that. The softer, authentic holsters will stick like that almost every time, even if you are one of those shooters who lovingly puts his leather away with tennis balls stuffed into the throats.

If you think about it, the reason for this is the old time cowboy had a greater priority on protecting his gun than he did over dinging gongs and beating clocks.

Now take a look at Figure Two. It generated my favorite rig of all time because, with the advent of the unavoidable paunch, I began looking more like Noah Beery Jr. than Roy Rogers. A few missing teeth and the Gabby Hayes phase and I stop shooting altogether.

Anyway ... On the pattern there are two arrows. When the gun goes home, it hits the lip of the holster here first, at an oblique angle rather than head-on so it slides into the holster almost every time. Still not a clock beater, but reliable. The lining is only three ounce tooling cowhide, and the outside is split buffalo ... I think. The point is it is lightweight, soft, and a little thinner than most.

I judge the convex curve of the holster top, referred to as a "Texas Cut" and seen in Richard Rattenbury's great picture book entitled "Packing Iron," had something to do with the desire to pull and replace the gun with greater speed and reliability. Indeed, there are a couple of shots in that superb book of holsters that were visibly butchered by their owners to make this Texas Cut.

Figure Three shows the pattern

books showing the technique of putting metal, and even thick, plastic soda bottle liners between the two layers of the holsters. Mr Ojala confided he thought of using plastic instead of metal because the metal would mis-shape during mishaps while filming. I believe he spoke of having a metal form or anvil to force a dented holster back into shape, but he did not detail that with me, and I did not ask him a whole lot about it. That was always the deterrent to making that kind of holster. I worry about my stuff when it is on another range a couple of hundred miles from me. I do have to admit, however, that the hard shell holster is far better than anything I make for speed shooting.

It's the stiff, hard gunleather that is obviously for the so-called gamer, and there are dozens of quality made holsters plastered all over the ads of The Catboy Chronicle in any given issue. I rarely build these for my dedicated gamer pards because they are so common and well crafted elsewhere. I just don't have the tickle for that kind of construction. By and large, your only chore on the firing line is to remember when to put on and take off the hammer thong because your gun is gonna fall out of these things at some point if you don't. I've seen more than one experienced and talented shooter take a match DQ because a prop pulled the gun out of the holster or fell out when the shooter bent over.

Lastly, a word or two of advice for those buckaroos thinking of cutting their holster to prune the lop-ear fold

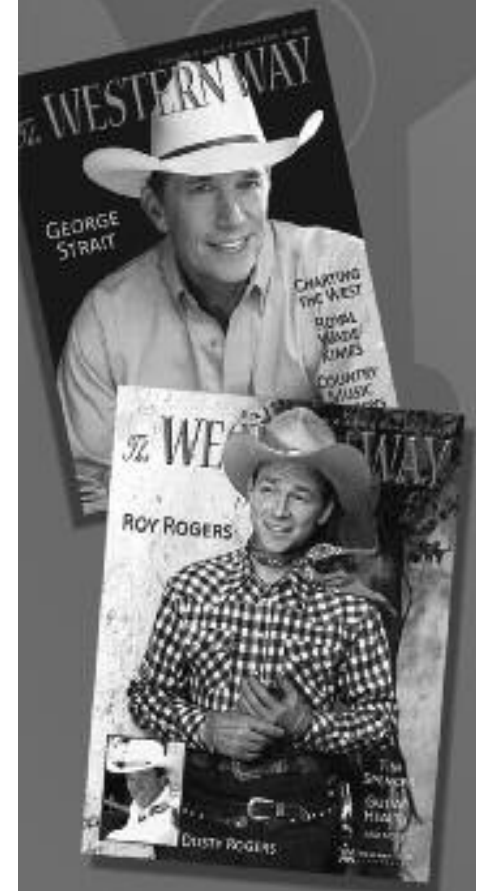


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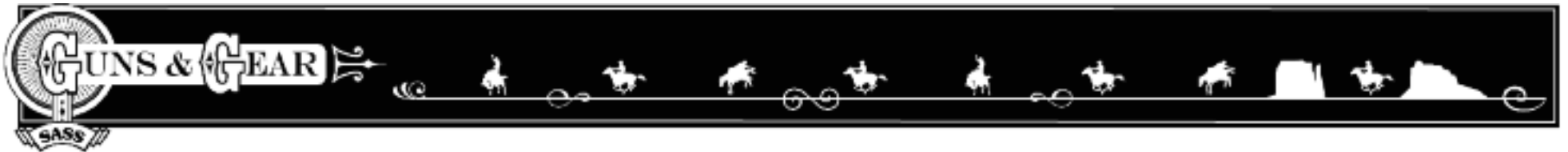
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SASS Life #6127

GUNS OF THE COWBOYS, LAWMAN AND BADMAN

Part Three, Section One: "Buffalo" Rifles

By Tuolumne Lawman, SASS Life #6127

When we say "Buffalo Rifle," it generally conjures up images of scruffy, buckskin clad, bearded men carrying their 1874 Sharps .45-90 or .50-90 "Poison Slinger" heavy barreled rifle across the trackless plains in search of the vanishing North American bison. While this is not a totally inaccurate picture, the venerable Sharps certainly had no monopoly on decimating the big beasts. Remington Rolling Blocks, surplused 1866 Springfield Allin Conversions in .50-70, .45-70 Marlin Lever Actions, and the Sharps were all used in harvesting buffalo. In this article, I will try to give a brief profile of the four most popular "Buffalo Rifles" used in the West (two this month and two next month).

REMINGTON ROLLING BLOCK RIFLES

Few people realize there were more Rolling Block rifles manufactured than Sharps ever dreamed of making! The Rolling Block design first came out just after the Civil War in 1866. It was based on an 1865 patented action designed by Joseph Ryder, a Remington engineer. Remington hoped it would make up for the loss of war contracts and save the company, which it did. In fact, more Remington Rolling Blocks were used as military rifles worldwide than any other single shot cartridge rifle ever produced.

Besides the many foreign contracts for military rifles, the Rolling Block also found favor here with civilians on the frontier.

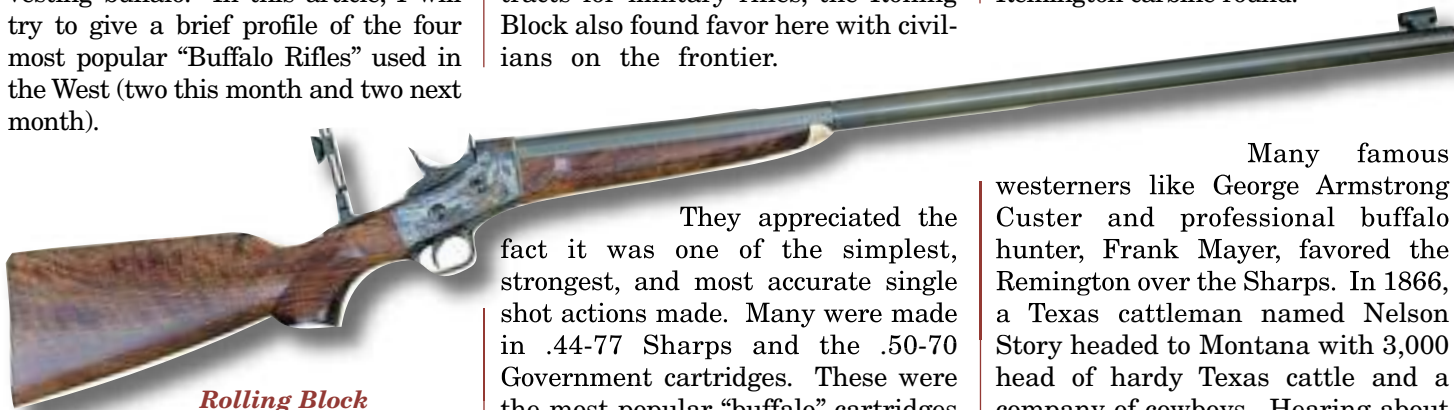
They appreciated the fact it was one of the simplest, strongest, and most accurate single shot actions made. Many were made in .44-77 Sharps and the .50-70 Government cartridges. These were the most popular "buffalo" cartridges on the frontier until the introduction

of the .45-70 Government round in the 1873 Trap Door Springfield. It was not long before Rolling Blocks were offered in the new caliber.

The firm of Bannerman, in New York, converted tens of thousands of military surplus Rolling Blocks to more popular civilian calibers to sell out west. I once had a Springfield-made USN Rolling Block carbine that had been rebarreled to .44-77 Sharps, probably by Bannermans. Frontier gunsmiths like Freund and Carlos Gove modified rollers to every conceivable specification. I even had a Rolling Block that had a .50 caliber Hawken barrel cut, chambered, and mounted to the action! It chambered the .50-45 Government Remington carbine round.

bought 30 Rolling Blocks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Thus armed, the party headed north. They encountered a number of large war parties consisting of several hundred hostiles. Every time Story and his men drove them off with the "17 shots per minute" Remingtons. In all of the encounters along the trail, Story only lost one man out of the 30-man party. The total number of Indian casualties is unknown, but was possibly as many as 100 braves.

Loading and shooting the Rolling Block is simplicity itself. The hammer, part of a large rotating drum in the receiver, is cocked. When it is cocked, the portion of the hammer drum that is milled off allows the breech block (another rotating drum) to rotate about 75 degrees downward, exposing the open breech. A cartridge is inserted, and the breech rotated up to a closed position. As soon as the trigger is pulled, the hammer drum rotates forward underneath the breech, locking it in the closed position. It is impossible for the rolling block to fire without the breech being locked closed. The basic action is so strong and fast, that it earned a reputation for absolute reliability. The proof house



**Rolling Block
Buffalo Rifle**

Many famous westerners like George Armstrong Custer and professional buffalo hunter, Frank Mayer, favored the Remington over the Sharps. In 1866, a Texas cattleman named Nelson Story headed to Montana with 3,000 head of hardy Texas cattle and a company of cowboys. Hearing about Indian troubles on the trail, Story

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in Liege, Belgium, even attempted to blow up a Rolling Block rifle, but was unsuccessful. They took a .50 caliber rifle, put 750 grains of blackpowder in the barrel, two wads, and forty .50 caliber lead balls—completely filling the 36" barrel. When it was fired, the record only notes "nothing extraordinary occurred!"

The old Remington Rolling Block had a well-earned reputation for accuracy, too. It was at least as popular as the Sharps, and maybe more so, in the long range Creedmoor and Schuetzen Matches in the late 1800s. Three of the six Americans who faced off against the Irish for the 800, 900, and 1,000 yard Creedmoor match in 1874 were armed with Rolling Blocks of varying calibers.

While Remington was the primary manufacturer of Rolling Blocks, the Government arsenal at Springfield manufactured them for the U.S. forces under contract. Whitney also made Rolling Blocks, as well as several European arsenals like Husquavarna in Sweden, who also manufactured them under license. The Rolling Block was first released in a .50 caliber rim fire. It has since been produced in dozens of calibers from .22 LR to .50-110 Sharps straight. The most common chamberings for the Rolling Blocks are .43 Spanish, 11mm Mauser, .43

falo hunters, or more properly, "Buffalo Runners" of the last half of the nineteenth century.

Christian Sharps produced his first single shot, percussion, breech loading rifle using paper cartridges in the late 1840s. Prior to the Civil War, cases of Sharps rifles were shipped to abolitionist forces in the border states in cases marked "Bibles." For years, Sharps rifles were nick-named "Beecher's Bibles" in honor of the prominent abolitionist, Henry Ward Beecher, who believed the Sharps was an important weapon against slavery. According to an 1856 quote in the *New York Tribune*, cited on Wikipedia.org, "He (Henry W. Beecher) believed the Sharps Rifle was a truly moral agency, and there was more moral power in one of those instruments, so far as the slaveholders of Kansas were concerned, than in a hundred Bibles. You might just as well ... read the Bible to Buffaloes as to those fellows who follow Atchison and Stringfellow [prominent pro-slavery advocates]; but they have a supreme respect for the logic embodied in Sharp's rifle."

During the Civil War, Sharps rifles and carbines, with their fast breech reloading and their deserved reputation for reliability and

accuracy, were in high demand. Col. Hiram Berdan issued .52 caliber, model 1859 Sharps rifles to his notorious "Sharpshooters." The Model 1859 and 1863 Sharps .52 caliber carbines were the most common cavalry carbines on both sides of the conflict.

In 1866, Sharps began producing metallic cartridge firing breech loaders by converting percussion 1863 carbines. The first caliber was the .50-70 Government round. One author, Graham Burnside, catalogued 59 separate calibers and loads ranging from .36 "mule ear" teat fire to .50-473-140 with its .50 caliber, 473 grain bullet over 140 grains of FFG blackpowder. One of those common, but lesser-known, calibers is the .45-120-550-3¼" Sharps, more commonly known as the .45-120. It was a deadly long-range pill!

As the post war westward migration swelled, so did the flow of Sharps rifles to the West. Plainsmen and buffalo hunters alike favored the Sharps for its power. The .45-120 Sharps was the favorite caliber of noted Buffalo Runner Frank H. Mayer. In his book, *The Buffalo Harvest*, Mayer talks quite a bit

about the .45-120 and his fondness for it. He said of the .45-120, "I never found anything more deadly than the .45-120-550 ..." Mayer claims to have killed 200 buffalo with 200 shots from the .45-120 at ranges of 300-600 yards. He even did 1,000 yard shooting with the 1,400 fps, 550 grain paper patched bullet. Mayer talks about Buffalo Runners getting free .45-70 ammunition from the army so they could disassemble it in order to obtain the components to reload their own loads. Seems the army was anxious for them to eliminate the buffalo (read *Native American's Food Source*) as soon as possible. Bill Tilghman, the legendary U.S. Marshal, also started his career in the West as a buffalo hunter. He is said to have shot over 7,500 buffalo with his .40 caliber Sharps. One of these was at a measured distance of over one mile!

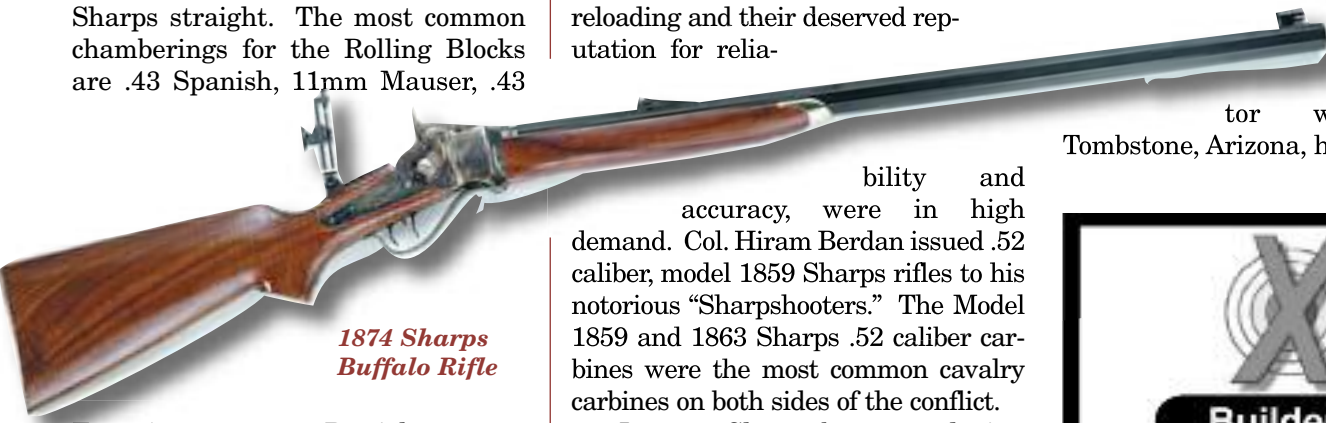
The Sharps was also very popular in its time with other frontiersmen. Teddy Roosevelt carried a .45-120 Sharps in the 1880s while hunting in Montana. He wanted the biggest and the best. Gale Baldwin, later sheriff of Hitchcock County, Nebraska, also carried one in his treks

on the frontier. Ed Schieffelin, the prospector who founded Tombstone, Arizona, had a Sharps for

long range work, and a Henry rifle for close up and personal shooting. In 1874, Billy Dixon, a buffalo hunter, was at an encampment in the Texas panhandle named "Adobe Walls." A band of Comanche and Cheyenne attacked the encampment. Dixon shot a warrior with a .50-90 Sharps at an incredible 1,538 yards! According to legend, a Comanche medicine man had told the warriors his magic made them invisible. When the Sharps shot the warrior, the Shaman was quirted to death by the other warriors! An archeological dig of the Adobe Walls site revealed there were a number of other Sharps rifles in various calibers used in that place. Not just "good guys" liked the power of the .45-120. A small time desperado named Bill Gay used a .45-120 to eliminate some pursuing deputy sheriffs, and earned himself a hangman's noose in the bargain!

The Sharps Rifle legend still lives today. Look at Tom Selleck's hit movie, *Quigley Down Under*, where he portrayed an American marksman who traveled to Australia, armed with a .45-110-2 7/8" Sharps. A Sharps is also the main character in the 1971 western movie called *Tell Them Valdez is Coming*. The star, Burt Lancaster, plays Mexican lawman "Bob Valdez" with a Sharps "Big Fifty" with which he is quite adept, shooting a bandit out of the saddle at 1500 yards.

(to be continued ...)



1874 Sharps Buffalo Rifle

Egyptian, 11mm Danish, .44-77 Sharps, .44-90 Sharps, .45-70, .50-45 Carbine, and .50-70. Remington discontinued the Rolling Block shortly after the turn of the century, though many rifle builders resurrected the actions to build custom rifles.

THE SHARPS RIFLE

It's strange to think a single type of rifle could influence history as much as the Sharps Rifle. In the Civil War, many men died because of Sharps rifles and carbines. By 1878, thousands of buffalo would die every day. This decimation of the buffalo herds changed forever the way of life for the Native American, removing his source of food, hide, tools, and warmth. These buffalo also fed the onslaught of white settlers, soldiers, and railroad men, who were displacing the tribes. The Sharps was the most popular of the rifles for the buf-



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.45 LONG COLT AT 400 FEET PER SECOND "More Is Less"

By Wyatt Berry Stapp Earp SASS #76992

As SASS Members, we talk a lot about "The Spirit of the Game" and, to me, that means a .45 Long Colt caliber revolver, which brings the West alive in my hands. Unfortunately, the .45 LC has a relatively heavy recoil, and many SASS shooters use the lighter recoiling .38 Special. I like the .45 cartridge because it is big and easy to reload. There have been many articles in *The Cowboy Chronicle* about shooting hardware, holsters, and techniques, but few about reloading despite ammunition costs soaring higher and faster than a silver dollar can be tossed for aerial shooting.

The SASS Shooters Handbook notes, "The minimum standard for center-fire smokeless ammunition used in all SASS matches ... is not less

than a minimum power factor of 60 and no velocity may be less than 400 fps. As an example, a 200 grain bullet traveling at 400 fps has a power factor of 80 $\{(200 \times 400) / 1000 = 80.00\}$. I enjoy reloading and challenged myself to develop a reliable .45 LC cartridge load with a velocity somewhat greater than 400 fps using a powder charge equivalent to that of a .38 Special.

We all know a metallic cartridge consists of a case, primer, powder, and a bullet. Shotgun shells include wads that take up a lot of space and perform numerous functions. My approach was to use a wad to take up some of the space in the cavernous .45 LC case so less powder could be used and to ensure the charge would be concentrated near the primer and provide reliable ignition. I contacted

Circle Fly, an advertiser in *The Cowboy Chronicle*, and after considerable excellent discussion, received the recommendation of 0.455" diameter pre-lubed fiber wads, costing about \$0.04 each.

My next search was for powder—the goal was large volume and relatively low price. Again I lucked out by hooking up with the helpful folks at Alliant Powder who suggested their American Select™ Brand.

In looking for bullets, I contacted another advertiser, Oregon Trail, which offers bulk quantity promotions and extraordinarily inexpensive shipping due to their innovative taking advantage of US Postal Service "all you can ship" in container regulations. This fit right in with the philosophy of looking at the

SASS regulations to see what can be done within their specifications.

As I have replaced the factory hammer springs in my Ruger Vaqueros™ with lighter 14-pound Wolff Springs™, I wanted reliable ignition and selected Federal™ primers due to their reputation of having softer metal than most. To enhance ignition, I used their #155 magnum primers that have the advantage of being less popular and more available in these days of primer supply chain issues.

I use a Dillon 650 progressive loader, furnished by another *Cowboy Chronicle* advertiser, but what I'm talking about can be used by the cowboy with a simple Lee turret press. The advantage of the 650 is it

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)
affords an extra station where an extra die can be used to seat the wad.

Putting all of the pieces together, Alliant's suggested charge of 5.4 grains, along with a Federal #150 standard large pistol primer, behind a 200-grain lead bullet would give the typical heavy recoil associated with a 900 fps liftoff. After a range of experiments (with the lowest charge providing black smoke, a hollow pop, and a thud as the bullet hit the bottom of the steel target), I was ready to chronograph the final product. From my high power rifle shooting sports background, I use two PACT Model 1 XP Chronographs mounted in series at their specified distance from my revolver, so the bullet flies over both to eliminate chronograph questions.

The chronographs have shown

400 fps can be achieved. With this said, I have found the Dillon tends to "bounce" occasionally as I gently engage the sizing die if the case is not perfectly aligned by the press. When this happens, powder tends to spill. Out of an abundance of caution, I have increased the load from 3.4 to 3.5 grains. Before any reloading session, I thoroughly check how much powder is "thrown" by the Dillon's dispenser.

Expect doubts and comments from your posse members regarding the low muzzle noise and longer than usual flight time! Folks have seen the wad arcing downward and think that my bullets have a "rainbow trajectory."

I have enjoyed the challenge—now if I could only shoot well with my low-recoiling revolvers!

Usual disclaimer about reloading advice.

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Gus' Buffalo Stroganoff

Ingredients

- 2 lbs. Ground bison (or beef or venison or whatever)
- 2 Medium onions, coarsely chopped
- 1/4 tsp. Celery salt
- 1/4 tsp. Garlic salt
- 1/4 tsp. Ground cumin
- 1 Cup Water
- 1/2 Cup strong coffee or 1 tsp. Coffee crystals
- 3 (8 oz.) Cans tomato sauce
- 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 Cup Sour cream
- 1 (12 oz.) Bag egg noodles, uncooked
- Salt and Pepper to taste

Directions

- Heat Dutch oven over 12-15 briquettes.
- Add meat, onions, and spices to brown.
- While meat is browning, mix together a "gravy" of the water, coffee, tomato sauce, Worcestershire sauce, and sour cream.
- When fully browned, spread meat evenly on bottom of Dutch oven.
- Layer the uncooked noodles evenly on top of the meat.
- Pour "gravy" mixture over the top, covering all the noodles.
- Cover and put 15-20 briquettes on

Whenever The Missus and I put together one of our wonderful One Pot Chuck meals, we're joined by our big Goldie/Malamute-mix buddy, Gus.

When we set about cooking today's special (based on a tried-and-true recipe from the book, *Camp Dutch Oven Cooking 101*, put out by our good pards at Lodge Manufacturing), Gus insisted he wanted to help out ... especially with the tasting part of the procedure. Rest assured, Gus enjoyed his work!

Now, in our recipe we used ground Bison, but you can use beef or venison or elk or just about any ground meat, and it will come out great. The Bison does give it a special campfire flavor, however. Just be sure to layer things in your Dutch oven like the directions say ... and not stir it up until the final 15 minutes of cooking.

Use a 12" Dutch oven if you're cooking on coals ... or a large pot on



We start things off browning a layer of meat.



Next, we add a layer of uncooked egg noodles.



Lastly comes the "gravy" that pulls it all together.



Gus always wants to lend a hand.

the Dutch oven's lid. Cook for 30 minutes. After 30 minutes, stir everything up. Cook for another 15 minutes.

Serve piping hot to your cowpokes with some applesauce or other handy canned fruit. Beer makes a nice chaser. 🍺

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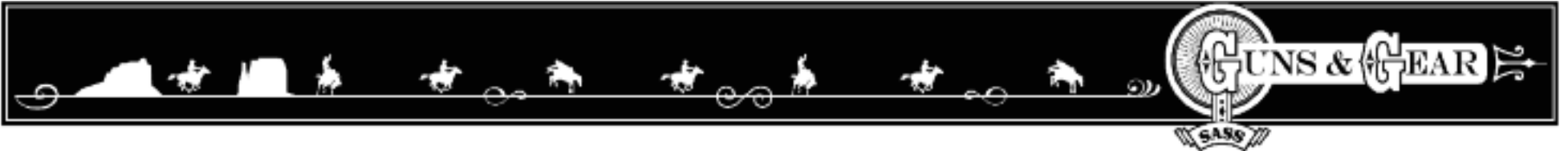
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WHAT'S THE CALL?

SHOOTER'S CHOICE

Replacing Ejected / Defective Rounds

By Pale Wolf Brunelle, SASS Life #2495

A shooter who ejects a rifle round in the middle of a shooting string has FOUR choices:

- 1) Re-engage same target w/reload at the end of the string for the last target = **No Penalty**
- 2) Re-engage same target w/NO reload = **Miss** for the ejected (unfired) round
- 3) Skip to next target w/NO reload = **Miss**
- 4) Skip to next target w/reload/return to re-engage skipped target = **Procedural**

References

24. Ammunition dropped by a shooter in the course of loading or reloading any firearm during a stage or "ejected" is considered "dead" and may not be recovered until the shooter completes the course of fire. The round must be replaced from the shooter's person or other area as required by stage description, or if the round is not fired it is counted as a missed shot. [Shooters Handbook \(page 24\)](#) / [Range Operations \(page 19\)](#)

FIVE SECOND PENALTIES

Rifle, revolver, and shotgun targets must be engaged with the appropriate type of firearm. A "miss" is defined as the failure to hit

the appropriate target type using the appropriate type firearm.

- Each missed target.
- Each unfired round.
- Each target hit with an incorrect firearm, either intentionally or by mistake.
- Each target hit with "illegally acquired" ammunition.

To help understand this concept, a "MISS FLOW CHART" is found in Appendix C. It is also good to understand "A MISS CANNOT CAUSE A PROCEDURAL."

Penalty Overview - Range Operations (page 24)

Engaged - attempting to fire a round at the target.

Glossary of Terms - Range Operations (page 30)

Levering the rifle (ejecting a round) is considered "engaging" under this definition as it applies to the above listed options.

These same choices can be applied to a percussionist who experiences a "cap only" ignition in the middle of a revolver shooting string ...

- 1) Re-engage the same target and recap the unfired chamber for the last target = **NO penalty**
- 2) Re-engage the same target and take the **MISS** on the last target of the shooting string instead.
- 3) Move on to the next target & NOT

recap = **MISS** only for the unfired round.

- 4) Move on to the next target; recap & return to the skipped target = **Procedural** for HITTING the targets out of order (but no misses). [SASS U. "You Make the Call" class](#)

It is also acceptable for a shooter to replace defective (bad primer?) rounds in a revolver in order to successfully complete a stage. Even if a revolver has a "squib" (effectively putting that firearm out of commission), the shooter MAY reload the functioning revolver to finish the shooting string after making the malfunctioning firearm safe.

NOTE: This would normally only be done by a shooter wishing to achieve a "clean stage" as, depending on the number of unfired rounds remaining, it would likely take as much time to unload & reload as it would to simply take the misses. However, a practiced competitor might gain time in doing so.

If a shooter does choose to reload, it would be beneficial to inform the timer operator as to the shooter's actions.

References

- [SASS matches above the club level are "no alibi" matches. Once the first round goes down range, the competi-](#)

tor is committed to the stage and must finish the shooting problem to the best of his ability. Reshoots are not awarded for ammunition or firearm malfunctions.

[Shooters Handbook \(page 20\)](#) / [Range Operations \(page 22\)](#)

These "special circumstances" are NOT the same as reloading round(s) to make up misses for rounds actually fired.

Unless the stage instructions specifically allow it, the only other time a shooter may reload to make up a rifle/pistol miss for a fired round is:

9. If a firearm is shot out of sequence or from the wrong position or location, the shooter will be awarded a single procedural penalty. In this situation, if the shooter elects or is forced to miss an appropriate target due to unsafe angles or target availability, a round may be reloaded to avoid a miss penalty (the dreaded "Double Jeopardy" of a procedure and miss). This does not mean a shooter may reload a rifle or revolver at any other time to make up a miss. Unfired ejected rifle rounds may be reloaded.

[Shooters Handbook \(page 23\)](#) / [Range Operations \(page 16\)](#)





RAIL ROAD SWITCH SIGNAL

By Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907
TG Sucker Creek, Michigan



Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907
Territorial Governor,
Sucker Creek, Michigan



switch installed

two mismatched holes were drilled near the top at right angles through the opposing quarter rounds large enough for 8-32x2" machine screws. When the screws are tightened up with nuts, it pulled into shape and the excess caulk was smoothed out.

I used a piece of an old lawn chair leg for the switch handle, bent to fit, held at the top end by metal plumbing hangar tape and at the bottom by a 1/4" lag eye screw placed through the handle into the wood dowel. The bottom is a one-quart round chocolate milk bottle placed over the dowel. The dowel extended through the bottom of the bottle and fits into the treated landscape timber that surrounds the train. The lock is a block of wood with a u-bolt inserted through it. I used acrylic paint to finish it off.

The finished product looks pre-

As the Vicar's Wife and I travel around to various shooting events, we see more and more trains set up as shooting props or stages. Personally I like to see 'em at a Cowboy Action Shooting™ event. Many old cowboy towns were built around a railroad spur.

Our replica 1831 "John Bull" train stage is a fun shooting platform. It produces much nostalgia, and provides a great backdrop to the photographer looking for that perfect picture. The Vicar's Wife and I usually have a photo taken of us, along with our dog "Sterling Meg," at different events through the year. Then we choose the best one to send out on our Christmas cards. In 2008, we chose a picture shot by "Major Photography" at the North Carolina State Shoot. And you guessed it; there was a train from one of their stages in the background. I have a feeling there is a "John Bull" engine in our background future.

Well after the boys and I finished settin' up that "John Bull" train alongside the "Sucker Creek Depot," it just didn't look complete without a railroad switch signal. After checking out the prices on the web auctions, I decided to manufacture my own. It took awhile to come up with appro-

appropriate scheme, but after the plan solidified, everything fell into place. It says in Proverbs 16:3, "Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." I've found this verse to be sound instruction.

There are differing types of signal designs. I chose the round plate type with green/red colors on a black stand. It's probably not period, but I like the style. The round plates are 12" pizza pans. This turned out to be less than ideal because of the small lip on the edge that had to be hammered flat and the non-stick surface that had to be scuffed up a bit before it would hold paint.

For the upright stand I used a 1



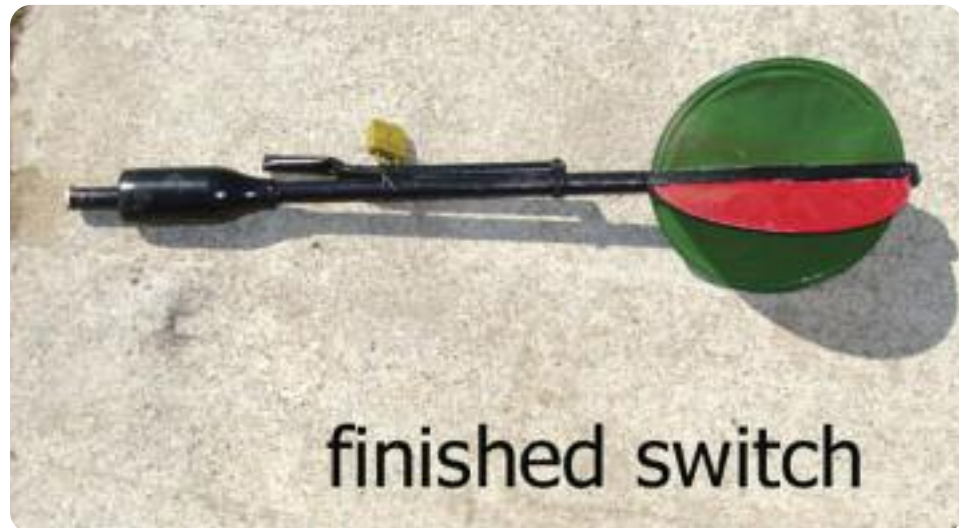
train entering station

1/2" diameter by 48" wood dowel. The plates were each cut on the radius (outer diameter to the center) and then joined together so the plates become congruent and are at right angles with each other. The dowel was cut from the top end down to the depth to accept the joined plates plus a 1/2" more. Dap acrylic silicone clear caulk was used to seal the gaps and electrical tape used to hold the resulting 4 quarter round pieces of the dowel together. Then,

sentable, but it could be placed in what Mt Forest Ron would call, "the 50/50 category." That is it would look great at 50 feet while going by at 50 mph! I would say it is more like a 38/40. Whatever the term you may use, it does put a nice finishing touch on the railroad stage.

Remember to always follow all safety and health rules when building things and playing with them.

creevicardave@hotmail.com
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finished switch



Icelady, SASS #71603

Founders Ranch, NM – Well, the Great Buffalo Stampede of 2010 has run its course. Between Friday, April 23 and Sunday, April 25, thirteen mounted shooters gathered at Founders Ranch to compete for the Four Corners Regional Championship. However, rain and snow beat them there, arriving Thursday night, and when the riders pulled in on Friday they were greeted by a soggy arena and slimy mud in which their trucks could slither around.

Match Director Ted E. Lee, SASS #59654, was forced to cancel the Friday warm up, but good humor prevailed, and the cowboys and cowgirls all went to town to collect their prizes from the prize pool and do a little shopping. The prizes included several western style metal art pieces that could be mounted on a gate, fence, or wall; a pistol; and numerous horse products like leg wraps and first aid or grooming articles.

After collecting their prizes and dropping a little dough at the vendors, the contenders all went their separate ways. Throughout the remainder of the day, the weather stayed dry and windy, providing reasonable hope the arena would be dry enough to ride Saturday. And sure enough, it was.

Saturday bloomed bright, cool, and sunny with a moderate breeze that would continue to dry the arena, and since the start time was postponed 'till noon to allow for that drying, it was decided to have a mounted parade through town while waiting. The parade was led by Captain Ted E. Lee and members of the 4th Calvary re-enactors from Old Fort Griffin Memorial, including a Mescalero Apache Indian scout. As usual, everything and everyone in town stopped to watch and wave to the riders. The re-enactors carried



Icelady, SASS #71603, and Stuttering Wayne, SASS #71602, heading out for the parade.

the national flag, and Stuttering Wayne, SASS # 71602, followed bearing our brand new Buffalo Range Riders flag.

Following the parade riders warmed up their horses while Range Master Sierrita Slim, SASS #4054, set the first stage. Ted E. Lee then called contestants together for a safety meeting and the playing of the national anthem while the Calvary group presented the colors. The match then started with El Paso Bob, SASS #71572, as the opening rider. The well-chosen courses provided the riders with the opportunity to demonstrate their horsemanship as well as their shooting skills, and announcer Firefox, SASS #80377, kept up a lively dialog while Cheyenne Pink, SASS #67021, recorded the times.

Included among the competitors were two new riders, Texas Gold, SASS #87583, and first time rider Bronco Jacob Cody, SASS #88351. Both shot well and managed to keep their horses between themselves and the ground throughout the entire match. And, both wore a constant smile!

BUFFALO STAMPEDE MOUNTED

*By Ice Lady, SASS #71603
Photos by Tom Painter, SASS #11350*

El Paso Bob and Morning Dove, SASS #7889, wrestled for fastest time per stage throughout the main match with El Paso Bob coming in first on stages one, three, and four, and Morning Dove acing him out on stages two, five, and six. Hot on their heels were Jinglefoot and Painted Lady, with Sierrita Slim and Chili Cowboy not far behind.

After the main match Chile Cowboy, SASS #59663, El Paso Bob, and Stuttering Wayne competed in two rifle stages. There would be one more stage shot on Sunday before the winner would be decided.

Bright sun and a light breeze welcomed the riders Sunday morning, and they were off to a thundering start. Two more stages were run to complete the main match and one more rifle stage before start of the extreme team cowboy competition.

For the extreme team cowboy event, riders were paired by their divisions and times, with the fastest rider teamed with the slowest, the second fastest with the second slowest, and so forth. The story for the game was the evil eastern conglomerate holding the mortgage for the family ranch was about to foreclose

See more **MOUNTED HIGHLIGHTS** starting on page 50

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BUFFALO STAMPEDE



(Continued from page 47)

on the good homesteader if the mortgage wasn't paid before sun-down. And, to insure it would not be paid, several villains were hired to keep the homesteader from making it to the secret gold mine and then the bank to pay the debt on time.

Jinglefoot, SASS #88552, and Gettysburg Cowboy, SASS #74480, proved to be the team to trust if

your home depends on it, while Stuttering Wayne and Painted Lady, SASS #74481, were a close second choice to save the farm.

The camaraderie and fun of the extreme team cowboy stage ended the match with everyone in good spirits. And, after a questionable beginning with the weather, nature gave us the break we needed for a smoothly-run and thoroughly enjoyed match.

Many thanks to Ted E. Lee, Sierrita Slim, Firefox, Cheyenne Pink, James Earl Dalton, SASS #81293, who was the armorer, and to all who assisted in setting stages and in other ways. And, a special thanks to the balloon setters, who were nothing short of awesome. They hailed from the Bataan Military Academy, and who knew kids could be so polite and work so willingly? After the match was over,

they cleared the arena of cones and barrels, cleaned up the balloon and armorer areas, picked up trash, and took down, rolled, and put away all 51 flags that had adorned the arena. We were impressed and are deeply grateful!

When all the shooting was over, the dust settled, and the smoke cleared, scores were tallied, and winners were announced at the awards ceremony. 🤠



Members of the 4th Cavalry re-enactors from Old Fort Griffin Memorial present the colors before opening the match.



Chili Cowboy, SASS #59663, on the rundown



Mescalero Apache Indian scout who rode with the Calvary re-enactors.



With her horse, Roy, recovering from an abscess, Morning Dove rides a horse borrowed from Rio Paolini, SASS #23031, of CrazyHorseWest.com



Regional Men's Champion Jinglefoot, SASS #88552.



Bronco Jacob Cody, SASS #88351, shooting 'em dead at his first SASS match



Match Winner - El Paso Bob, SASS #71572, racing through the course



Regional Champion - Painted Lady, SASS #74481, shoots her way to a win!



Texas Gold, SASS #87583, getting those bad guys.

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To play the game, the first rider in the partnership had to shoot a bad guy who was trying to keep him tied down, then another while jumping a log, followed by a snake in the grass, then two more rogues before entering the secret mine through a tunnel and getting the gold to make the payment. He then had to rush out through the tunnel and hand off the gold to his partner who had to race through the bank entrance to make the payment and get the deed. Carrying the deed, he dashed back to the ranch with it, crossing the bridge, jumping the log, and shooting four more scoundrels and another snake on the way!



See more **MOUNTED HIGHLIGHTS** on page 52

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BUFFALO STAMPEDE MOUNTED

Winners



First Place, Ladies Division 1, Texas Gold, SASS #87583



Ted E. Lee, SASS #59654, Division 1 winner



First Place, Ladies Division 4, Morning Dove, SASS #7889



Bronco Jacob Cody, SASS #88351 - Mounted Junior Champion



Buffalo Stampede Mounted Regional Champions - Jingle Foot and Painted Lady, SASS #74481. Congratulations!



Second Place, Senior Ladies Limited, Icelady, SASS #71603, and First Place, Senior Ladies Limited, Sassy Susie Q, SASS #59662



Chili Cowboy, SASS #59663, Division 3 second place, and (r) Sierrita Slim, SASS #4054, Division 3 first place.



Overall Champions - El Paso Bob, SASS #71572, and Painted Lady



Senior Mens' Limited Winners (l-r) 3rd place, Stuttering Wayne, SASS #71602; 2nd place, Gettysburg Cowboy, SASS #74480, and 1st place, Jingle Foot, SASS #80552

Winners		Division 4	El Paso Bob
Regional Champions		<i>L Division 1</i>	Texas Gold, SASS #87853
<i>Man</i>	Jinglefoot, SASS #88552	<i>L Division 4</i>	Morning Dove, SASS #7889
<i>Lady</i>	Painted Lady, SASS #74481	<i>S L Limited</i>	Sassy Susie Q, SASS #59662
Overall		<i>S L Open</i>	Painted Lady
<i>Man</i>	El Paso Bob, SASS #71572	<i>S Limited</i>	Jingle Foot
<i>Lady</i>	Painted Lady	<i>Jr Limited</i>	Bronco Jacob Cody, SASS #88351
Divisions			
<i>Division 1</i>	Ted E. Lee, SASS #59654		
<i>Division 3</i>	Sierrita Slim, SASS #4054		



A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH, INDIAN CAPTIVITIES IN THE WEST 1830 – 1885

By Gregory and Susan Michno

Review By Blue Steel Traveller, SASS #70994



Gregory (Lakota Noon and Encyclopedia of Indian Wars) and Susan Michno have written as hard hitting a historical narrative as I have ever read. They methodically researched and selected 91 vignettes for this book. Their work is far reaching, both in time period and geography. The stories are captivating, compelling, graphic, and heart wrenching. In fact, due to the strong content I had to put this book away three times. Reading story after story of murder, rape, mutilation and torture does take a toll, so if you are faint of heart, I do not suggest this book. But if you want to seek the

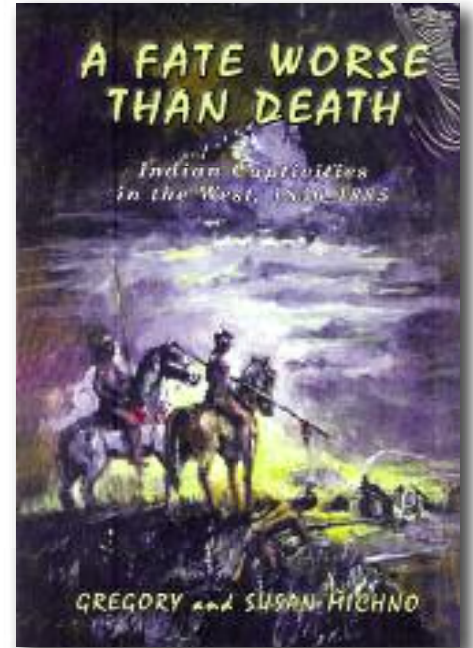
truth as to the life of women and children on the frontier and the constant fear of being taken captive, then by all means do read this book.

Through its pages we read of the courage, tenacity, and strength of the frontier woman and in a number of cases the cowardice of their husbands. We learn what it was like for women to be taken captive, 'ravaged,' and then ransomed, only to return to a culture that found them as 'used goods.' Very few married or re-married (if their husbands were killed) and bore children while living out a somewhat normal life. Most faded into obscurity. Some common

themes show if you were a child between the age of 5 and 11 and did not cry or fight hard to get away, you usually survived. All children of lesser age, boys of a greater age, and all men were usually killed. If you were a young girl or a woman between the ages of 13 and 30, you would be taken hostage, repeatedly ravaged, tortured by the female Indians, and perhaps someday ransomed.

Another interesting aspect is those who survived (or their living relatives) could file claims against the Indians for lost property (e.g., horses, mules, cattle, etc.), but claims could not be made for murdered or kidnapped family members. Navigating the government bureaucracy was onerous at best. When claims were granted, the funds were subtracted from the allotments of goods that went to the Indians.

In the conclusion, the Michnos take 22 pages to systematically try "to restore truth in history." For a long period of time, we have been told that



during this time period Americans were evil and that the Native Americans were a noble race. After reading this book, I can honestly say it has changed my way of thinking. I've asked myself multiple times how I would have handled the situation had my wife and daughter been treated in such a horrible manner. My suggestion is that you read the book and then ask yourself the same question.

"An Indian captive in the American West was almost assured of a horrible ordeal, and for many women, it was truly a fate worse than death."

Caxton Press,
Caldwell Idaho 2007.

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THE MAKING OF A CHAMPION

By Gideon Walker, SASS #74413

What happens when you mix an Action Shooting sport with a 12-year-old girl? You get back a "Holy Terror," of course!

For the few short years I have been a member of SASS, I have watched in amazement (and envy) a young lady, who has literally grown up with six-gun in hand. At the same time, I have to admit I have harbored a certain amount of curiosity as to how she emerged and has become a household name in our organization. Randi Rogers, Holy Terror, SASS #13562, is one of our most successful members. She is also the granddaughter of Gene and Karen Percy, a.k.a. Evil Roy, SASS #2883, and Wicked Felina, SASS #3483, both of whom are icons within our fraternity.

I must share with you I am a confirmed DVD junkie. As such, I have the entire END of TRAIL DVD series, the complete set of the Evil Roy training series, plus many others. For those of us who are also addicted to DVD training presentations, you might note the last volume in the Evil Roy series, "The Wild Bunch™" is hosted by Holy Terror herself. She does a great job of demonstrating the little secrets of this "side match" activity. However, after watching Volume 5, my curiosity really peaked, and I thought it was time we fellow SASS members should know a little more about this very talented young lady.

The story really begins in Durango, Colorado. Her mother and



Holy Terror

father, following a job opportunity with Giant Service Stations had just moved back to Durango from Rio Rancho, New Mexico. Randi was actually born in Durango, but when she was little, her parents left the area and didn't return for about 11 years. Now at age 12 and back in Durango, she asked her grandfather

if she could tag along to the Animas Airport Durango Gun Club shooting range where he regularly practiced.

She was attracted to the sport and asked Evil Roy to teach her how to become a good shooter. He agreed, and told her he would not push her to practice, but if she worked hard, he would support her in her ever evolving and keen interest to be the best. Holy Terror committed herself to that challenge. She recounts she practiced many times before school, after school, and on weekends. During this period, she knew someday she would compete in the Traditional girls youth event.

That day came faster than she had envisioned when in January 1999, she won the END of TRAIL Junior Girls category. She admits it was hard, and she had a very difficult time with procedurals and misses (don't we all), but she persevered. Holy Terror shared with me in a recent interview she "had to work really hard to win this event, but it was all worth it."

Without a doubt, her grandparents have given much of themselves to help Holy Terror achieve success in her life; one filled with responsibility and focus. These two attributes have helped her

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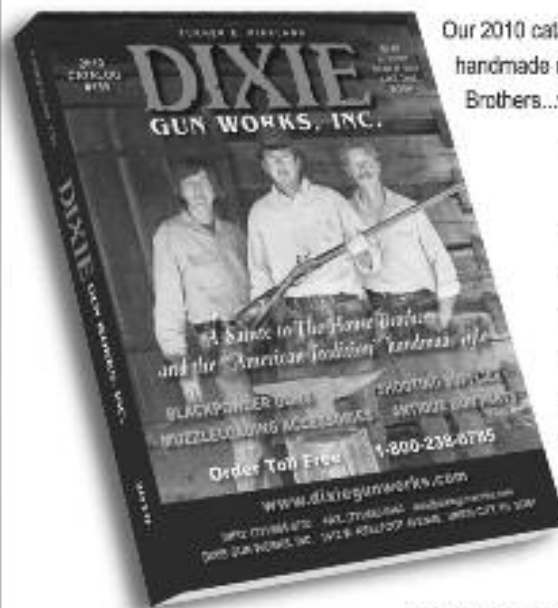
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become a ten times Ladies champion, and I suspect in the not too distant future, they will help her become our overall END of TRAIL champion.

It shouldn't come as a surprise Holy Terror had a wonderful relationship with her grandparents. Now, even though she is living in Atlanta, she and her grandparents talk two or three times a week. She exclaims, "They are the most important people in the whole world." Through them she has "traveled a lot and met many really neat people."

You will be interested to know, for Holy Terror there is also life outside of SASS. While attending Durango High School, she met Keith Butler in algebra class, who later in life would become her husband. She shared with me Keith, too, is becoming an active shooter. I would guess being married to a champion like Holy Terror could spur some vigorous interchanges within the household!

When I asked her to describe how she felt at the beginning of her shooting career, she admits she "didn't completely understand everything at first, but thought it would be fun. However, when Winter Range came, it really hit home, this is a really a big deal!" She recalls she was stunned and shocked! "It was so huge and so very different." But, she found people really cared how she was doing. They made her feel very comfortable. Holy Terror said Evil Roy and Wicked Felina helped because it seemed they knew everyone. However, due to the sincerity of those around her, she quickly felt at home among friends.

After high school, she attended The University of Northern Colorado where she majored in Marketing. Not surprisingly, her shooting accomplishments helped pay some of the way. In the first year, she earned a \$2,000 SASS Scholarship (\$500 less each year thereafter) and she received several other financial contributions that made for a successful financial journey. For this, she is eternally grateful.

Today, Randi and Keith live in Atlanta where she works for the Glock Corporation. Holy Terror recounts during her college years, "Glock really needed a lady shooter" and there she was. When she graduated from college, she offered to work for the company, and they hired her. Now at age 23, she is happily employed in the Glock marketing department. There she attends gun expositions and other marketing activities. And yes, under the Glock banner, she regularly shoots in competitions. She is very proud to represent the Glock Corporation and is excited to be working in a field she loves.

When I asked what it was like to work as hard as she did with a family member, specifically her grandmother and grandfather, she admitted, "it's hard to work with a family member." For instance, when she was on the range, she learned all you

talk about is shooting and nothing more! Evil Roy emphatically told her, "this is business, and there is no time for anything else." She remembers, in the early days, she cried a lot. But her grandfather was always perfectly honest and told her in addition to what she was doing wrong, what she was doing right. Shooting was what it was all about, and that was the lesson being learned. She says she learned many a hard lesson when she took criticism too personally.

I asked her to share what she has learned that can benefit other young people through Cowboy Action Shooting™. It didn't take long to get an answer:

Set goals – Make a plan, and stick with it.

Be committed – a process she learned early. When she was only 12, she set small reasonable goals. She wanted to win the Junior Girls category at END of TRAIL.

Make it fun – While other kids enjoyed other things, she really enjoyed shooting.

Be a SASS member – "The most amazing thing you can do for a child." She learned things kids won't learn anywhere else, including – responsibility with a deadly weapon, the expectation to act like an adult, self confidence through competition, not being able to use "I am a kid" as a handicap, and learn to work hard.

Today, her shooting skills and attitudes have carried forward into other parts of her life. SASS shooting has taught her to become self-confident and how to easily build relationships with other people.

For the future, her goal is to win overall champion at END of TRAIL.

This December, Holy Terror will be inducted into the SASS Hall of Fame. This is what Tex had to say: "Holy Terror is being inducted because of her shooting ability and her outstanding shooting record. She began winning matches as a Junior—starting in 1999, she was the top Junior—and continued to win that category until she was old enough to participate as a Lady Traditional in 2004. She started winning the Overall Lady World Champion title in 2002 (still as a Junior), and has won it every year since! That's eight consecutive years! No one has yet matched that record! Now that she's grown, family and career will likely take its toll, but she has proven herself to be a world-class competitor!"

"The Hall of Fame chronicles the exploits of those who have made significant contributions to the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™. Holy Terror's shooting record is noteworthy. The SASS Museum (owner of the Hall of Fame) is chartered with preserving the Old West—its history, its legacy, its ideas, and its fantasies. All our champions have embodied the ideals of the Old West and are living representations of that time period."

We all wish Holy Terror, Randi Rogers, best wishes on her future! 🤠

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AL JENNINGS

The Outlaw Who Ran for Governor

Col. Richard Dodge, SASS Life #1750



*Al Jennings in his later years.
He continued to be as fast
and loose with his Colts
as he was with the truth
right up to the end!*



Al Jennings and Bob Brown in 1943

Some years ago my brother-in-law told me a story about a customer on his mail delivery route, a small, crusty old man who routinely received far more mail than any other. That was in Tarzana, California in the late 1950s or early 1960s. Occasionally they would talk, and the old guy, rough as a cob and energetic as a young pup, would tell unbelievable stories about his past. There was a certain charisma about him, an eagerness to engage in conversation he would dominate with his stories—and colorful stories they were, too.

His name was Al Jennings, and he was probably the last of the Old West outlaws—even if in reality he was something other than what he alleged to have been.

At five feet, one inch with his boots on, he had been able to assemble what passed for an outlaw gang composed of boyhood friends in Oklahoma's Indian Territory, all of whom, at five foot four inches, towered over Jennings. That Al was one of the more inept of the Old West outlaws is aside from his determination—for a time—to make a living robbing trains. He and the boys had learned all about the business from the writings of no less an authority than Ned Buntline, and they set out to do as Buntline had written.

His exploits in that direction, which lasted for a total of 108 days, read like farcical comedy. His largest haul was \$300 and a jug of whiskey, which he had to share with the boys. His share was \$60. On one attempt, he stood in the middle of the tracks with guns drawn and was nearly flattened by the train as the engineer ignored him and his puny

firearms. One cannot picture the incident without a chuckle.

He claimed to have robbed 15 to 20 trains, none of them successful, forcing him to glean whatever riches he could from the train's passengers. Actually, it was three—and he and the gang were scared off the first one by the conductor, who had known all of them since they were in diapers. He once blew up the express car on a train while attempting to blow up a safe. It is reported at least one scene from "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" was taken from Al's story.

His exploits and misadventures drew the attention of Deputy Sheriff Bud Ledbetter, a professional lawyer now in pursuit of one of the Old West's most inept outlaws. Al and the gang were soon brought to justice when a judge sentenced him to life in the Ohio State Penitentiary. He would have only gotten five years had he not ignored his attorney's advice and bragged to the judge and jury he had fully intended to kill one of his "victims."

It wasn't long before his lawyer brother managed to get him paroled

and eventually pardoned by no less than President Theodore Roosevelt.

He had been one of the hundreds of young men—boys, actually—who wandered west from his Virginia home in search of adventure and learned cowboying in Indian Territory. Eventually, he studied law, was admitted to the Oklahoma bar at the age of 21 and was elected to the office of District Attorney in El Reno, Oklahoma. He then entered a law practice with his two brothers, Ed and John. Lawyering could be risky in those days. One brother was killed and the other seriously injured in a

courtroom shootout with rival attorney, Temple Houston, son of Texas Governor Sam Houston. Following the acquittal of Houston, Jennings left the area and his courtroom career and returned to working as a cowhand.

He does not account for his transition from public law enforcement official to outlawry, except that in avenging the attack on his brother by "filling his attacker with lead," as an afterthought he robbed the store in which the event occurred. Another tall tale—there was never any record of Al killing anyone, (Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page) especially Temple Houston.

While in prison, Al befriended another inmate, William Sydney Porter, with whom he kept up a long friendship. Porter was a writer, and Al claims to have assisted him in writing many of his short stories, which Porter published under his pen name: O. Henry. Porter's creation of the Cisco Kid can be traced to some of the outlandish stories Al shared with him.

Free again, he began a return to useful citizenship and a career of outlandish story telling, most of it puffing up his reputation. Whether he was believed or not, folks enjoyed listening to the little man's entertaining fiction. He returned to the practice of law in Lawton and Oklahoma City, and it is said he could turn a fine phrase in the influence of a jury.

In 1914, Al even tried to turn his gift of eloquence to politics when he brazenly promised "to be honest for a whole year" if elected Governor of Oklahoma. He lost, of course, and bankrupted himself in the process.

He had written a book, "Beating Back," based on his criminal career and return to society. An offer from an enterprising movie producer to act as himself in a movie based on the book opened new vistas and opportunities. Al realized the new-fangled motion pictures might be a venue for his active imagination and glib tongue. Hollywood beckoned, and he responded with typical verve and enthusiasm. What better than a place where folks would willingly listen to—maybe even believe—his tales of his Old West exploits? And, he was right—they did!

For 40 years Al hobnobbed with Hollywood's tinsel people. He wrote scripts and served as "technical advisor" to over 100 early Westerns, and even wrote and produced a movie about himself: "Al Jennings of Oklahoma" starring Dan Duryea. Among his friends was well-known leather craftsman, Bob Brown, designer of William Boyd's famous "Hoppy" white-laced gun belt, with whom he posed, wearing Brown's own ornate gun belt, in 1943.

In 1945, he indignantly sued the

producers of the Lone Ranger radio series for defamation of character for depicting him as helpless before the masked man, who shot his gun out of his hand in typical Hollywood fashion. He didn't like to not be the hero of his stories. The jury was entertained in the trial but denied his case.

Not content to limit his storytelling to the movies, he wrote numerous Western pulp fiction stories, which were very popular at the time.

In one more turn of his career, Al became a fire and brimstone preacher, stressing redemption as his principle theme, based on his personal story and experiences. His message focused on the social responsibility of being a Christian. Apparently he was in some demand, as he preached as far east as Brooklyn and Sing Sing Prison and remained active in that role almost until he died.

His last years were spent sitting on the porch of his Tarzana home, raising chickens and telling tall tales to anyone who stopped by, including that brother-in-law who is now the SASS version of Al Jennings.

The rough old relic of the Old West continued to have minor run-ins with the law, who frequently responded to reports of gunfire coming from his home. Apparently Al was as careless with his old Colts as he was with the truth. He even managed to blast one of his own roosters shooting at a trespasser.

Al Jennings died in 1961 at the tender age of 98, shortly after the death of his beloved wife, Maude. They are buried next to each other in Oakwood Memorial Park in Chatsworth, California, the final resting place for many of Hollywood's most famous personalities. Al would have liked that.

Eckert, Charles; *Charlie Eckert's Texas*; TexasEscapes.com; July 2008

Gage, Duane; *Al Jennings, The People's Choice*, The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Autumn, 1968

Gilles, Albert; *The Outlaw who Ran for Governor*, True Frontier, Vol 1, No. 2, October, 1967

Patterson, Richard; *Historical Atlas of the Outlaw West*; Johnson Books, Boulder, CO, 1985



LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE WAY OUT WEST -

By Joe Fasthorse Harrill, SASS #48769



Joe Fasthorse Harrill, SASS #48769



Billy Wilson, aka David Anderson, was born in Ohio in 1862. He left Ohio when he was in his teens and worked in south Texas as a cowboy. He bought a livery stable at White Oaks, New Mexico in 1880, but sold it that same year. The buyer paid for the property in counterfeit bills and when Billy tried to spend the phony money, he was arrested and indicted. Billy skipped bail and got out of town before the trial and joined Billy the Kid's Gang of rustlers. Wilson was arrested by Pat Garrett in 1881, but broke out of prison within a few months and returned to Texas. Using his real name of David Anderson, he married, began ranching, and started a family. In 1896, Anderson obtained a presidential pardon and became Sheriff of Terrell County. David Anderson was killed in the line of duty in 1918.



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BOJACK, SASS LIFE #5030
a.k.a. James Hartman
1939 - 2010

President/Founder: Cajon Cowboys Davore, CA

By Virgil Earp, SASS #4299

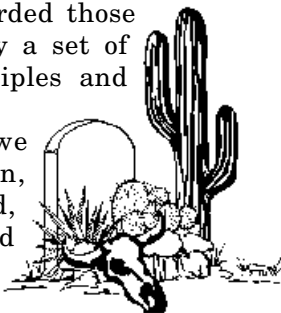


on and off the range. In particular, he will be remembered on the other side of the world by all those Australian Cowboy Action shooters who have travelled to END of TRAIL over the early years and who were always welcome at the Western Leather tent for cold drinks and snacks during the event. Bojack called it their home away from home.

Bojack always had sound opinions and contributed in many ways to the growth of Cowboy Action Shooting™. His genuine humble nature, however, is a rare quality that will always live on in my special memories of him.

I am proud to have been able to call Bojack my good friend, and I will surely miss him, as others will also. Whilst his premature departure sets him free to ride with the heavenly posse, he leaves behind many fine memories and the respect accorded those who lived by a set of strong principles and values.

Until we meet again, my friend, ride tall and may God keep you. 🤠



The passing of Bojack in February 2010 leaves behind a truly big pair of boots to fill.

Bojack was a staunch supporter of the Cowboy Way and indeed all things Cowboy. This is borne out by his founding of Cajon Cowboys, a group of Cowboy Action shooters who have gone on to become one of the largest Cowboy Action Shooting™ clubs in the US. After a decade and a half, the Cajon Cowboys today still bear testimony to the foresight of Bojack.

Bojack was a true friend and always found time to help others

DEADLY DON, SASS #8700
Dec. 11, 1922 – May 15, 2010

By San Fernando Slim, SASS #20521

Hyd Park, NY – Deadly Don (alias Donald H. Cassavant), age 87, died on May 15 at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. He was an Industrial Arts Metal shop teacher at Poughkeepsie High School for 30 years. He went to Oswego University of NY and graduated with a Masters degree. He was twice Master of the Warren Lodge #32 F & AM. He was a soloist in the United Methodist Church since 1956.

He was Charter Member of the D-D Wranglers, a Dutchess County Pistol Champion, and a Life member of the Dutchess County Pistol Association, the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, the NRA, and the Crum Elbow Sports Club. He was a custom gunsmith and knife engraver. He also did clock and watch repairing. He was a friend to all and was always there to help, especially when someone had trouble with a gun.

He carried a Dutchess County Deputy Sheriff's badge. He was also a member of the Blue Knights.

During World War II he flew C47 Cargo planes into China, India, and Burma.

Deadly Don married Gentle Jan, SASS #8701, (Janette E. Engel) on August 20, 1950 in the Alplaus Methodist Church. His is survived by his wife, his daughter, Ann E. Cassavant, and son, John Mark. 🤠



LAITY KID, SASS #23001
AKA Bob Weseloh
1/13/1947 – 4/6/2010

By His Loving Wife, Pat Weseloh

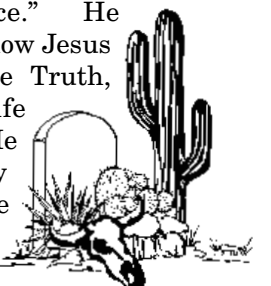
Blue Island, IL – The Laity Kid lost his battle with cancer April 6, 2010. He received his first gun at age six - a Daisy Red Ryder BB Gun. His lifelong dream was to be a real cowboy when he grew up.

Most of his friends were fisherman with no interest in guns, but one day 12 years ago he read an article about SASS in one of his gun magazines. He became so excited to think there was something like that nearby within his reach. He made a couple of phone calls and in a short time he was shootin' from the hip!

He enjoyed it so very much. He cherished every minute of his SASS outings and also the friendships he made. A couple of years later, Bob

got his brother, Steel-Eyed Stan, involved. It kept them close, as they both loved shooting. Stan preceded Bob in death six years earlier.

Bob's name, Laity Kid, stands for the lay leader work he did at church. He was very much involved, and he truly loved the Lord Jesus Christ. One of his favorite phrases was "No God — No Peace; Know God — Know Peace." He wanted all to know Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (John 14:6). He will be greatly missed ... 'till we meet again. We love you, Bob! 🤠

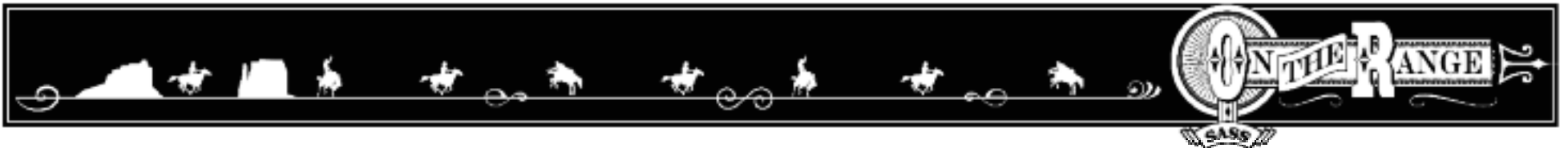


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SMOKE IN THE WOODS

SASS Midwest Territorial Blackpowder Championship

April 10 – 11, 2010

By Col. Fletch O'Dubois III, SASS #14224

Middletown, OH – Brrrrr ... the morning started out brisk. Typical of early April in Ohio. Not a cloud in the sky. But competitors from seven different states had gathered to make their own clouds, clouds of that wonderful blackpowder smoke. Historically, smoke had several connotations: among the Native Americans, it generally meant to have a council meeting; also among the Native Americans, Mountain Men, and Anglos, it could also be a social occasion spent smoking pipes and swapping stories; and among cowboys, smoke came to mean a short break for not only a cigarette, but a period of

relaxation. No matter your definition—Welcome everyone to Smoke in the Woods 2010!

The inaugural Smoke in the Woods Indiana-Ohio State Championship is now distant memory but what has developed in its place is a unique Territorial shoot. How can you build on perfection? The Big Irons and Middletown Sportsman's Club started with the comments from last years shoot, then the board of directors of the Big Irons met with the planning committee to develop each and every detail of this year's event, ensuring this "smoke up" would continued in a long succession of top-notch events for SASS.

Nestled in the rolling foothills between Dayton and Cincinnati, the Middletown Sportsman's Club is the ideal shooting venue for Cowboy Action Shooting™, particularly for those who love to shoot those blackpowder "smoke poles." Although it was held early in the month, the Middletown staff had everything under control. The campground was ready for the vast array of motor homes, trailers, and campers. They were housed close to the clubhouse with full bathrooms and showers. The folks at Middletown also provided the Saturday evening steak dinner after the main stages had been shot ... a hearty meal for hungry shooters!

"Blackpower only" has not only grown locally but in national flavor as well. Sixty plus cowboys and cowgirls from not only Ohio and Indiana but several other adjoining states were in attendance. Day one broke cool and clear and the promise of even cooler windy weather for the rest of the weekend. The side matches started early (at least early for me—0830) and all the side matches were obviously blackpowder as well. Black Jack Beeson took top honors in three rifle categories, and Lucky Leroy was the best at speed shotgun with two different shotguns. He shot his model '97 in 10.73 seconds and
(Continued on page 60)

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Smoke In The Woods . . .

(Continued from page 59)

then he turned right around with his trusty double and shot the course of fire in 10 seconds flat ... WOW! Not to be outdone, Two Bit Drifter shot the speed pistols in 4.73 seconds ... Super Wow!!!

Shooters then assembled on the hill near stage eight for the traditional opening ceremonies. Deadwood Stan, President of The Big Irons, set the tone by welcoming all the shooters. Lassiter then gave the safety briefing and last minute range instructions, and we were off.

Seven Mile Tom did an outstanding job developing the shooters' handbook for this twelve-stage event.

We shot seven main stages on day one and the rest on day two—all in the manner of the men and women of the Old West, with lots of smoke and fire and fury! I was fortunate to shoot on a posse with Buckaroo, Possum Slayer, and could this young man shoot! We noted he was always prepared ... he watched and listened intently when the Posse Marshal read the scenarios. I watched as he talked with his dad,

Moon Waltz, as they went over how to shoot the stage, and finally, when he was called forward, he was ready. That big model '87 shotgun and his two full bore pistols sure "smoked up" the area, and he held fast and true. Possum Slayer was the epitome of "The Cowboy Way"—after shooting and clearing his guns he was ready to assist the rest of the posse. It was great to see our younger shooters having so much fun ... hopefully, more parents and grandparents will get their youngsters involved in our sport.

Each stage was designed for maximum fun ... for example, at stage eight, with two pistols holstered and the rifle staged on the table in the middle of the entry to the corral, the shooter started behind the table with shotgun in hand. When the shooter was ready, he or she loaded two rounds into their shotgun and aimed at the target. When ready, the call to action was ... "Try THIS smokepole!" At the beep, the shooter engaged two targets with the shotgun, then swept the four rifle targets in a Nevada sweep, then back to the shotgun for two more targets, then using pistols, did a Nevada sweep of the four pistol targets (you could start from either end), and finally back to the shotgun for the final two targets. It was quick, fun, and gave the shooter some options on how they preferred to complete the stage. The stage was quick—Lassiter managed to shoot this one in 21.88 seconds! Speaking of Lassiter, he was the fastest shooter on ten of the 12 stages with Two Bit drifter hot on his heels.

Posses ran so smoothly the first seven stages were complete by 4PM the first day. The remaining five stages were held on day two, so it was easier to attend the awards ceremony and still have time to get home at a relatively decent hour or have more free time to participate in local area events or hobnob with old friends and to make new ones. Hospitality abounded, the folks at

Middletown had some tasty grub at the Saturday evening dinner—steak, baked beans, potato salad, and rolls. To say shooting blackpowder and hobnobbing with this gang of cowpokes is more fun than you are legally allowed would be an understatement!!

Miss Bonnie worked diligently to be sure the scores were posted daily at the entrance to the stages for everyone to peruse. The thing that impressed me the most was the number of shooters who were shooting blackpowder for the first time ever.

After two fun-filled and action packed days of competition, the winners emerged. The low score of 258.6 was posted by Lassiter shooting Gunfighter, and hot on his heels was Two Bit Drifter shooting 49'er. Top Lady was Clementine Valentine as a Lady Gunfighter.

This year I shot with my tried and true 1906 vintage Model '97, a pair of old Colt New Frontiers, and my well broken in Model '66. I'd like to report I shot clean, and if I hadn't missed a few, I would have!!!! However, a number of other shooters were actually able to make the claim! We had four clean shooters, including our Elder Statesman, Whitey Quick, who also had one of the fastest times of the match. I wonder what he ate for breakfast?

Congratulations to all those who took part in the side matches as well. The speed shotgun was not only fun in which to compete, but a hoot to watch as the smoke billowed from the ends of those old shotguns. It seems like more and more of the shooters are going to the model '87s.

What a shoot! To a person, all agreed it was the hospitality of the Middletown Sportsman's Club and Big Irons staff and the Smoke in the Woods stage designs that made this a very memorable event. They plan to spread the word about shooting with the "dark-siders" to have even more of their friends and neighbors come next year. You need to start planning your itiner-

(Continued on next page)

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Winners

Overall Man	Lassiter, SASS #2080
Overall Lady	Clementine Valentine, SASS #66179
Category 49'er	Two Bit Drifter, SASS #32899
Buckaroo	Possum Slayer, SASS #70839
B-Western	Lucky Lee Roy, SASS #31712
Cowboy	Gaslight, SASS #30517
C Cowboy	D. J. McDraw, SASS #37555
Duelist	Goldsmith, SASS #29116
E Statesman	Whitey Quik, SASS #18584
Frontiersman	Split Rail, SASS #24707
FC Duelist	Jackson Rose, SASS #45478
FC Trad.	Deadwood Stan, SASS #7275
Gunfighter LFC Trad.	Lassiter Ruthless McDraw, SASS #37556
Plainsman	Dangerous Dave, SASS #2558
Pale Rider	Stone Creek Drifter, SASS #58853
PR Gunfighter	Black Jack Beeson, SASS #11523
Senior	Life-R, SASS #44051
Sr Duelist	Yee Haw, SASS #25349
Sr Gunfighter	Wilbur Green Rexroat, SASS #12515
S Senior	K. C. Jones, SASS #39124
Traditional	Ole Saddlebags Joe, SASS #80963
Side Matches	
Single Action	Black Jack Beeson
Lever Action	Black Jack Beeson
Pistol Caliber	Black Jack Beeson
Speed Shotgun	
Double '97	Lucky Lee Roy
'87	Lucky Lee Roy
Rifle	Moonwaltz
Pistol	Two Bit Drifter
Clean Match	Two Bit Drifter
	Jackson Rose
	Ole Saddlebags Joe
	Ruthless McDraw
	Whitey Quik

(Continued from previous page)

ary for next year and to circle this event on your calendars.

Also, The Guns of August continues to be a premier event because of its reputation for fun, friendliness, beautiful setting, and central location. It is a great area for a vacation with numerous places to go and things to see within an hour's drive. The Middletown Sportsman's Club is so easy to get to from just about anywhere in the country. The club is located in Middletown, Ohio half way between Dayton and Cincinnati, each having a major airport. They can now boast of two major SASS events at their wonderful shooting complex.

Guns of August is conducted the second week of August annually on the grounds of the Middletown Sportsman's Club, 6943 Michael Rd, Middletown OH 45402 (5113-422-5112 or fax 513-422-6113). This year is the twelfth anniversary of the event, and it promises to be bigger and better than any before. For starters, the competition will be twelve stages shot over two days, Cowboy Mounted Shooting will be back on the venue, the banquet will be held at the prestigious hotel downtown (don't miss poker night!), and there is a raffle for a commemorative rifle that was built in collaboration by the two great western supporters, Chiappa and Lassiter. Check out all the details in the Guns of August announcement.

For further information on Smoke in the Woods 2011, The Guns of August 2010, or the host sponsors, The Big Irons, contact Deadwood Stan at 513-422-5112 or Lassiter at 937-687-1039. Of course, it's best to check out the Big Irons and SASS websites for up to the minute information. And, if you have not joined the Lassiter fan club, time's a wastin'!



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Friday, Oct. 8th:

*Custom Western Hat Making Presentation, including display of antique equipment used in the process.
 "Reflections of the Past: The Grand Ball" Tea and Fashion Show with day and evening wear for ladies and gentlemen from the 1880's and 90's and dance demonstration scenes.
 The Durango Emporium, offering ladies' & gents' Old West & Victorian accessories, silent auctions & custom-made Western hats.
 Henry's Card Parlour.
 Miss Tabitha's Victorian Dance Class.
 "The Wedding of Zaidée Rockwood" Victorian Banquet and 1901 historic wedding re-enactment at the historic Strater Hotel.*

Saturday, Oct. 9th:

*Heritage Train Ride & entertainment on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.
 Open House, Special Programs and Exhibits at the Animas Museum
 Historic Trolley Tour.
 Barbershop Concert.
 Old West Shoot-Out
 Happy Hour at the Diamond Belle Saloon.
 "Reflections of the Past" Grand Victorian Ball with Miss Tabitha & The Grandview Victorian Orchestra, HUGE hardwood dance floor, full buffet dinner included.*

Sunday, Oct. 10th:

*Historic Trolley Tour.
 Ballet Folklorico Hispanic Dance Performance.
 Greenmount Cemetery Tour with re-enactors as local pioneers buried there.*



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BUFFALO STAMPEDE 2010

(Continued from page 1)

ed for people who tasted all of the entries in order to vote. Five are on the stomach transplant list.

Friday's Match

The next morning it was cold, dry, and muddy; hence, Coyote's comments. Despite that we went out and shot the match. The pioneer spirit was alive and well among the contestants.

Each stage used a line from a song about guns as a starting line. The concept of Stage 1, "Shotgun," (from the Jimmie Walker song) was you began the gunfight; then, suffering, I suppose, from a senior moment, forgot about it and shot a bird that flew up. Or, perhaps you were ambushed while hunting tasty clay birds. Actually, of course, you hit a knockdown target and launched a bird. If you missed it, you could make it up shooting a bird on a stand. Then, you went back to the gunfight and shot a row of five rifle targets in two sweeps; then four stationary pistol targets twice each, and two knockdowns once each.

Did you notice no "from left to right." Yep. You could shoot from either side. You'd better like it that way



Match Winners—
Long Hunter from Texas
and Echo Meadows from Arizona.
Outstanding Shooting!



Regional Champs—
Evil Roy from Colorado
and Echo Meadows from Arizona.
Congratulations!



SASS is working to rebuild its Longhorn herd.
The little fellow is a "bull," and he's "all still there!" More are planned,
courtesy of the Folsom Falls Ranch, NM folks. The Longhorns are
a bit easier to control than the buffalo and are what the cowboys
took on the long trail from Texas to the Kansas railroads.

because there were several more stages like that. As a matter of fact, I do like it. Blackpowder shooters like being able to sweep *against* the wind.

Stage 2 started with "Bang Bang" from the song by Cher. Fortunately for my posse, I wasn't required to sing the lyrics when going over the stage.

Stage 2 had a Nevada sweep with each pistol "beginning on either end" and one with the rifle "beginning on either end." I was beginning to think I might not have to stay up all night learning shooting orders. (It's a gunfight, not a memory contest!) Note to future match directors: The Buffalo Stampede crew, led by Coyote Calhoun, managed to write 12 interesting, challenging stages with no named sweeps other than Nevada Sweeps.

Stage 3, "I shot the sheriff," had the famous swinging target with "the deputy" placed in front of it. Hitting the deputy was a miss.

Stage 4, "Blaze of Glory" had six pistol knockdowns, all easily handled by ladies' .32s, Buckaroo's .22s, and spotters spit wads, at least on our



How can they look so good,
drink that stuff, AND win
a White Buffalo?



Cadets from the Bataan Military Academy picked up brass for tips.
They worked hard and were polite and respectful.
There is hope for the younger generation!

posse. There was a catch. You had to actually hit them.

For those of you who possess a pathological hatred of knockdown targets, you should know that the folks at Founders Ranch have the art/science of setting knockdowns down pretty well. Tests have shown that setting the targets to 5° from vertical ensures they will fall with a good hit from any 60 power factor load or more; 3° if you want to be really generous. Yes, I have seen hits that were too low or too far to one side fail to take down knockdowns. I've even shot some. This adds to the realism factor. Life and gunfights are not always fair. Sometimes you shoot the Zombie, and he keeps on coming. In a perfect world all targets would yell, "I've been hit!" and fall dramatically, but the technology is a bit lacking. There is nothing more satisfying in a gunfight than to see your enemies falling to your gunfire.

Stage 5, "Hey Joe," had sweeps that are sometimes called a "Lawrence Welk" sweep or a "progressive" sweep. In other places it's called Margie. (Well, I made that up, but you get the idea.) When that occurs, the posse marshal has to explain what that really means. Fortunately the stage instructions didn't mention Lawrence Welk or Margie. Instead you were told "With your revolvers engage the four revolver targets with one round on the first target, two rounds on the second target, three rounds on the third target, and four rounds on the fourth target. You may begin on either end." Posse marshals didn't have to translate (insert your local name for this sweep) into simple English. They just read the instructions. Wasn't that refreshing?

Plainsman Side Match

Remember, this is a shooters' match. For those of us who hadn't shot enough stages for one day, there was a Plainsman side match, three stages of well-written stages written by people who understand Plainsman. In this case, it was the contestants who did the writing. This should prove an inspiration to match directors who want to add a Plainsman side match to your match, but don't know a darn thing about Plainsman and couldn't spell Plainsman if you spotted them the "Plains."

Saturday's Stages

The sun was out. The skies were clear, and it wasn't as cold.

Stage 6, "Give Me Three Steps," had movement, downrange movement. You shot the rifle in a building, and then ran (walked, sauntered, etc.) to a wagon, swapped the rifle for the shotgun (six shotgun targets!), then the pistols.

Stage 7, "Bad Company" had three (infamous?) plate racks with nine rifle knockdowns about 3" tall at 50 yards. (That's my story, and I'm stickin' to it! Others describe them as being bigger and closer. When you tell the story, you can make them any size and distance

The Four Corners Regional



"I shot the sheriff, but I did not make the deputy sing soprano."



No one should ever be intimidated to participate in a Cowboy Action match! Sassy Swede, SASS' new Advertising Manager learned the basic skills in a couple of local monthly matches, and then participated in Buffalo Stampede and took part in the Top Gun Shoot-off! She had loads of fun, and that's what it's all about!



Dawgtooth Dave reloads his Trapdoor Springfield during the Plainsman match

you want to.) You had 10 rounds to take them down.

Stage 8, "Happiness is a warm gun," or, as I called it, "Happiness is a warm redhead," involved running to staged guns, a couple of knockdown pistol targets (no make ups), and more running to the shotgun.

Stage 9, "Bungalalo Bill" involved the seriously infamous running buffalo. More or Les, SASS #5529, had worked at least a week making the contraption work, and it did.

Stage 10, "Rocky Raccoon," involved running from position to position and making decisions as to which six of eight shotgun targets to shoot,

the catch being you had to shoot the pistols from the place you shot your last shotgun target.

Stage 11 was based on my favorite western song, "The Ballad of Irving." You started with the line, "He is the hundred and forty-second fastest gun in the West!" Again, you had an extra round, in this case, because you shot nine pistol targets, four knockdowns.

Stage 12, appropriately, was "Hit me with your best shot." While moving from the rifle to the shotgun, you had to knock down two targets with an ax handle. I'm sure the ax handle met the power factor, but I don't believe it made the smoke standard.

Side matches were held Saturday afternoon for the really hardy.

Brass Pickers

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the best solution to lost brass that I've seen. A number of SASS members won't attend a lost brass match because they lose \$12 worth of brass. Buffalo Stampede had brass pickers, high school naval cadets from the Bataan Military Academy in Albuquerque. These young people were hard working and polite. They worked for tips. My posse tipped well, more than the cost of 120 new Starline cases per person, and I didn't have to threaten any of them.

A Wedding at Founders Ranch

At 5 PM, at the outdoor chapel, local shooters EzGz, SASS #83885, and Mica McGuire, SASS #18526, got married in front of an audience of cowboys and cowgirls. The weather was perfect for the wedding. Sgt. Shuster, SASS #60835, officiated. Their vows were custom written. I believe they included who would reload, and who would clean the guns. EzGz told me she left that up to Mica because he did both so well. That's her story, and she's stickin' to it.

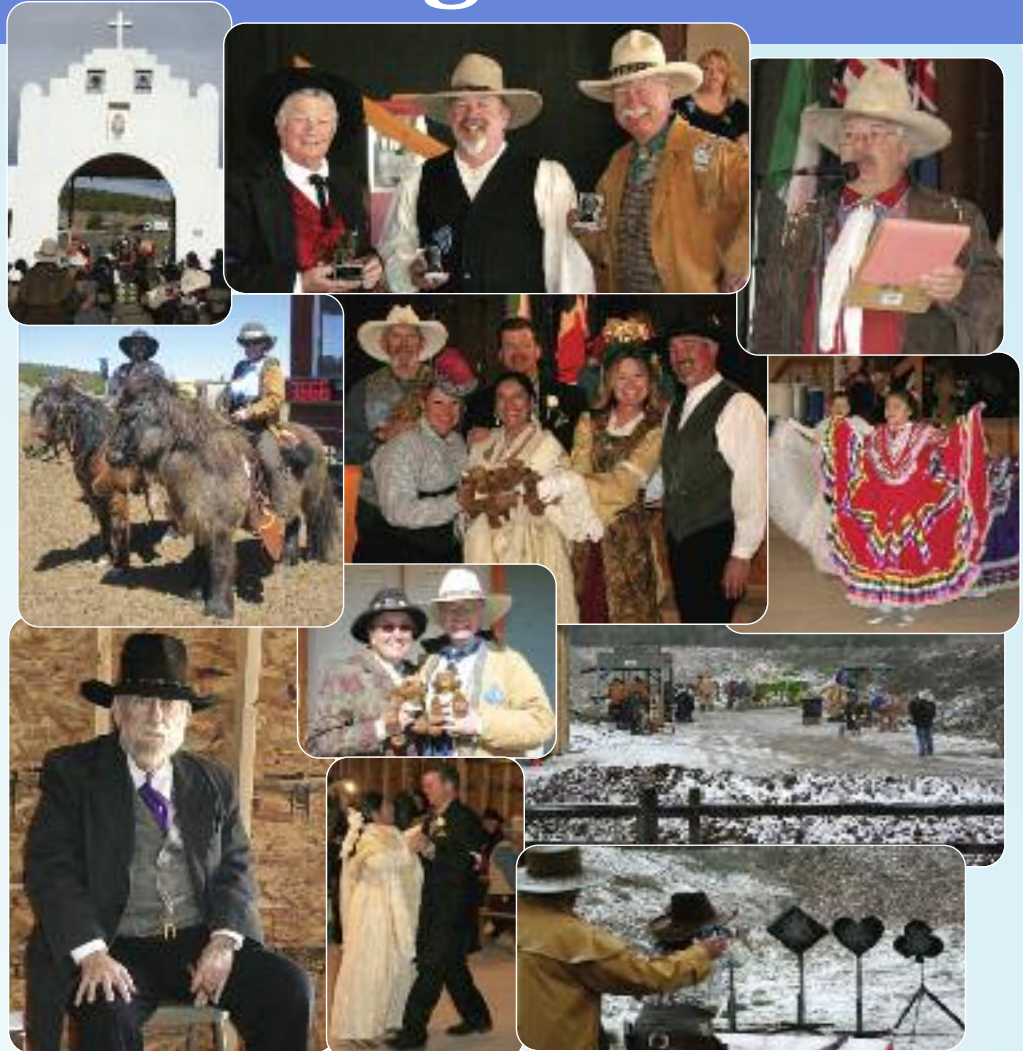
Back in the Belle, Union wedding cake was served to all. Dinner was BBQ. The costume contest was decided by applause. Mica and EzGz won best-dressed couple, of course.

Sunday

To allow distant shooters more time to drive home, the awards ceremony took place just after the traditional (for Buffalo Stampede) Cowboy breakfast (excellent as always). Long Hunter was top overall, having won seven stages and being second on four. Echo Meadows was top lady. The Top Gun shoot off took place AFTER the awards ceremony. Long Hunter skipped the shoot off, not wanting to look greedy. As usual, Long Hunter is a class act.

Conclusion

It was another great, under attended Buffalo Stampede, but with "interesting" weather to add to the adventure, another Shooters' Match with emphasis on really good, well-written stages. Good stages trump "variable" weather every time! 🐾



Winners		F C Duelist	Garrison Joe, SASS #60708
Regional Champions		Duelist	Fast Hammer, SASS #60707
Man	Evil Roy, SASS #2883	S Duelist	Ruff Cobb, SASS #7548
Lady	Echo Meadows, SASS #50735	Gunfighter	Max Montana, SASS #23907
Overall		S Gunfighter	Tex, SASS #4
Man	Long Hunter, SASS #20389	Senior	Twelve Mile Reb, SASS #30634
Lady	Echo Meadows	L Senior	Claudia Feather, SASS #2816
Category	Capitan Regulator, SASS #84262	S Senior	Evil Roy, SASS #2883
Buckaroo	James Colt, SASS #86525	L S Senior	Dakota Maid, SASS #11583
Junior	Lawless Lori Sue, SASS #80852	L Wrangler	Texas Tiger, SASS #74829
Grand Dame	Dirty Dan, SASS #9726	Wrangler	Boggus Deal, SASS #64218
E Statesman	Echo Meadows	Cowgirl	Mean Rayleen, SASS #67283
L B-Western	Brushy Bill, SASS #44261	Cowboy	Mica McGuire, SASS #18526
B-Western	Sagebrush Molly, SASS #62830	L 49'er	Etta Mae, SASS #12478
C Cowgirl	Ten High, SASS #56149	49'er	Long Hunter
C Cowboy	Captain George Baylor, SASS #24287	Wild Bunch	
Frontiersman	Shirley Shooter, SASS #233848	Modern & Overall	Pecos Clyde, SASS #48481
L F Cartridge	Kiowa Kid, SASS #69870	L Modern	Silver Heart, SASS #48482
F Cartridge	Mist Chance, SASS #15391	Traditional	Crazy Kurt, SASS #55520
L F C Duelist			



DIXIE DESPERADOS

Holiday Shoot

January 1st & 2nd 2010

By Wolf Wind-Walker, SASS #37648

St. George, Utah – The Dixie Desperados SASS club hosted the 5th annual “Holiday Shoot” at their range in the Southern Utah Shooting Sports Park (SUSSP.net) located in Purgatory Canyon, outside St. George.

There are few places in the nation where the weather is good enough to hold a major shoot in the depths of winter; southwestern Utah is one of those places. It is called Utah’s Dixie because of the moderate winters and hot summers. In fact, early Mormon pioneers were sent to

settle the “Cotton Mission” with a charge to grow cotton. These hardy folks faced not only near desert conditions of climate and soil, but hostile Indians and devastating flooding of the Virgin River.

The only obstacle the recent 79 shooters faced at the “Holiday Shoot” were chilly mornings, that soon became sunny and warm, and six challenging stages per day designed by match directors T. L., SASS #5365, and Wolf Wind-Walker.

Stage 12 was especially challenging, with a six-target plate rack



Poses enjoying the Holiday Shoot

engaged by pistols and rifle with a large dump target for rounds not used knocking the plates down. As many found, there is no such thing as a target too BIG to miss. This stage also had three shotgun knockdown targets with an attached flyer. This resulted in a lot of moaning and muttering, as many clean scorecards fell victim to this stage. Some shooters were also exposed for the first time to the “Tadpole Sweep” & “T L’s Conundrum.” We all had a great time because the stages were well thought out and the targets big and close.

As this shoot was for “Bragging” rights only, there were no awards given out at the shooters’ banquet held at “Ted & Allen’s Sports Bar” restaurant in Hurricane Utah on the evening of the first day of the shoot. A four man Barber Shop Quartet, “Ultrasound,” provided us with some fine patriotic and Christmas harmonies. Dinner and fellowship was enjoyed by all, as new friends were made and old acquaintances re-kindled.

The evening was brought to a close with a “White Elephant” gift exchange. Everyone participated by exchanging and stealing gifts.

After the second set of six stages on Saturday, some folks headed home, but some of the more “adventurous” shooters took on Wolf’s “Iron Cowboy” challenge. Consisting of three stages shot as one, 30 rifle, 20 pistol, and 16 shotgun, with very “verbose” lines. I won’t even try to describe it to you here. Go online at our website (Dixiedesperados.com) and check it out for yourself. All involved managed to save the baby, kill the bear,



Lead Bender, SASS #81343, and Lilly Long, SASS #81344, enjoyed the great food!



There were lots of goodies for the gift exchange.

and bring Soda & Clay Bird home for supper. The following were the top five. Notice their times, that’s a lot of running, reloading, and shooting!

J T Wild	SASS #20399	176.91 sec
San Juan	SASS #1776	184.48 sec
Idaho Packer	SASS #45068	208.00 sec
Wolf Wind-Walker	SASS #36748	208.32 sec
Lefty Joe	SASS #18830	213.40 sec

THE SASS TENNESSEE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP
 October 7 - 9, 2010

THE REGULATORS RECKONING
 PRODUCED BY
THE WARTRACE REGULATORS
 Wartrace, TN

SASS Rules Apply 10 Main Stages Limited to 150 Shooters SASS Members Only

Alias :	
SASS # :	
Name :	
Address :	
City :	State :
Zip :	Phone # : ())
Email :	
SASS Club Affiliation :	
Posse With :	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cowboy	<input type="checkbox"/> Double Duelist Men's () Ladies ()
<input type="checkbox"/> Cowgirl	<input type="checkbox"/> 49er Men's () Ladies ()
<input type="checkbox"/> Wrangler Men's () Ladies ()	<input type="checkbox"/> "B" Western Men's () Ladies ()
<input type="checkbox"/> Duelist Men's () Ladies ()	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Men's () Ladies ()
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Duelist Men's () Ladies ()	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Senior Men's () Ladies ()
<input type="checkbox"/> Gunfighter Men's () Ladies ()	<input type="checkbox"/> Elder Statesman
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Gunfighter Men's () Ladies ()	<input type="checkbox"/> Grande Dame
<input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cartridge Men's () Ladies ()	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Boy
<input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cartridge Duelist Men's () Ladies ()	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior Girl
<input type="checkbox"/> Classic Cowboy	<input type="checkbox"/> Frontiersman
<input type="checkbox"/> Classic Cowgirl	<input type="checkbox"/> Outlaw
First shooter () @ \$90 Spouse () @ \$75 Juniors () @ \$45 Shooter's fee includes Saturday night dinner. Extra dinner ticket \$20. () Shoot All Day ALL Side Match Ticket \$15. () Total Enclosed (\$))	

Mail registration to: **Wartrace Regulators**
 206 Fortress Blvd.
 Murfreesboro, TN 37128

Must have 5 registered shooters to have a category.
 Please use ONE APPLICATION PER SHOOTER.
 Send spouse & junior form(s) with main entry.
 Pre-Registration is REQUIRED.

Make checks payable to: **Wartrace Regulators** Questions Call Will Reilly (615) 325-9585
 Confirmation containing directions, events schedule and motel information will be sent via return mail.



The Alaskan receives his Top Hand Award.

After the dust settled Saturday, William Waddy tallied up the times and posted them on the Dixiedesperados.com website by Saturday evening for all to see. Many of the west's top guns participated to lower the "average" shoot times. The top 10 shooters are listed below:

J T Wild		267.99
		sec
Boots Robb	SASS #43337	275.70
		sec
San Juan		293.69
		sec
Blast Master	SASS #47480	322.50
		sec
Diamond Jim Bandy	SASS #16884	329.67
		sec
Hobble Creek Marshal	SASS #42374	333.18
		sec
Idaho Packer		339.61
		sec
Moe Greens	SASS #53755	341.04
		sec
T. L.	SASS #5365	341.23
		sec
Twelve Mile Reb	SASS #30634	342.42
		sec

So, if you can handle a "No Awards" just for "FUN" shoot, close and fast, scrumptious food, good friends, and want to bring the New Year in right, come join the Dixie Desperados

next year, December 31-January 1, 2011. We'll save a place for ya!

PS: We might even let ya try the "Iron Cowboy," if ya think you can handle it!!!



Ultrasound provided some great harmonies.

Lady T.'s A.D.D.
(Artistically Deviant Designs)
Each piece is individually made of Fine Silver (.999FS) and is shown as approximate size.

The Outlaw Badge



1.5" x 1.5"
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Range Blossom™ Jewelry
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Full Bloom Earrings 1" x 1"



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State Championship
Purgatory in the Pines**

OCTOBER 15-17 2010

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Jackson Hole gang

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- WILD BUNCH STAGE
- 10 STAGE MAIN EVENT
- SATURDAY NIGHT BARBEQUE

- RANGE OFFICER II COURSE
- JIMMY SPURS TOP GUN SHOOTING
- SCHOOL (THURS. OCT. 14)
- DOOR PRIZES & AWARDS
- VENDORS

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEB SITE ON THE SASS HOMEPAGE OR CONTACT
FRANK WESLEY FRANK@SASSNET.COM JEREMY SAM YOSEMITE@SASSNET.COM

Name: _____ SASS# (required): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ County: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
Cell/Work: _____ Home: _____

Male Female Please pick one—changes in shooter category cannot be made after Oct 1.

<input type="checkbox"/> COWBOY	<input type="checkbox"/> Frontiersman	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Duellist
<input type="checkbox"/> WRANGLER (age 30 & over)	<input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cartridge	<input type="checkbox"/> Duellist
<input type="checkbox"/> Modern	<input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cartridge Duellist	<input type="checkbox"/> Classic Cowboy
<input type="checkbox"/> 49+	<input type="checkbox"/> Buckaroo (13 & under)	<input type="checkbox"/> B/Western
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> Elder Statesman	<input type="checkbox"/> Gunfighter
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Senior		<input type="checkbox"/> Grand Dame

Please Buckle: All reasonable efforts will be made to meet requests.

1st Shooter \$95
Spouse or significant other \$65 per shooter
Buckaroo/Bookerite FREE
Saturday BBQ is included in your entry fee; additional tickets are \$18 per person.
TOTAL _____

Make check payable to:
Jackson Hole Gang

Mail registration and payment to:
Sue Pavlisko
430 E Freehold Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

**2010 KANSAS STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP
BLACK POWDER SHOOTOUT**



presented by SASS
WICHITA KANSAS

October 2nd & 3rd

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Chisholm Trail Antique Gun Association C.T.A.G.A.
20th Anniversary COWBOY ACTION MATCH

10 STAGES at the new C.T.A.G.A.

~COWBOY TOWN~

Main Match, Door Prizes, Side Matches,
Saturday Eve/Dress Dinner,

Lunch Both Days

\$70.00

SASS Rules Apply

Must be SASS Member in Good Standing

Smokeless Shooters

Welcome to Shoot in the CTAGA 20th Anniversary Match

**Cowboy Action Guns included
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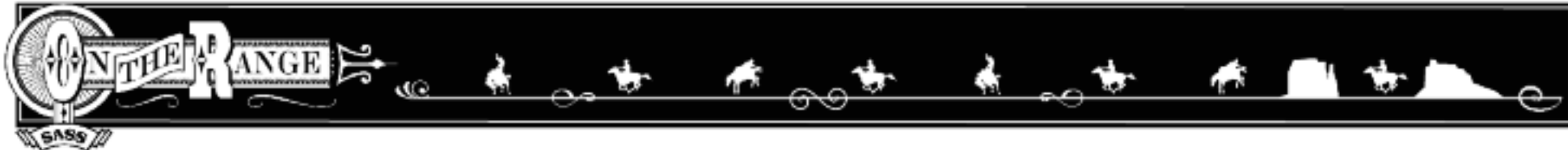
lumrv@sbcglobal.net /or contact/ Yosemite Sam

620.747.0700 yosemitesam@mtelco.net

Shooter entry form / information

www.ctaga.net

Free Camping, RV's welcome, Vendors no charge



RIDE WITH PANCHO VILLA AND THE PLUM CREEK SHOOTING SOCIETY

By Boon Doggle, SASS #66381

Photos by Major Photography and Capt. Mac, SASS #80250

Lockhart, TX – March 1916. Pancho Villa and his Villistas cross the border into the U.S. and raid the town of Columbus, New Mexico. Brigadier General John J. “Black Jack” Pershing pursues Pancho and his bandits through Northern Mexico along with 15,000 troops until January 1917 when the “Punitive Expedition” is recalled. Pancho Villa is never captured.

March 2010. Pancho is back! And, along with his partner in crime, Lefty, they attack the peace-loving cowboys at the Agarita Ranch in Lockhart,

Texas. Only this time Pancho and his banditos do not escape to the deserts down in Mexico.

The day started under a cool, cloudy sky. The Stars and Strips were raised. The Pledge of Allegiance, cannon fire, a prayer, and a safety meeting precede the Villistas attack. Pancho and Lefty’s rampage was thwarted on ten stages by the Plum Creek regulars, along with a lot of help from a posse that hails from somewhere down around Houston. And boy, let me tell y’all, those guys were tough on ol’ Pancho! The posses were



Ms. Laurie Darlin was the Top Overall Lady. Congratulations!



Jarhead Jake was the top Grand Army of the Frontier Single Shot competitor. Outstanding!

not all made up of Texans, though. We had help from cowboys and cowgirls from as far away as Michigan.

We were also pleased and honored to have Judge Roy Bean and Justice Lily Kate with us. Kate has shot with us before, but this was the first time The Judge has visited the Agarita Ranch. From my brief visit with The Judge, I can assure you he is very anxious to get back to shooting again. Those two fine folks have been through a lot lately and are truly dedicated to this game. They should be an inspiration to us all.

This is the 5th year The Plum Creek Shooting Society has gone after Pancho in their annual match. Ride With Pancho Villa has grown from having an additional Wild Bunch Category to incorporating 42 categories, including all SASS categories as well as 1911-Wild Bunch™, Military & Police, Cody-Dixon, and Grand Army of the Frontier, along with



Ride with Pancho Villa! Pancho’s “invasion” of the United States yet again provided the theme for the Plum Creek match.

Costume Contests and Side Matches.

The scenarios were designed and written by Pine Tree, Joe Darter, and Phantom. Yes, *that* Phantom. The banditos came in a variety of shapes and were big and close. And, there was plenty of action, too. There was enough movement to keep the young ‘uns on their toes, but not so much as to wear the old cowboys out. The Cody-Dixon and Grand Army of the Frontier rifle targets were farther out, but were all large, easy to see, and hit. Some of us still haven’t figured out what the Grand Army of the Frontier shooters were doing, but they sure had fun doing it! And, talk about dressin’ up, those Grand Army of the Frontier shooters rival a lot of the B-Western cowboys. When the smoke cleared and the dust settled, Pancho had met his match, and Lefty had split for O-hi-o.

(Continued on next page)

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Boon Doggle distinguished himself in both the Cody-Dixon Single Shot main match category as well as in the Long Range Single Shot side match.

(Continued from previous page)

Recognizing Cody-Dixon and Grand Army of the Frontier categories brought out a variety of firearms. And the Cody-Dixon and Grand Army of the Frontier shooters were more than willing to show and tell as well as let folks take a few shots with their guns. With all the different rifles and handguns being used, it was starting to look like a Texas Hill Country gun show. I suspect the Grand Army of the Frontier bunch was doing a little recruiting, too. After all, the 2010 Grand Army of the Frontier National Muster will be held at the Agarita Ranch in November.

Now it was time to celebrate. A banquet, catered by Chisholm Trail BBQ of Lockhart was held Saturday evening hosted by Kitchen Kate and Delta Raider. Shotgun sold raffle tickets, and a lot of you know what that involves! Several guns, knives, and reloading supplies were included in the raffle items. Awards were presented and then it was time for the entertainment provided by Old Bill Dick along with his nephew,

Dub, wrangling the karaoke machine.

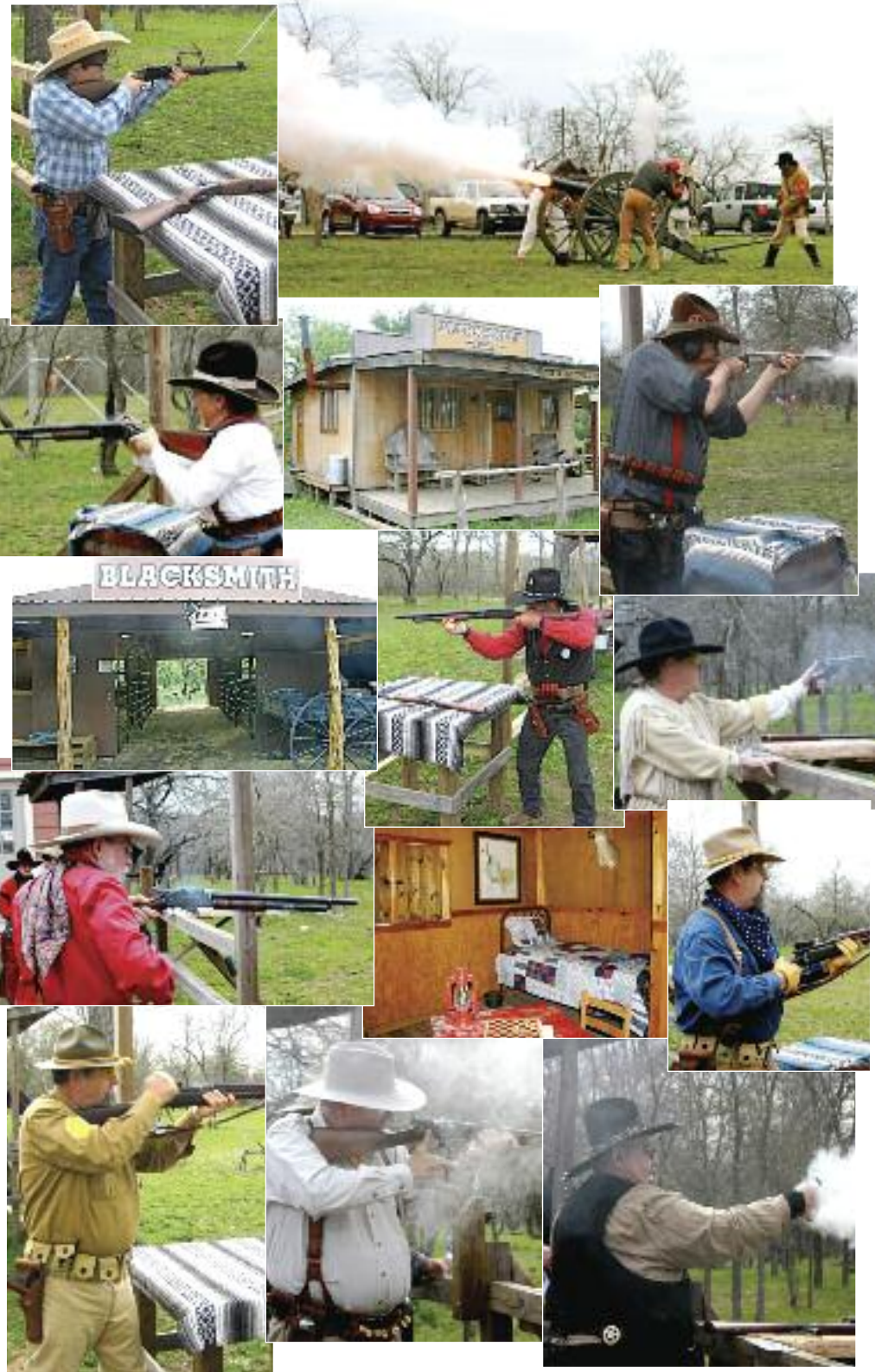
Ride With Pancho Villa caps were included in each shooters packet. A raffle ticket was given to each shooter, and a drawing was held for a derringer for one lucky cowboy or cowgirl on each posse. Jake Cutter and Ms. Laurie Darlin' received wooden plaques for their overall top gun awards. Other awards included belt buckles for first place category winners, and badges for second and third place finishers. "1st Place" caps were awarded to side match winners. Costume contests and Spirit of the Game winners were awarded wooden plaques.

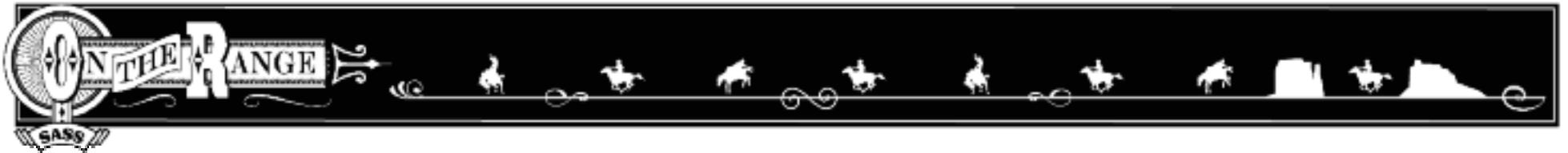
And just as sure as the sun sets in the west, The Plum Creek Shooting Society is already planning for another invasion of Pancho and his banditos next year. We sure hope y'all will come out to the Agarita Ranch and help us send him into the badlands of Ol' Mexico once again. You can keep up with the Plum Creek Shooting Society and other Agarita Ranch goings on at:

<http://www.pcss.org/>

Winners	
Overall Man	Jake Cutter, SASS #41344
Lady	Ms Laurie Darlin', SASS #9082
Categories	
Buckaroo	Dub Johnson, SASS #87417
C Cowgirl	Squawty Bawdy, SASS #62932
C Cowboy	Dragon Hill Dave, SASS #59561
L Duelist	Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000
Duelist	Jake Jones, SASS #19910
S Duelist	Handlebar Bob, SASS #4650
L F Cartridge	Lorelei Longshot, SASS #44256
F Cartridge	Lars Christopherson, SASS #17013
F C Duelist	Lazarus Longshot, SASS #44254
L 49'er	Two-Gun Annie, SASS #80145
49'er	Jake Cutter
L Wrangler	Ms Laurie Darlin'
Wrangler	Joe Darter, SASS #38268
Cowboy	Phantom, SASS #54973
Frontiersman	Wyandot Jim, SASS #66953
Gunfighter	Loose Cannon Lou, SASS #33776
L Senior	Weezee Anna, SASS #72817
Senior	Lonesome Lefty, SASS #68693
L S Senior	Cactus Kay, SASS #15157
S Senior	Texas Trinity Kid, SASS #78535
Grand Dame	Bossey Babe, SASS #77984
E Statesman	Dakota Doc, SASS #9695
Cody-Dixon	
Lever Action	Wild Hog, SASS #79882
Single Shot	Boon Doggle, SASS #66381

Grand Army of the Frontier Repeater	Scooter, SASS #19144
Single Shot	Jarhead Jake, SASS #70612
Side Matches	
Long Range	
Big Bore	
Single Shot	Boon Doggle
L S Shot	Kickstart Kate
Lever Action	Joe Darter
Pistol	Jake Cutter
PCR Rifle	
Man	Muleshoe Bill, SASS #67022
Lady	Ms. Laurie Darlin'
Fastest	
Pocket Pistol	
Lady	Cactus Kay
Man	Phantom
Derringer	
Man	Picosa Kid, SASS #55762
Rifle	
Lady	M.s Laurie Darlin'
Man	Jake Cutter
Pistol	
Lady	Ms. Laurie Darlin'
Man	Picosa Kid
Shotgun	
Lady	Ms Laurie Darlin'
Man	Lars Christopherson
Three Gun	
Lady	Cactus Kay
Man	Jake Cutter
Clean Match	
	Jake Cutter
	Mojave Al, SASS #74120
	Dragon Hill Dave, SASS #59561
	Dakota Doc
	Navarro Ned, SASS #29072
	Trinity Kid, SASS #43673
Costume Contests	
Best Dressed	
Military	Texas Sarge, SASS #58683
Lady	Cherokee Granny, SASS #66408
Gentleman	Dutch Van Horn, SASS #51153
Couple	Boosey Babe, SASS #77984 & The Adobe Kid, SASS #77094





NORTH CAROLINA STATE MATCH 2010

Uprising at Swearing Creek

By Pearl, SASS #68593

Photos by Circle City Blondie, SASS #71563, and Major Photography

Salisbury, NC – It has been said “Age and treachery will overcome youth and skill every time.” Well, I am here to tell you this saying truly applied to the 14th annual *Uprising at Swearing Creek*. Rather, our own Rubicon Rider, SASS #69415, a cowboy who just edged over the line to the Senior Category, won the Top Gun Shootoff with a mule ear shotgun, and full-blast .45 bullets in his rifle and pistols, beating world-class speedsters like Red River Ray, SASS #33254, and Sixgun Sallie, SASS #38989, not to mention our Top Shooter Gal, Kill-em-all-Kate, SASS #45804, and Top Shooter Guy, Jimmy Spurs, SASS #65014, who came to join us from New Hampshire. Rubicon won a beautiful engraved presentation Texas Wrangler knife for his efforts.

The North Carolina State Championship, *Uprising at Swearing*



Uprising at Swearing Creek's Match Officials. These are the folks that make a match happen!

with no crises! Jack's theme this year was the movies of Clint Eastwood, and *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* of the matter was we all had fun. Twenty-seven shooters not only shot it fast and had fun, but shot it smooth and clean!

The Saturday evening festivities were held at the host hotel, where Major Photography had a nice studio set up. The photos used in this article are from Major Photography and Sheriff Lord, SASS #22746. Thank you guys!

The costume contest is a very vital aspect of our state match. This year, Penelope Petticoat, SASS #45702, and myself, aided by Cindylla and Pat, (Gunrunner Joe's wife) were the judges. Our shooting contest awards, in no particular order, were won by Loco Linda, SASS #52696, B-Western;



Junior Winners—the future of our sport



Overall Champions—Jimmy Spurs and Kill 'em All Kate

Creek, was held the first weekend in November 2009. It will be held at that same time again this year, which will be the weekend before the new Southeast Regional match (replacing Mule Camp) in Givhan's Ferry, South Carolina. For our friends traveling to South Carolina, please come a little earlier so you can shoot with us in North Carolina! In 2011, our match will move to the first weekend in June, so this will be the only year to shoot in both of the Carolinas on two consecutive weekends. Just sayin'.

For our state match, we had our usual cold mornings followed by beautiful Carolina blue skies in the afternoons. That sure does make it fair for both sets of shooters. Match Director J.M. Brown, SASS #27309, and scenario architect, Carolina Jack, SASS #18432, did their usual bang-up job orchestrating nearly 200 shooters,

Huckleberry Mike, SASS #45701 (looking so much like Ben Wade from *3:10 to Yuma* that even his closest friends did not recognize him!), Southern Draw, SASS #75363, Sassy Motchie, SASS #26778, and Ms. Jewel, SASS #62556.

The Evening wear contest is always hotly contested, so of course, we



Top Hand Award Winner—Wireman

SASS Virginia State Championship
SEPTEMBER 3, 4 AND 5, 2010
 Presented By:

10 Stage Main Match • Side Matches • "Top Gun" Shoot-Off
Star City Social/Dinner • Awards
Too much action to list!

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 225 PAID SHOOTERS!
 All SASS categories will be awarded and SASS rules apply.
 Please visit RRRC's website at www.RoanokeRifle.com for details
 and registration or contact Trapper Dan at trapperdn@verizon.net.



**Cowgirl Queen—
Wicked Wanda (middle)**

gave multiple first prizes this year! Nunnfaster, SASS #51021, who always has a well-thought-out costume, this year instructed us with his depiction of a Civil War drum corps commander. In his words: "New drummers would come to me for a three week school to learn the 200 drum commands before they were sent to their regiments. Their ages started off the same as fighting men, but as the war went on, their ages were closer to 10-12 year old boys. The drum commands were used in camp and on the battlefield to com-



Nunnfaster in his Civil War drum corps commander's uniform

<i>L S Senior</i>	Green Eyed Indian, SASS #51116
<i>NC Champ</i>	Rocky River Jeb
<i>L NC Champ Junior</i>	Green Eyed Indian Linden Kid, SASS #57332
<i>NC Champ E Statesman</i>	Linden Kid Splinter Houser, SASS #20742
<i>Grand Dame</i>	Dakota Belle, SASS #11588
<i>NC Champ L NC Champ Gunfighter</i>	Splinter Houser Dakota Belle Kid Ziggy, SASS #76870
<i>L Gunfighter</i>	Mustang Megs, SASS #60070
<i>NC Champ</i>	Jim Duncan, SASS #14833
B-Western	Hugh Damwright, SASS # 57700
<i>L B-Western</i>	Loco Linda, SASS #52696
<i>NC Champ L NC Champ Buckaroo</i>	Hugh Damwright Loco Linda Dirty Dog Alf, SASS #77347
<i>NC Champ Frontiersman</i>	Dirty Dog Alf Duc McCandless, SASS #25723
<i>NC Champ S Duelist</i>	Duc McCandless John Derringer, SASS #31360
<i>NC Champ</i>	Tracker Mike, SASS #38824
C Cowboy	Sliphammer, SASS #360
<i>C Cowgirl</i>	Wicked Wanda, SASS #28122
<i>NC Champ L NC Champ F Cart. BP</i>	Sliphammer Wicked Wanda Twelve Mile Bluff, SASS #71561
<i>NC Champ F C Gunfighter</i>	Twelve Mile Bluff Judge'm All Duncan, SASS #67320
<i>NC Champ</i>	Wireman, SASS #55160
F C Duelist	Missouri Marshall, SASS #50682

Overall	Winners
<i>Man</i>	Jimmy Spurs, SASS #65014
<i>Lady</i>	Kill-Em-All Kate, SASS #45804
North Carolina Champions	
<i>Man</i>	Red River Ray, SASS #33254
<i>Lady</i>	Kill-Em-All Kate
Categories	
Wrangler	Jimmy Spurs
<i>L Wrangler</i>	Kill-Em-All Kate
<i>NC Champ</i>	Red River Ray
<i>L NC Champ 49'er</i>	Kill-Em-All Kate
<i>L 49'er</i>	Cody Conagher, SASS #6986
<i>NC champ</i>	Sixgun Sallie, SASS #38989
<i>L NC Champ Duelist</i>	Hoss Blocker, SASS #26096
<i>L Duelist</i>	Sixgun Sallie J.M. Brown, SASS #27309
<i>NC Champ L NC Champ Cowboy</i>	Myra Venge, SASS #72463
<i>Cowgirl</i>	J.M. Brown
<i>NC Champ</i>	Myra Venge
<i>L NC Champ Senior</i>	Timberland Renegade, SASS #58071
<i>L Senior</i>	Carolina Girl, SASS #79564
<i>NC Champ L NC Champ F Cartridge</i>	Southern Draw, SASS #75363
<i>L F Cartridge</i>	Penelope Petticoat, SASS #45702
<i>NC Champ L NC Champ S Senior</i>	Rubicon Ryder, SASS #69415
	Ruby Red Jo, SASS #71481
	Rubicon Rider Ms. Jewel, SASS #62556
	Wendover Kid, SASS #37552
	Tricky Trina, SASS #59582
	Wendover Kid Beaded Renegade, SASS #70248
	Rocky River Jeb, SASS #47279

municate to the men. These young men helped out around camp doing cleaning and other chores. They were very brave and provided a tremendous service to their respective armies."

Our second first-place winner was Bo Harley McRide, SASS #58974, who portrayed an itinerant preacher, with the interesting moniker of Gregory Bo Harley Rasputin. In his words: "I was bad in my youth and worse as a man. Late in a terrible life, I saw what my impact on others was like and left to find solace and perhaps penitence ...



**Best Dressed Couple—
Sassy Teton Lady and
Deadwood Woody**



**The Jackson twins as Nosey
and Josey Wales**

Our couple's eveningwear winners were Sassy Teton Lady, SASS #47525, and her husband, Deadwood Woody, SASS #22184. She designed and made both of their costumes, including her lovely frock and hat, and his suit. Fabulous!



**Bo Harley McRide
as an itinerant preacher.**

At the Awards ceremony on Sunday, two traditional awards unique to our state were given: "Top Hand" for a cowboy who helps in every way possible, and is also "handy." The winner was Wireman, SASS #55160, who shoots Gunfighter, always has a smile and a quip, is first to set up, last to take down, and tells tall tales the entire time. We love you, "Wirey!"

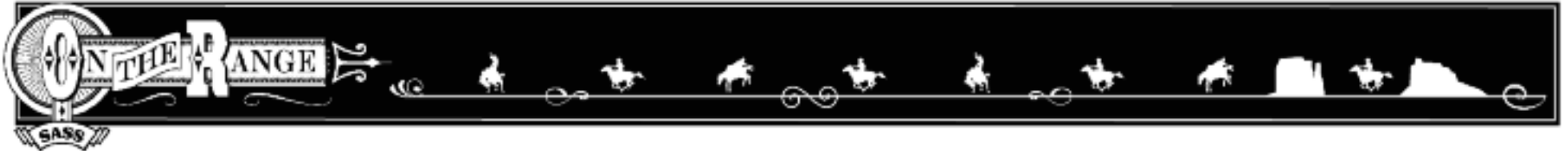
and joined the brotherhood of the cloth with their acceptance of my past life ... As always, I try to live the good life, but the devil in my past still comes to the surface ..."

And the "Cowgirl Queen" is a much honored position, won by the Cowgirl with the most grace under pressure, who gives of her time and talents, makes everyone comfortable, is helpful, and just plain nice. Presented by last year's winner, Sixgun Sallie, Wicked Wanda, SASS #28122, this tiara is for you!

And finally, we had the (identical) Jackson twins, John and Jerry (R. J. Ricochet), SASS #42570, of Jackson's Western Wear, who were the only contestants who depicted a Clint Eastwood movie, *Nosey and Josey Wales*.

Thank you to our sponsors, to the North Carolina Cowboys, and to all the people who help put on these matches. We really appreciate you!





OKLAHOMA TERRITORIAL MARSHALS HOST *Land Run*

By Cal Coghurn, SASS #3582

Oklahoma Territory, April 22, 1889 – Over 2 million acres of unassigned land were opened to settlers today at 12:00 noon. A pistol shot marked the moment that would-be claimers could travel by foot, horseback, buggy, bicycle, wagon, or train to claim a 160 acre plot of the unassigned land



The teepee was the final challenge for Stage 12.

between the former Indian and Oklahoma Territories. All land was claimed within 24 hours.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, April 22, 2010 – The 17th annual Land Run Cowboy Action Shoot began 121 years to the day after the original Land Run was held. The 256 participants in the 2010 Land Run came from Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, as well as Oklahoma. Four days of great shooting fun on the newly expanded range made this the best Land Run yet, thanks to the leadership of Land Run Chairman LeRoy Rogers, SASS #49777.

Thursday's side matches



The Territorial Marshals wheeled out the Welcome Wagon for shooters at the 17th annual Land Run.

included the new long-range berm on the cowboy range. The new trail walk path through the woods had shooters searching through the

underbrush for targets. Gun reports were heard all along the range as shooters tried to beat the top score in each side match category. The saloon



Fort Courage had plenty of firepower to withstand any assault during Land Run.

SASS & BIG PINE BOUNTY HUNTERS PRESENTS **Willimantic Smoke II** September 26, 2010 **Maine State Black Powder Championship**

6 Main Stages

AMMO: Approximately 60 pistol, 60 rifle, 25 shotgun.
Side Shoots on Saturday afternoon & evening

WHERE: Big Pine Gun Club, Route 150 North, Willimantic, ME

WHEN: Sign up 8:00 - 8:30am, Safety meeting (mandatory), 8:30am.
Registration \$30 in advance. Includes lunch for main match only. Spouse or other family members \$20.00 additional. Juniors half price.

MUST SEND IN APPLICATION IN ADVANCE

Make Checks payable to Big Pine Gun Club, send to Rick Pellerin, PO BOX 644, Guilford, ME 04443
email Ripley Straninger rpk@numbertal.com 207-876-4926 or Steelman giles@myfairpoint.net 207-676-2895

All SASS Rules apply. Must be SASS member to qualify for awards
Class: Please specify when signing up.

Frontier Cart, Ladies Frontier Cart, Front Cart Duelist, Ladies Front Cart Duelist, Front Cart Gunfighter, Frontiersman, Sr Frontier Cart, Ladies Front cart Gunfighter, Traditional Smokeless, Plainsmen

DIRECTIONS: From Guilford (at the Shell station), follow Route 150 north for 6.4 miles. range on left.

Name _____ Alias _____ SASS# _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Phone required _____ Class _____

I understand I am participating in an activity that has some inherent risk of personal injury and/or damage to personal property. The completion of this entry form shall serve as agreement between myself and Big Pine Gun Club that I assume these risks and hold harmless Big Pine Gun Club and its members and officers. **MUST SIGN FORM TO SHOOT.**
Signed _____

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Shooters hurry from the hotel to the bank to take a shot at the bird in Stage 4.



This is a SASS shoot and not a funeral at the old chapel, despite the casket gun cart.



Chief Phoenix, aka Phoenix 97, SASS #10120, in his native costume at the Banquet.



It is agreed, the shooter missed two targets

was the site of a swap meet for guns, gear, hats, and period clothing. Vendors along the path did land office business.

The 12-stage main match began Friday morning with the national anthem sung by The Tonic Kid, SASS #70340. The sun deigned to shine on the match until the last shot of the match was fired Saturday, and within 15 minutes the rain began. By that time the range was cleared as everyone hurried to get gussied up for the awards banquet at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage great room. Snake River James, SASS #12523 did a masterful job as banquet Master of Ceremony. He was assisted by the charming Rock Candy, SASS #63132, the bodacious Broncho Red, SASS #22987, and mild-mannered Trent, SASS #1726, one of the founders of the Territorial Marshals. Twenty-three guns went home with the lucky winners of the shooter door prizes and raffle drawings.

The theme of the shoot was the "Lovely Ladies of the Oklahoma Territory." It happens that many of the female Territorial Marshals had exciting past lives in the territorial days. At Heaven's Gate in Stage 1, the shooters learned that Missouri Mae, SASS #80828, was the cousin of Jesse James in her previous life.

Apparently it's true Jesse James traded her to ne'er-do-well Flat Top Okie, SASS #80927, for a pack mule and a bottle of whiskey!

At the Oklahoma Station Train Depot in Stage 2, shooters attempted to emulate Kiamichi Queen, SASS #26033, who is said to have shot three renegades who attempted to rob her family's general store. Stage 3 was in the Saloon, the very establishment in which Champagne Rose, SASS #69169, learned the ways of the world at a very young age. The bank was the scene for Stage 4; one of the banks customers, Thistle, SASS #15705, robbed the bank after the banker had foreclosed on her family ranch.

At the mine in Stage 5 Crazy Sue, SASS #18973, met up with Prospector, SASS #3559, an outlaw on the lam from the Ramapo Mountains. Each shooter began the stage by saying, "Watch out for her, she's plum loco!" The livery in Stage 6 was where Just L, SASS #34123, ran away with a mountain of a man named, Fly, and joined a Wild West Show. Stage 7 was Fort Courage, where Marley Belle, SASS #71069, met up with a rascal Pinkerton agent, Rockslide, SASS #71068.

Snorin' Fanny was born in the Cherokee Nation, and at the chapel
(Continued on page 73)

Winners

Overall Man	LeRoy Rogers, SASS #49777	Wrangler	LeRoy Rogers, SASS #49777
Lady	Snorin' Fanny, SASS #49779	Ladies C Cowgirl	Pinky Jo, SASS #12902
Categories 49'er	Roy's Creek Dan, SASS #73697	Cowgirl L 49'er	Snorin Fanny, Kiamichi Queen, SASS #26033
B Western	Fast Fingers Green, SASS #37898	L B-Western	May B West, SASS #82183
Cowboy	Aberdeen, SASS #42517	L Duelist	Lady Wolf Rambo, SASS #36713
C Cowboy	Chavez Y Chavez, SASS #80022	L F Cartridge	Tricky Trina, SASS #59582
Duelist	Jeremiah Blackstone, SASS #81915	L F C Duelist L Gunfighter	Thistle, SASS #15705 Sister Jack, SASS #40316
E Statesman	Rio Drifter, SASS #49244	L Senior	Tennessee Tall, SASS #49425
Frontiersman	The Brisco Kid, SASS #26023	L S Senior	Rosy Rash, SASS #42709
F Cartridge F C Duelist	Hobbs, SASS #19959	L Wrangler	Missouri Mae, SASS #80282
Gunfighter	Billy Boots, SASS #20282	Youth Buckaroo	Drop Dead Red, SASS #80850
Senior	Fort Hays Preacher, SASS #33995	Buckarette L Young Gun	Texas Totes Hard Head Sam, SASS #82397
S Duelist	Montana Dan, SASS #15554	Young Gun	Shorty Sureshot, SASS #72305
S Senior	Hyman Oldcowhand, SASS #68474		
	Little Doc, SASS #21939		

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THIS BANQUET IS SPECIAL!

By Miz Annie Ross, SASS# 60919



Just Enuff Jean, SASS #15358, and Pinky Jo, SASS #12902, make Phoenix 97, SASS #10120, feel safe and welcome at the cowboy banquet!



Ladies' Costume Contest Winner, Querida Kate, SASS #25555, wears a gown of electric blue silk trimmed with black lace.



SASS Scholarship recipient, Ry Whiskey, SASS #12903, working hard to make the evening a success!

Picture a high vaulted ceiling and walls adorned with larger than life western murals; linen-clothed tables set with sparkling glassware, china, and flatware; and cowboys and cowgirls dressed in their "finest." Welcome to the Land Run banquet in the ballroom of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, OK. The Museum was founded in 1955 and has an awesome collection of Western art, artifacts, and memorabilia. As it has grown, exhibits have been added as new works are acquired, a Cowboy Hall of Fame (with annual inductions) has been established, educational programs with more "hands on" activities have expanded, and a life-size Western town built. A research center was added in 1997, thanks to private donations. The Museum grounds are decorated with reproductions of larger than life Remington sculptures and beautifully landscaped. As we were arriving, the fountains danced in the sunlight, and all the spring flowers were in bloom!

The Museum closed for the day, then reopened for the 250+ shooters and their guests at Land Run, 2010, an annual match sponsored by the Oklahoma City Gun Club. Land Run attracts shooters from across the Midwest and Texas and from as far away as Wisconsin and Virginia. The registration fee includes Side Matches, the Main Match, Friday supper at the Range, more shooting on Sunday, and the Banquet.

The shooting at Land Run is always lots of fun with side matches that include Cowboy skeet and a Trail Walk as well as twelve well-written main match stages. But for many of us, the "best part" of Land Run is the banquet! For those of you who enjoy "playing dress up" like I do, this is the perfect venue for a special dinner in your best evening attire!

The doors of the Museum reopened for us at 6 PM and after choosing a table, there was plenty of time to meet and greet, admire each other's costumes, pose for photos, and visit the bar, if one wished. During this time, members of the Oklahoma City Historical Society served as Judges for the Costume Contest and interviewed those shooters who wished to participate.

Dinner was served efficiently by an attentive wait staff ... no buffet lines here! After dinner, the shooting awards were presented and the winners of the raffles and other giveaways were announced. Not to brag, but Posse 6 won their share of the plaques and guns!

It was an unforgettable evening in a lovely setting. If you're in the area, plan to visit the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum or sign up now for Land Run 2011 and enjoy an outstanding cowboy evening there!



Blackpowder shooters Missouri Marshal, SASS #50687, and Tricky Trina, SASS #59582, left all that soot back at the range!



The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, OK.



W. B. Earp, SASS #25539, escorts Sadie Marcus, SASS #25541.



Marshal and Marshal'ette Holloway, SASS #3411, and SASS #56534, attired in their finest!



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Land Run . . .

(Continued from page 71)

in Stage 8 Fanny left the Snake Oil Salesman, Stu Padasso, waiting at the altar for his beautiful Fanny. Stage 9 is the infamous outhouse, where Catoosa Red, SASS #57246, pumped six .45 caliber slugs into her stepdaddy as he exited the necessary. When asked why, Red said, "That's all the gun would hold!"

The covered wagon in Stage 10 was the one Highland Scottie rode in the Land Run. (Her friends will be relieved to know she was acquitted of the murder of the gabby Roy's Creek Dan, SASS #73697.)

Annie Hickok, SASS #37899, the sister of Wild Bill, was wanted dead or alive in four states, but

Fast Fingers Greene, SASS #37898, sprung her from the jail in Stage 11. It is said Lady Roadrunner was kidnapped by a raiding party of savages and later escaped on foot, and so Stage 12 started when the shooter in the teepee said, "Beep, Beep."

The costume contest judges were from the Oklahoma Historical Society.

LeRoy Rogers gave "Friends of the Territorial Marshals" Awards to Moonshine, SASS #20515, and Loss Hart, SASS #20695, for their work on the improvements to the Territorial Marshal's range and preparations for Land Run. Cal's Gal was awarded a plaque for putting up with Cal Cogburn, SASS #3582!



Some of the Land Run Champions proudly showing off their award plaques at the banquet.



Hobbs, SASS #19959, makes a jail break as part of stage 11.




Oklahoma Station - A new Railway station was inaugurated at Land Run.




Shooters at the livery had to shoot at a bird that flew from the hayloft.



Shooters made a mad dash to the Territorial Marshal's famous outhouse in Stage 9.



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2010 NC State SASS Championship

November 4-7

Side Matches - Nov. 4 10 Main Match Stages - Nov. 5-6 Awards & Top Gun Shoot-Off - Nov. 7

ONE ENTRY PER FORM PLEASE

Name:	Alias:
Address:	City/State/Zip:
SASS Number :	Phone:
Email:	Posse With:

We offer all SASS recognized categories. A minimum of 3 participants will be required for any category to be considered for awards. Any category with less than 3 participants may be combined with a similar category to make all participants available for awards. In Addition: "Non-official" categories will be recognized with a minimum of 5 participants. (ie: FIC Gunfighter, Outlaw)

1 st Choice Category:	2 nd Choice Category:	Lady Category?
		Yes No

All SASS Rules Apply - Must be a SASS member to participate.

<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(PLEASE CIRCLE)</p> <p>Main Match Individual: \$ 75 Main Match Spouse: \$ 60 Main Match Young Gun: \$ 25 Main Match Buckaroo: Free Unlimited Side Matches: \$ 25 Plainsman Event: \$ 10 4 Stage Blast: (10 AM) \$ 10 4 Stage Blast: (1 PM) \$10 2 Stage Wild Bunch: \$ 10 Banquet (Adult): \$ 25 Banquet (YG or Buckaroo) \$ 15</p> <p>TOTAL _____</p>	<p>ENTRY FORM DEADLINE -- October 15, 2010 Refund Policy: \$ 15 refund fee before October 1st NO Refunds after October 1st THIS IS A LOST BRASS MATCH. Rank Scoring will be used for this match. Match details will be included in confirmation letter. More NC State match information including maps, hotel info., etc. can be found online at: www.ncstatematch.org or by calling Carolina Jack (910) 864-9875 Contact email addresses are on the website.</p> <p>The match will be held in Salisbury, NC at the Rowan County Wildlife Association range, Home of the Old North State Posse.</p>
--	---

Contact: JM Brown aka: Fred Stough with any category questions.
(email: nh212@earthlink.net)

Please make Checks payable to : North Carolina Cowboys, Inc.
Mail to: Fred Stough, 4200 Landover Ln., Raleigh NC, 27616


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Side matches Sept 10




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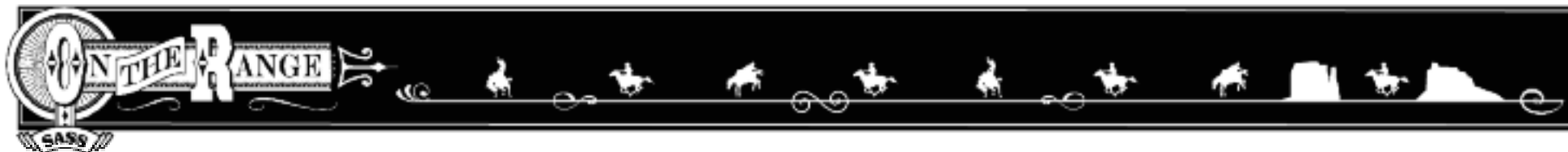
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Take exit 19 (Wells) off Maine turnpike, turn right onto RT 109, turn left onto RT 9 to North Berwick, go to end, turn left, go to next light, turn right still on RT 9. Look for the Beaver Dam Campgrounds. Take next left onto Wentworth Rd.

LOOK FOR SIGNS



THE GOLD COAST

Gunfight 2010

By Sterling Gentry, SASS #46289
 Photos by Nancy Drew, SASS #62250

Fort Lauderdale, FL – The Goldcoast Gunslingers held their 5th Annual two-day shoot, “The Gunfight” February 20 and 21, 2010. This year’s theme was based on the film, “The Quick and the Dead.” Word got out and bad hombres started coming to town for the contest. After all who wouldn’t want to shoot in Fort Lauderdale in February? One particularly bad hombre was a fella called Tex, SASS #4. The sheriff met him when he arrived in town and told him he didn’t want any trouble. Tex said he had some business to take care of and would be in town

only a couple of days, then head back to New Mexico. That made the sheriff feel better. All in all about 100 people signed up for the contest.

Saturday, five fun-filled stages were shot, starting with the “Lady” riding into town and ending with “Cort” in the gun shop showing off his gun handling skills. This year we also held our first costume contest on Saturday. You could pick any character from the movie, but you had to shoot as that character all day. Some of the people that showed up were, The Lady, Cort, Scar, Ace, Horace the Barkeep, and Spotted Horse. There was a judged and popular-vote con-



Some of the Nova High school students that helped out all weekend.



Capt. D, SASS #21385, as Horace the Barkeep



Rut-n-Buck, SASS #79448, as Scar

test, and awards were given to best male and female. After shooting the five stages and before our Saturday evening dinner, some side matches were held, but they were not your everyday speed this or that side matches. That wouldn’t do for a group of gunslingers like this. So, we had a two-stage Wild Bunch Match and keeping with the theme of the movie, we had a head to head shoot off. Just like in the movie, your name and your competitor’s name were put on a chalkboard. When it was your turn, you had one pistol and a shotgun. At the beep, you ran to your shooting station and whoever shot the fastest or sometimes the cleanest was the winner. Winners got to shoot again and losers didn’t.

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First the ladies went at it until

there was only one, Bonfire, SASS #69461. Then, the men shot until only Desperado Dale, SASS #25754, was left. Then just as in the movie, it was time for Man vs. Lady in the “Quick and the Dead” Shoot-off. Unlike the movie, this time the man won, but we declared the lady the winner anyway. After all, in the end the ladies always win!

Then it was time to go to the clubhouse at the range and have dinner. After a wonderful dinner, the costume contest awards took place. In the judged contest, Velvet Sheath, SASS #21327, won as the Lady, and Rut n’ Buck, SASS #79448, won as Scar. In the popular vote, Side Kick Chick, SASS #73141, won as the Lady and Capt. D, SASS #21385, won as Horace the Barkeep. As if that weren’t enough for one day, after dinner we went back out and shot cowboy clays for a couple of hours.

Sunday morning we started all over again with the weather just as perfect as Saturday. We shot the five fast, fun stages, ending with Stage 10, the shootout in the street. The timer would say, “You’re not fast enough for me!” The shooter replied, “Today, I am!” With that you kicked down the door and shot a total of 24 rounds on 24 targets.

While the scores were being tallied and the stages torn down, a multitude of door prizes were given away and a trivia contest about the movie was held with trivia questions like “How many times did Spotted Horse say he had been shot?” Or, what was the caliber of Cort’s pistol? Trigger Happy Gringo, SASS #48305, took home the custom made plaque.

Everyone had a great time, and the shoot was a huge success. But all accolades need to go to the 20 plus committee members from the Gold Coast Gunslingers that worked so hard to put this on. We also need to thank the ten main stage sponsors and our host hotel, the Courtyard Marriott of Weston. With all of them, plus our club sponsored thrift store,

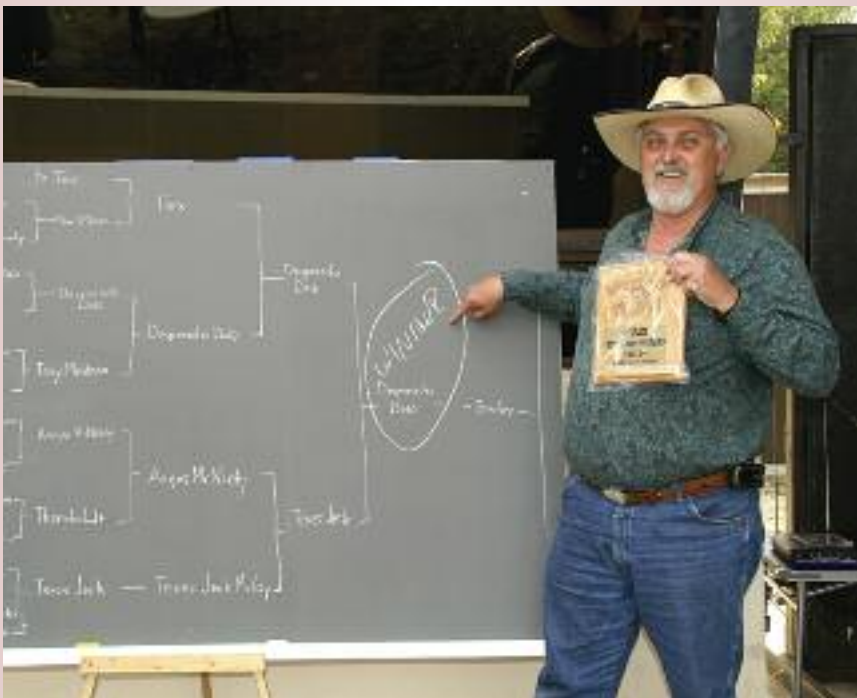
(Continued on next page)



The Gold Coast Gunfight 2010 present Tex with a \$2500 check for the SASS Scholarship fund



**Overall Winners—
Velvet Sheath, SASS #21327, and Preacherman, SASS #20408.**



**Desperado Dale, SASS #25755,
winner of The Quick and the Dead Shootoff**

(Continued from previous page)
and auction items donated by Colonel Dan, SASS #24025, a rig from Black Hills Leather, and a necklace from Carroll's Jewelers, we were able to present Tex with a \$2500 check for the SASS Scholarship fund. Also, a big thank you goes to Side Kick Chick and her students from Nova High School who came out and helped with whatever needed to be done all weekend long.

If you would like to find yourself in South Florida in February 2011 shooting your guns, keep the weekend of the 19th and 20th open. Or, keep in touch at: www.goldcoastgunslingers.com.

You don't want to miss the 2011 Gunfight!

Also, if you happen to see that bad hombre Tex, ask him to tell you the story of how he used a cell phone to fend off a giant alligator! 🐊

**Bonfire, SASS #69461,
was the Lady winner
of the Wild Bunch side
match and took second
place in the Quick
and the Dead Shootoff.**



Winners	
Overall Match Winners	
<i>Man</i>	Preacherman, SASS #20408
<i>Lady</i>	Velvet Sheath, SASS #21327
Categories	
<i>49r</i>	Bullhead Moody, SASS #26319
<i>B-Western</i>	Doc R Green, SASS #77429
<i>Cowboy</i>	Tony Montana, SASS #76669
<i>C Cowboy</i>	Cracker Carl, SASS #21844
<i>Duelist</i>	Texas Jack McCoy, SASS #23899
<i>E Statesman</i>	Regulator Rude, SASS #19615
<i>Frontiersman</i>	Hoosgow Hank, SASS #21444
<i>F Cartridge</i>	Buffalo Brady, SASS #24830
<i>Gunfighter</i>	Tex, SASS #4
<i>L 49r</i>	Savannah Belle, SASS #31452
<i>Cowgirl</i>	Purple Maiden, SASS #84146
<i>L Gunfighter</i>	Bonfire, SASS #69461
<i>L Senior</i>	Buckskin Barb, SASS #25755
<i>L Wrangler</i>	Miss L Fire, SASS #15473
<i>Senior</i>	Jeremiah Longknife, SASS #21326
<i>S Duelist</i>	Amaduelist, SASS #28092
<i>Silver Senior</i>	El Lobo Rojo, SASS #28
<i>Wrangler</i>	Lead Pusher, SASS #46931
Wild Bunch Side Match Winner	
	Texas Jack McCoy, SASS #23899
The Quick and the Dead Shoot Off	
	Desperado Dale, SASS #25755



Agoura Kid, SASS #4738

THE 1ST ANNUAL SADDLE TRAMPS REUNION

By Agoura Kid, SASS #4738



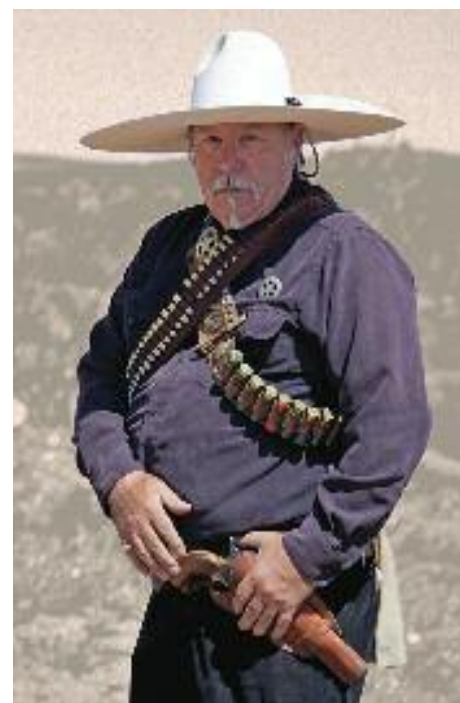
April 23-24, 2010 Cottonwood, Arizona Territory – Doc Lalo, SASS #12054, and I rode our tired horses up into the high country of Camp Verde, Arizona Territory as the pale sun dipped behind the surrounding hills. We were saddle weary and caked with alkali dust from our trip over the Mojave Trail from California. Snowflakes, carried by a cold wind, swirled around us as we pulled our saddles and made camp with a hospitable band of Yavapai-Apache.



ridden in earlier from someplace called the Oklahoma Territories. This news got us fired up, or was it the Tizwin? Anyway, we headed out the door and straight to the corral.

Our horses looked at us skeptically as we approached in such a high humor but, they let us mount anyway. Off we rode to find the camaraderie of our friends who have been scattered across the hills and prairies all these many years. After some poking around and a couple of wrong trails, Doc and I tied off at Los Marquerites' Cantina and Cocina. We walked from the cold night into the warm, lantern lit adobe to find 12 Saddle Tramps swapping lies about the Glory Days of Pala, CA and the North County Shootist Association. They sat around a long

(Continued on next page)



Our spirits were soon lifted by a good soak in the sweat lodge. And, a few glasses of Tizwin took the sore out of our saddle. The anticipation of meeting our old Saddle Tramp pards at a cantina just the other side of town filled our talk as we drank. Overhearing our conversation, a darlin' little Apache gal told us of two other cowboys that had

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to lend some encouragement, and as I pulled alongside the brothers, I saw their faces and knew right there they had taken Kate up on her offer and spent the night in Prescott! Knowing there was no help for what ailed them, I let them be and just figger'd that'd be two cowboys I have a fair chance against at the shootin' match.

We came into the shooting range as a group, Pigpen leading and Handy and Dandy bringing up the drag. The range is in the Coconino National Forest and is the home camp of the Yavapai Rangers. We were welcomed as friends and for the rest of the day enjoyed fine camaraderie. Those Rangers sure can shoot and put on one heck of a match. There were six fast and furious stages and as a special treat, the Saddle Tramps sponsored a 7th optional stage set up like the old days. You know, back when cowboys were cowboys and Brokeback Mountain was a place.

What was I saying? Oh yea ... the Saddle Tramps stage: Two pistols from the hip, rifle targets that required using your front sight to hit, killin' snakes with yer shotgun, and then to finish it off, one round with a Sharps on a tiny little plate waaay out there. You never heard such hootin' and hollerin'. One pard from the Rangers shot it twice he liked it so much!

Worn out from having so much fun under the warm Arizona sun, we cleaned up the range and went to our camps to wash the gunpowder and dust off us. Later we met at Pigpen's, where he put on a great B-B-Q from his new chuck wagon for the Saddle Tramps and the Rangers. I have to tell you, it sure was good to see all these boys come from all over the Territories and take up like they never were all riding different trails. It was kind of sad as everyone said *adios* and made for the great yonder. But I realized as Doc and I mounted up—these ARE the Glory Days.

Special thanks to Lobo Blanco, SASS #3808, Pure Lilly, SASS #6395, and Whisperin Meadows, SASS #56313; hard working, good shootin' members of the Yavapai Rangers. Don't ever miss a chance to shoot with them.

You might be wondering how this reunion came about.

Then again, you might not.

I figured you were ... I spent a week one night at Pigpen's homestead 'cause my horse threw a fuel pump last September and in a nos-

talgie moment we were remembering how much we liked shooting with all our old pards and how it was too bad they were scattered all over the country.

The rest is now history.

Next year we hope to see even more Saddle Tramps, so keep an eye peeled for the wanted dodgers, which I promise will be better distributed.

Match Results: Saddle Tramps don't need no stinkin' match results! YEEEE HAAAA! 🤠

(Continued from previous page)

table filled with food and strong drinks of every description. Don Cisco, SASS #9225, even had one of those new fangled tequila concoctions in a fancy glass that must have come all the way from China. We ate, drank, and told tales of our wanderings until late into the night.

During the meal, the event sponsors, Pigpen Leather, Arizona Territory; Handy's Leather, Oklahoma Territory; dimenovels™, California; and Kate's Place, Prescott, Arizona gave out much appreciated gifts for all the boys.

Pigpen, SASS #1339, who's been homesteading in the valley now for a few years, arranged some shooting fun for us on Saturday morning. So, those of us who have grown wiser over the miles chose to forgo Kate's kind invitation to spend the rest of the night at her place and made it back to our various camps. Good thing Doc's horse is equipped with GPS!

We rose from our bedrolls Saturday morning feeling refreshed after some sorely needed sleep and were greeted by bright, sunny skies. After a good breakfast at the Apacheria, we headed over to Pigpen's homestead to meet the other boys and make the ride to Cottonwood for the shooting affair.

Everyone was rarin' to go and saddled up when Doc and I came through the gate, so off we went at a canter. A couple miles out I noticed Handy, SASS #7754, and his brother Dandy were lagging. I dropped back

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Bad Penny, SASS #1453

Crumlin Sportsmen's Association
3384 Gore Rd.
London, Ontario, Canada
Contact: Valley Boy, SASS #53176
(519) 673-5648 or
mscharf@golden.net

The Crumlin Sportsmen's Association is one beautiful shooting facility.

Five trap fields (one flood lit for night shooting) two skeet fields (one lit), a 25/50 yard blackpowder range, 100/200 yard rifle range, a 25/50 yard outdoor pistol range, a 20 yard indoor pistol range, and a 125 seat banquet hall in the club house. Add to that primitive and utility served camping sites and you have quite a spread. Not bad for a place that started out as a home-base for jackrabbit hunts before it formally became called Crumlin Sportsmen's Association back in 1947!

In keeping with its varmint pestering past, the Cowboy Action Shooting™ club named itself the Prairie Dog Rebels. It held its very first match last year and plans three matches this year.

Valley Boy, SASS #53176, the waddy who started the Prairie Dog Rebels, came by his alias honestly, though it did occasion many a low jest and ribald imitating of California valley girl babble when it was first introduced. He comes from the Ottawa area (near Canada's capital) where the long, hill-shrouded valleys afforded Valley Boy and his 6 mm with its 24X scope an excellent crop of fast-moving ground hogs at 200 and 400 yards.

"I really enjoyed that," he says as the ribald hooting died away to silence. He moved to London, Ontario

BUNKHOUSE BIDNESS

Prairie Dog Rebels

By Bad Penny, SASS #1453



Before and After—after much work, we finally have a nice place to shoot!

(nicknamed The Valley Town), and joined the Crumlin Sportsmen's Association. There he did a little trap, a little rifle, and was shooting bullseye when in 2004 a pard, Clint Chisholm SASS #42877, who had bumped into Cowboy Action Shooting™ at other nearby clubs, asked him to come see what was going on.

"I was shooting a lot of bullseye at the time, and this Cowboy stuff looked like a lot more fun," he recalls. But, he admitted, the outlook didn't look very promising when it came to convincing the folks at Crumlin Sportsman's of that fact. It was going to be hard to explain how a bunch of Stetsoned cowboys with double irons strapped on and calling themselves Wild Bill Hiccup and such would improve the club's social standing with the upper crust. Years before they had banned IPSC from the club—Valley Boy's not quite sure why but hazards a guess the Glock gang "went too far" over "something."

He also knew it took the general membership at an Annual General Meeting to get PPC sanctioned over the objections of the Board of Directors. But such was the discouragement felt by those pistoleers, it kind of "died out," according to Valley Boy, after many left Crumlin for other clubs and there were hardly any PPC shooters left.

This is when Valley Boy turns to you, claps you on the shoulder, sighs wearily and says, "The only advice I'd give anyone starting a Cowboy Action Shooting™ club is: 'Unless you have 50 to 75 per cent of the membership behind you—

forget it!' I have done nothing but fight since 2006."

So why didn't he spend even a second listening to his own advice, let alone taking it?

"Just stubborn, I guess," he says with a grin. "Once I make up my mind, I am bullheaded. I hate it when someone tells me I can't do it. I was determined not to succumb to them. And I knew when they found out how successful it would be, they would like it."

Which echos Texas Ranger McNally's famous statement that says it takes only one man, if he knows he's in the right and keeps on coming, to get even the toughest job done.

In a fitting proof of the above statement, it took yet another six months in convincing the board to pass it, and it did—by one vote!

Now the fun began. Was the budget they set too much or too little to buy steel targets and heighten berms to get the pistol range sanctioned. How about props? Everyone went into mega scrounge mode. Someone knew of a barn being torn down—grab all the wood you can get. Someone else knew someone who had a complete pistol range in his basement. He could shoot .357 magnum down there. But, he was getting on and was moving to a condo, did they want the steel?

"By the time we got the steel out of there I was nearly dead," remembers Valley Boy. "But just last year the Chief Firearms Officer inspected and passed the range for Cowboy Action Shooting™."



Valley Boy can't stop smiling. Cowboy Action Shooting™ is happening at last!

It had taken a ton of work and two years, and if it was not for all the volunteers and help, it would never have happened. It was time for a match, at last—five years after Valley Boy had discovered Cowboy Action Shooting™ for himself. Or was it?

"I heard complaints the pistol targets were too small," he says of the reaction to the first match. They are better now.

"I heard people telling us we should have done this and we should have done that," he says. And some of the vertical long gun staging brackets on somewhat rickety fences were tricky to say the least. That's changed. Unfortunately, so had the economy, and at this year's opening match, attendance figures were down.

(Continued on next page)



EVIL ROY NO LONGER EVIL

By Texas Slick Willy, SASS #53477



Springville, UT – Yes, fellow cowboys; as hard as it may be to believe, Evil Roy, SASS #2883, has changed from his EVIL ways and become one of the GOOD guys! No longer will you see him kicking a dog, tying cats' tails together and throwing them over a clothesline, pushing down helpless old cowboys, or spit-tin' on the sidewalk. Roy has become a true defender of the virtuous, hero to the downtrodden, and defender of truth, justice, and the Cowboy Way. Gone is the Evil black hat, the Evil black shirt and pants, and the Evil snarl on his face. These have all been replaced with purity and goodness. Dressed in all WHITE and singing a happy cowboy tune, you may have a hard time recognizing GOOD ROY. Seldom has such a transformation taken place, but the proof is in the picture.

While the temperature in most of the country was hovering around 80 to 100 degrees, the temperature at shoot time was closer to 60 degrees, and the cool temperature was welcome.

The shoot was attended by many EVIL shooters, including Evil Hobble Creek, Evil Stoneface, Evil J.T., Evil Ace, Evil Moab, Evil 12 Mile, Evil Beaver, Evil Sally, and a host of other Evil shooters. Our first and second place shooters were separated by less than 1/2 second, with the third place shooter only one second behind them. We send a big "thank you" to Evil Roy for providing several Evil Roy training videos that were given away at the shoot to those lucky enough to have their names drawn.

The second annual Evil Roy Shoot, presented by the Hobble Creek Wranglers located in Springville, Utah, was once again a great time for all who attended, but to our utter amazement and surprise, who should show up but the totally transformed GOOD ROY! While all the other shooters were decked out in their finest EVIL Roy duds, the namesake of the shoot showed up dressed in all white. To say the least, you could have knocked us all down with a feather! Just as in our previous Evil Roy Shoot in 2009, all shooters came dressed in black from head to foot, and wearing red suspenders. Since Evil Roy is one of the easiest cowboys to imitate, at least in dress, we thought it would be fun to do something a little different, and it made for an interesting shoot to see everyone dressed alike. It was actually hard to pick out your partners since everyone (except Good Roy) appeared to be the same. Confusion was king, but we managed to work through it, and all who came had a great time.

At the Hobble Creek Wranglers club, the targets are close and big (most of the time) and the shooting is fast and furious, with an occasional twist thrown in to keep everyone on their toes. We welcome new shooters, both young and old, and strive to provide a very positive experience to all who attend. The Wranglers shoot on the second Saturday of the month. Our annual match, The Blackhawk War, takes place the second Saturday in May. (Utah's Black Hawk War (1865-72) is the name of the estimated 150 battles, skirmishes, raids, and killings that happened between Mormon settlers in Sanpete County, Sevier County, and other parts of central and southern Utah, and members of the Ute, Paiute, and Navajo tribes, led by a local Ute chief, Antonga Black Hawk. The conflict resulted in the abandonment of some settlements and postponed Mormon expansion in the region.)

So, if you are ever in North Central Utah just south of Salt Lake City on the second Saturday of the month, posse up and come on down and sling a little lead down range with some of the best cowboys in the country. We'll be looking for you! 🤠



(Continued from previous page)

Valley Boy is a little down, too, and obviously feels vulnerable. Maybe it is time for the cavalry to come charging over the hill blowing bugles.

But, in the blink of an eye, he's bounced back, and he's telling of some steel he's found that is harder and rings louder when hit and of the big turning targets he's having

built out of it and how he likes his stages simple and with few complications. When he starts to chuckle and tells of the shot gunner who came to try out Cowboy Action Shooting™ and who bought two six guns last week—you know he's back swinging and winning.

"I'm getting too old to do 'we'll see what happens,'" he admits. "I'm just hoping it was all worthwhile." 🤠



SHOOT FOR THE CURE

(THINK PINK)

By Ozark Bob, SASS #40028, and Evening Star, SASS #47408

May 8th, 2010 dawned with a threatening sky and intermittent rain but, in the true cowboy/cowgirl spirit, eighty-six shooters registered for the 1st Annual "Shoot for the Cure" hosted by the Thurmont Rangers. By time for the safety brief the skies had begun to clear, and the wind had begun to blow (wind gusts reached 45 mph). And, by match start time flying lead and flying hats were the order of the day!

Planning for the Shoot began in Fall 2009 when Evening Star started assembling cowgirls wanting to get involved with the match. Kiddo Caldwell, SASS #55504, Anita Honey, SASS #57499, Misfire Maggie, SASS #69350, Lena Ockley, SASS #6987, Salty Sal, SASS #34717, Deputy Doran, SASS #66296, Bonnie B. Good, SASS #27711, Tomahawk Teri, SASS #52808, Snap Shot Sandy, SASS #71498, Dang Janner, SASS #86144, Wild Tempest, SASS #83838, Winchester Mariah, SASS #5283, and Sagebrush Sal, SASS #7357, quickly stepped forward, and the flyer for the Shoot went out.

The cowgirls' first decision was all the posse leaders for the Shoot would be cowgirls. Themes for the stages were westerns in which women played leading roles. The cowgirls organized a planning meeting, and the basic layouts for six stages and a team event were written in less than three hours. A couple of the "significant others" attended the planning meeting, but when they offered input on the stages they were told they didn't have the right equipment to offer suggestions. Although they had to be quiet, the cowboys all said they learned a lot about how cowgirls thought about stages from the meeting.

Then, the ladies really went to work, incorporating all the ideas they could for stages. For example, Chance Calico, SASS #54214, thought long and hard about a stage featuring "Cody (Madeleine Stowe)"

from the movie *Bad Girls*. In the end the timer even had a line for this stage, "I'm out of ammo darlin'." To which the shooter threw down a single bullet and replied, "Pick it up and die like a man!" The time the cowgirls spent refining each stage really became apparent when the compliments on stages started pouring in. Although it supported a very serious cause, the Shoot was FUN!

The ladies had lots of help with the Shoot. Chuckaroo, SASS #13080, donated all the shooters badges (pink, what else?). Even though these cowgirls are all RO-II's, Chuckaroo and Cody Conagher, SASS #6986, helped in many ways, making sure the ladies understood how to put posses together, run the computer software, talking through the stages during the walk-through, and being available for "how about" questions all day long. Dice, SASS #21400, thought of a "buy a line" dedication section in the shooter's book (pink pages, of course) and raised almost \$2,000. They voted to make Dice an "Honorary Cowgirl" for the event. Colorado Charlie Utter, SASS #63648, made engraved wooden nickels, which were included in each shooter's pack.

The Thurmont Conservation and Sportsman's Club, home to the Thurmont Rangers was a virtual "sea of pink" on the day of the shoot. There were pink targets (brilliant pink paint donated by the local Home Depot), pink hats, pink shirts, pink glad rags and pink arm garters (Madam Mischief's Millinery sold hand made wild rag and arm garter sets and donated half of her proceeds to the shoot), pink skirts, pink boas and even pink cowboy boots. Needless to say the cowboys and cowgirls went all out in dressing for the Shoot. Congratulations to Geronimo Jim, SASS #21775, the actual and "Honorary First Place" winner and to Cody Conagher and Lena Ockley, winners of the Team Event!

Keeping in mind this was a charity event, the ladies worked hard to

make sure every penny of our normal \$10 entry fee would go to defeat breast cancer. To supplement the proceeds there was a "buy a miss" for \$5 (maximum of six), "Honorary First Place" for \$100, and "Clean Match" \$50 Certificates could be purchased. While we were waiting for the scores to be tabulated a 50/50 raffle was held. Deputy Doran gra-

ciously donated the winnings for her significant other, Jack U Mist, SASS #65183. When the checks had all been received \$6,455 was donated to the Susan G. Komen organization for breast cancer research.

Now it's the cowboys' turn. A charity match supporting the John Wayne Cancer Institute will be held September 12, 2010. Cowboy up! 🤠



Pink was in evidence EVERYWHERE at this very successful charity event dedicated to defeating breast cancer.

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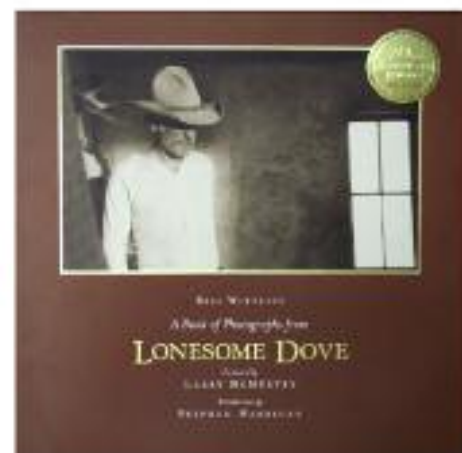
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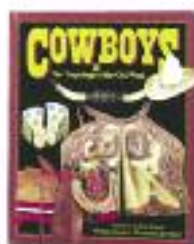
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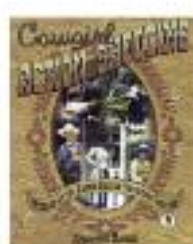
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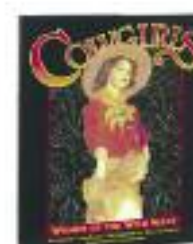
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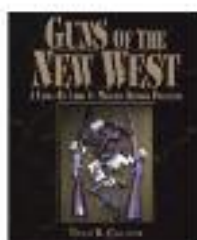
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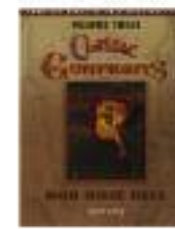
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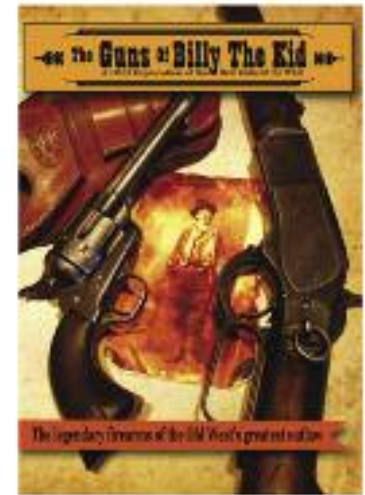


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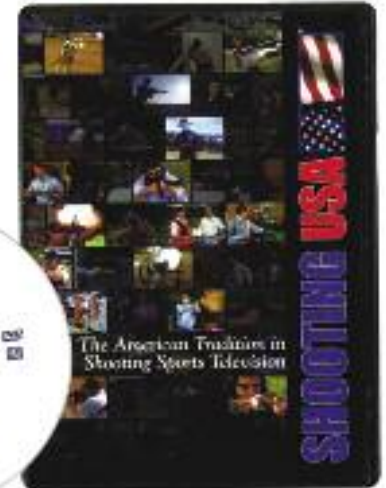
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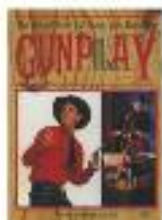
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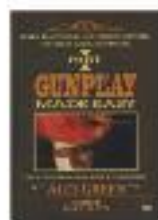
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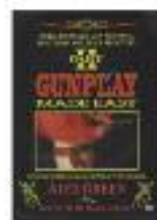
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COPS VS. COWBOYS 2010

By Boggus Deal, SASS #64218

Founders Ranch - Edgewood, NM - It's going to be a shootout right out of the Old West! Cops against the Lawdogs! This time, though, it's for a good cause. October 16th at Founders Ranch in Edgewood, NM hosted by the Buffalo Range Riders®, Single Action Shooting Society®, and Founders Ranch will be the 2nd annual Cops vs. Cowboys Shootout benefiting the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation. There will be six stages of Cowboy Action shot in traditional SASS fashion with the cops shooting their duty firearms at paper targets instead of steel.

At the first match in October 2009, about 30 cops shot it out with 55 cowboys raising over \$2,000 for the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation. Long Hunter, SASS #20389, from Hartley, TX won the match for the cowboys with Officer Jared Millinazzo coming in second. Comparing the top ten shooters from each side, the cowboys won by about 1000 seconds!

Eight different law enforcement agencies were represented from all over New Mexico, including city,

county, and state police departments. There was also one officer from California and one from Texas.

Several clubs around the country hold this type of charity match. Some include the Thurmont Rangers of Ashton, MD, which benefits fallen firefighters and law enforcement officers, Hobble Creek Wranglers of Springville, UT, benefiting the Special Olympics, and the Picacho Posse of Las Cruces, NM, which benefits local battered women's shelters and rape crisis centers.

Fast Hammer, SASS #60707, who runs the Picacho Posse's match, has been hosting it for four years. He said one of the reasons for success is the cowboys design two of the four stages and the cops design the other two. This lets both sides experience their different types of shooting. Fast Hammer's match raised over \$4500 for the two local charities. Part of his entry fee is to have the shooters bring a non-perishable food item, which is then turned over to either of the two charities they are helping.

Hopefully other clubs around the country will follow the lead and organize these types of charity shoots. And,



We had a good turn-out last year and are hoping for even better this year. Rumor has it the Cops are bringing in some "hired guns!"



Long Hunter was the fastest cowboy and the quickest overall at last year's Founders Ranch Cops & Cowboys Match.



Pssst! I heard the cowboys talking ... the secret to this game is to shoot the targets REAL fast ... and not miss!

if you happen to be around Founders Ranch October 16th, 2010, join us for the 2nd Annual Buffalo Range Riders Cops vs. Cowboys Shootout for the Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation.

Rumor has it the cops are bringing in some hot-shot shooters to try to even up the score with the cowboys. We have to hold up our reputation. We can't let them win!

Entry fee is \$30 with lunch included. Mandatory shooters meeting 9:00 am, and shooting starts at 9:45 am.

For more information, contact the SASS office at 1-877-433-SASS.

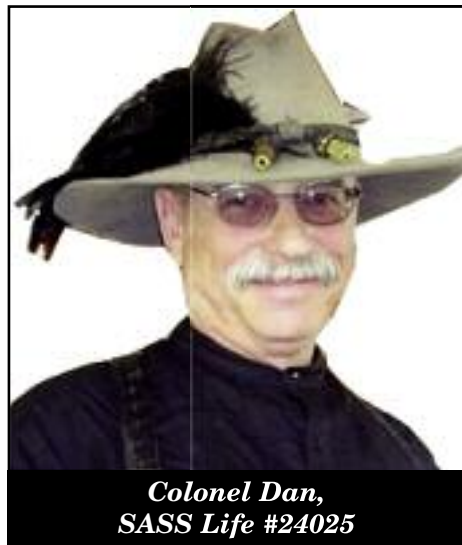


SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS ANNUAL MATCHES

Match Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	State	Match Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	State
SASS Indiana State Wild Bunch Championship	Jul 24 - 25, 10	Padre PW	260-414-1098	Jonesboro	IN	Billy The Kid's Breakout	Aug 13 - 15, 10	John Steele	575-937-3023	Ruidoso	NM
Hoosier Ambush	Jul 30 - 01, 10	Yaro	303-646-3777	Ramah	CO	SASS Maryland State Black Powder Championship	Aug 15 - 15, 10	Cash Caldwell	240-285-7673	Thurmont	MD
Shaketails Annual	Jul 30 - 01, 10	Mac Traven	570-723-8885	Wellsboro	PA	SASS High Plains Territorial Black Powder Shootout	Aug 18 - 21, 10	Jubal O. Sackett	801-944-3444	Salt Lake City	UT
Ambush at Hickory Ridge	Jul 30 - 01, 10					Shootout at Pawnee Station	Aug 20 - 22, 10	Red River Wrangler	970-225-0545	Wellington	CO
SASS Washington State Championship	Jul 31 - 02, 10	The Elder Katie	253-946-1438	Renton	WA	Squinty Eye Western Shoot	Aug 20 - 22, 10	Wagonmaster	218-744-4694	Virginia	MN
Westmatch XVII	Jul 31 - 02, 10					SASS Oregon State Championship Shootout at Saddle Butte	Aug 20 - 22, 10	Mid Valley Drifter	541-259-2774	Albany	OR
SASS WILD BUNCH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP and Cowboy Action Match	Aug 05 - 08, 10	SASS Office	505-843-1320	Founders Ranch	NM	Montana Territorial Shootout	Aug 21 - 22, 10	Bocephus Bandito	406-439-4476	Boulder	MT
SASS New Mexico and Texas Mounted Championship	Aug 05 - 08, 10	SASS Office	505-843-1320	Founders Ranch	NM	Fire In The Hills	Aug 27 - 29, 10	Tracker Jack Daniels	715-643-2011	Boyceville	WI
Sagebrush Rebellion	Aug 06 - 08, 10	Chief Wages	530-257-3402	Susanville	CA	Badger Mountain Range War	Aug 28 - 29, 10	El Gato Gordo	719-683-6713	Lake George	CO
SASS Iowa State Championship	Aug 06 - 08, 10	Range Mathias Fischels	319-234-1550	Elk Run Heights	IA	Legends of the West	Aug 28 - 29, 10	Bojack	760-956-8852	Devore	CA
Ambush on the Prairie	Aug 06 - 08, 10					Western Legends	Aug 28 - 29, 10	Autum Rose	435-644-5053	Kanab	UT
SASS Alaska State Blackpowder Shootout	Aug 07 - 07, 10	Four Bucks	907-243-0781	Anchorage	AK	Last Blast of Summer	Aug 28 - 28, 10	Yankee	781-383-9799	Scituate	MA
Smoke in the Greatland	Aug 07 - 07, 10					Monument Springs Bushwhacker Annual Fandango	Aug 28 - 29, 10	Val Darrant	575-370-0650	Hobbs	NM
SASS Idaho State Championship	Aug 11 - 15, 10	John Bear	208-562-1914	Boise	ID	Showdown at Fort Tioga	Aug 28 - 29, 10	Dusty Drifter	607-659-3819	Candor	NY
Reckoning at Blacks Creek	Aug 11 - 15, 10										
SASS MIDWEST REGIONAL Guns of August	Aug 12 - 15, 10	Deadwood Stan	513-894-3500	Middletown	OH						

To update your SASS Affiliated Club Listing please contact Prairie Mary ph: (877) 411-7277 email: mary@sassnet.com

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Colonel Dan,
SASS Life #24025

THE QUESTION OF UN TREATIES

By Colonel Dan, SASS Life / Regulator #24025

An email has been circulating recently over which many have expressed serious concern. It reports President Obama has found a way around the Second Amendment by having Hillary Clinton sign on to a UN treaty that ultimately bans private ownership of firearms. Now if he does have such a scheme in mind, or even if this is just a trial balloon intended to gauge public reaction, it certainly demands our attention. However, as the NRA has stated in an email to its membership, "We continue to receive numerous inquiries regarding UN international treaties and their impact on our Second Amendment rights. The latest rumor making its way around the Internet claims Secretary of State Hillary Clinton actually signed a UN small arms treaty. Contrary to this widely circulated e-mail, Hillary Clinton has not signed any small arms treaty. She could not have done so, in fact, because no such treaty has yet been negotiated. As we noted in an update from last November, the UN Arms Trade Treaty will be drafted between now and 2012, and even if signed, would not take effect in the U.S. until it was ratified by the Senate. Please rest assured, as we said in November, NRA will be actively involved in this process and will oppose any treaty that would attempt to impose limits on our Second Amendment rights. In the meantime, we urge gun owners to follow this issue in NRA's magazines and NRA-ILA's Grassroots Alerts. We also urge gun owners not to circulate misinformation on this issue."

Here's my understanding of UN treaties. No Secretary of State or President can unilaterally commit or legally bind the U.S. to any UN treaty.

Two primary issues apply here.

Number 1, two thirds of the Senate must ratify any such proposed accord before it attains lawful status even if it were the President himself who signed on to it. For example; Woodrow Wilson signed an agreement that would have established a League of Nations after WW-I, but when our Senate rejected it, Wilson's dream died ... until the United Nations was unfortunately created after WW-II that is!

This brings me to #2. Constitutionally, the U.S. cannot legally enter into any such treaty or agreement that violates our Constitution, as this one clearly would—a point the NRA, to my great concern, omitted in the above quote. Per Article VI, clause 2 (The Supremacy Clause) "This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the land." "Under the authority of the United States ..." is the key phrase. It is solely the Constitution that gives authority to the United States government. The Constitution is the highest law of the land and anything—law, agreement, or treaty—must abide by its provisions first and foremost, or it has no legal status and no legal authority in this country ... period. That is my understanding of this question, but admittedly, I'm no legal scholar.

Given a man must know his limitations, I consulted a highly regarded and much respected legal mind who humbly wishes to remain anonymous due to his visible position of responsibility. I asked him to address this issue so that we, the untrained masses of SASS, could better understand it. Below is his response, based not only on the Constitution, but since progressives prefer settled case

law over the Constitution, he cites that as well:

"It appears to be reasonably-well settled Constitutional law that treaties (whether those formally ratified by the Senate or executive agreements) cannot abrogate the individual liberties protected by the Bill of Rights.

The leading case is Reid v. Covert, (1957) 354 US 1. Mrs. Covert, a civilian, was convicted without a jury by a military tribunal of murdering her serviceman husband in Great Britain. The authority of the tribunal was based on an agreement with the British government that provided the American military courts with exclusive jurisdiction over crimes allegedly committed by American military personnel or their dependents. Writing for the majority, Justice Hugo Black indicated "no agreement with a foreign nation can confer power on the Congress or on any other branch of Government, that is free from the restraints of the Constitution." (354 US at p. 16, and "This Court has regularly and uniformly recognized the supremacy of the Constitution over a treaty" (354 US at p. 17). The agreement with Great Britain could not abrogate Mrs. Covert's right to trial by jury. Therefore, her non-jury conviction could not stand. Likewise, property of an American citizen in Austria could not be seized without compensation, notwithstanding the authorization of an executive agreement. The Court of Claims indicated "there can be no doubt an executive agreement, not being a transaction that is even mentioned in the Constitution, can impair constitutional rights." Seery v. United States (1955) 127 F.Supp 601, 606.

The Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms is an individual liberty protected by the Bill of Rights. District of Columbia v.

Heller, (2008) 554 US 290.

Thus, while the validity of a treaty or executive agreement purporting to completely disarm law-abiding Americans in America has not been squarely tested, it seems unlikely such a provision would survive constitutional scrutiny."

Now, will the Obama administration be deterred by Constitutional law or prior rulings of the Supreme Court? They haven't thus far. Will they attempt to further their agenda by whatever means possible? I believe that's a sure bet. This is why the elections of 2010 and 2012 are so important. We must do all we can to stop this intentional destruction of America by giving Obama a Senate that can and will have the principled fortitude to thwart such schemes. After that, we've got to continually pressure the opposition party to take non-negotiable stands on such actions.

We must tell the President, our Senators, Representatives, and all aspiring candidates in no uncertain terms if they think they can pull this one over on America by some nefarious end run through the United Nations aimed at circumventing our Constitution, they'd better reconsider. History has repeatedly shown where the prohibition of private gun ownership leads, and this traditionalist segment of America won't be buying what Obama would be selling. We're having none of it ... period; end of argument—such is the view from my saddle, and I'd venture to say, those of like minded Americans who make up the majority of SASS.

* * * * *

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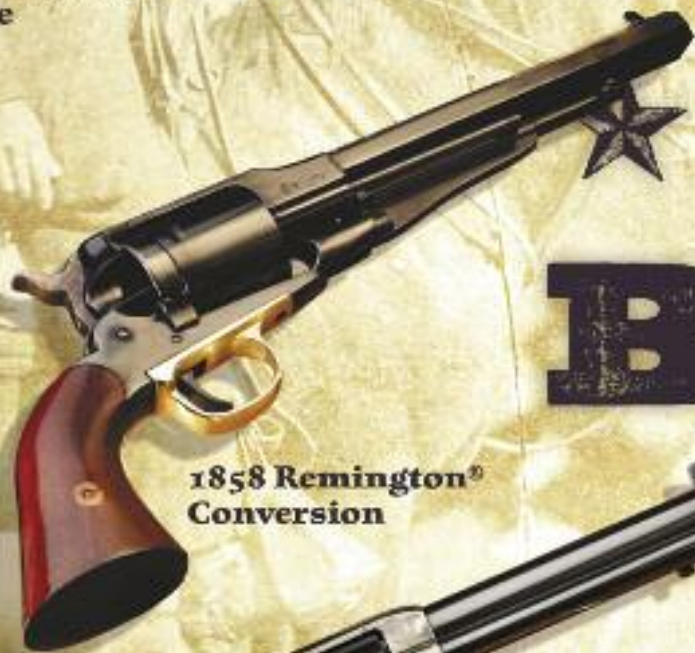
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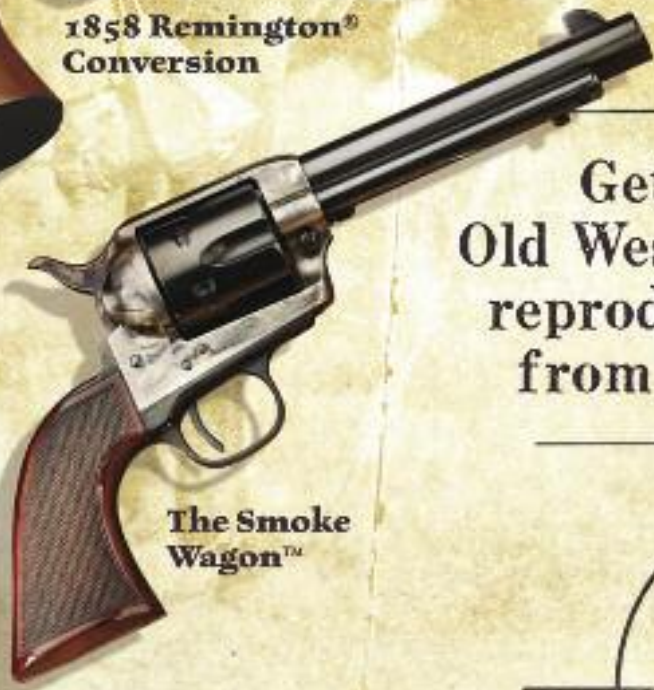
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