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 (See page 43)



Happy New Year!

The Cowboy Chronicle

The Monthly Journal of the Single Action Shooting Society®

Vol. 25 No. 1

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January 2012

GUNS OF AUGUST

11-14 August 2011

SASS Midwest Regional Championship and SASS Mounted Shooting Midwest Regional Championship

By Col (Ret) Fletch O'Dubois III, SASS #14224

Middletown, OH – Well Pard, This year's Guns of August lived up to its billing as the premier Cowboy Action Shooting™ event of the year in the Midwest. For those not familiar with it, Guns of August is the Regional Single Action Shooting Society competition that has been held the second week of August every year for the past 14 years. It draws contestants from all over the USA and even brings in a strong contingent of our Canadian neighbors to the north as well. This year the Big Irons Rangers and Heartland Peacemakers Mounted Shooters sponsored the event. Mounted Shooters led the opening ceremonies with some



There was a full lineup of shooting events at this year's Guns of August! In addition to the main match, there was a blackpowder match, Plainsman, Wild Bunch, and side matches galore! They even provided Pale Rider Gunfighter Category (full load blackpowder rounds, .40 caliber or larger)! As always, shooting into the tree-covered arroyo treats everyone to a show of fire, smoke, and brimstone!

perfect shooting weather! Over 200 shooters amassed at the Middletown Sportsman's Club in Middletown, Ohio for this event. It kicked off on Wednesday, 11 August, with early registration and a SASS Range Officer training course. "True Grit," the classic western movie, was the theme for this year's event, and Seven Mile Tom did a superb job in developing the shooters handbook to meld his humorous western cowboy information with the stage design. Dun Gotta Gun Doug and his family assisted with the stage stories.

Day two included all the side matches, which ranged from speed pistol, speed shotgun, and speed rifle to some long-range events like the Quigley Pail Event. To give you a feel for the speed and accuracy of some of the competitors, Col McAllister was able to shoot 10 shots from his lever action rifle in 4.7 seconds (no, that's not a misprint), and Mad River Monty was able to draw two pistols and fire ten rounds on target in 2.49 seconds—WOW! Mounted Shooters were also on hand, and watching them maneuver the arena while

(Continued on page 28)

of these shooters running two of the Single Action stages on the cowboy range in pursuit of the "All Around Cowboy" title.

The day broke with a wisp of

clouds and a gentle breeze. Deadwood Stan must have done his anti-rain dance as our weather forecaster predicted mid-80s and no rain for the rest of the week ...

SASS Cowboy Chronicle

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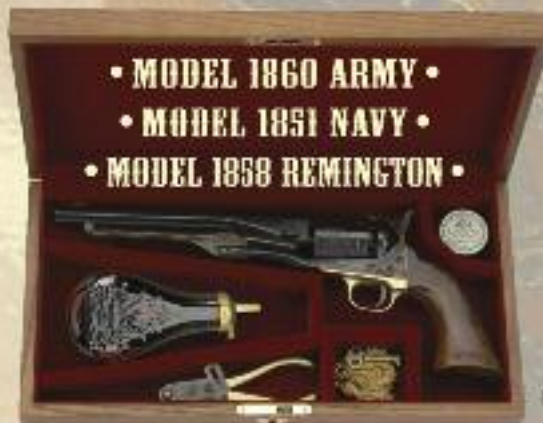
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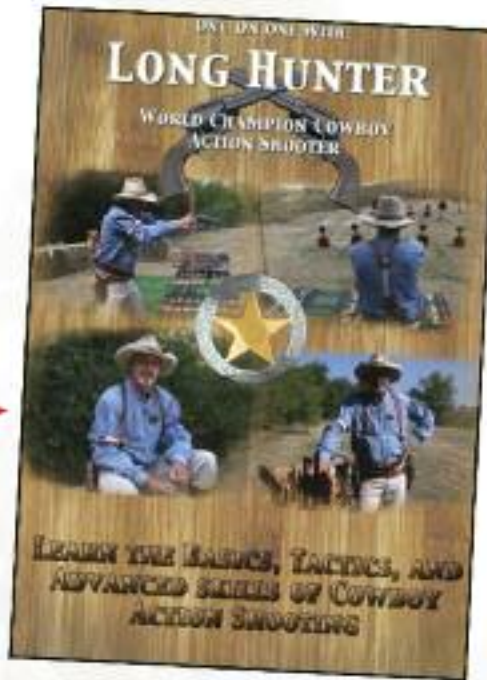
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The Cowboy Chronicle



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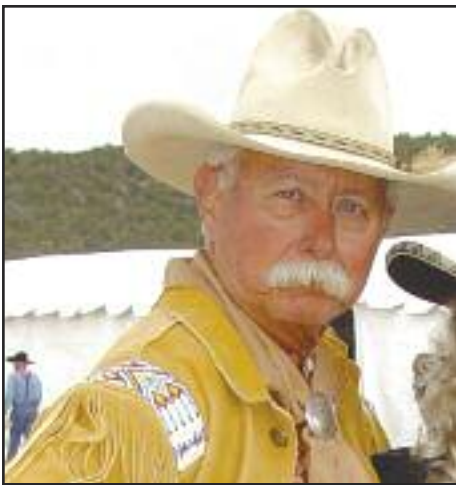
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SASS Clubs Administrator, Slipnoose, is seen here preparing "care packages" for our SASS members currently deployed overseas with the US Armed Forces. In addition to candies, gum, and the like, several SASS Mercantile items are included as well as donations from Dillon Precision, Action Target, and Dawson City Dave, SASS #79478. Way to go! These packages will surely be appreciated!

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

THE GOVERNORS SPEAK ... AGAIN

By Tex, SASS #4

makes life difficult for the Governors is the fact there is no one "right" answer to many of the questions. A "yes" vote changes things and has a long-term effect. Similarly, a "no" vote also has long term implications ... the question is which set of implications is best for SASS and best for the game we play? The answers often become as much a question of philosophy, vision, and policy as they are of what's right or wrong, fair or unfair. The results are LONG discussions where both sides of a proposition are debated and discussed, often with strong feelings and emotions on both sides. So long as satisfying the

desires of the membership and the needs of the organization are the ultimate objective, everything is fine ... if propositions or the decisions appear to become self-serving, it creates discontent among the members (and the other Governors)!

As a reminder, the role of the Territorial Governor is to bring the attitudes, feelings, and issues from the membership to the Wild Bunch and to the Summit ... AND to take the message of the Wild Bunch and the Summit back to the members. The Governors facilitate communication between SASS and the membership—and the communication flows both ways. It's important for

a Governor to understand how his or her club feels on particular issues ... but it's also important for the Governor to ensure his or her constituents are knowledgeable about the issues. It's woefully inadequate to simply ask for a straw vote a few days before heading to the Summit. It's important to explain why the question is being asked, what's the long term impact of both a "yes" and a "no" vote, and, perhaps, even offer a recommendation to the members.

At the Summit, it's fine for a Governor to establish an initial position based upon what his constituents have expressed, but after participating in the discussions and amending the propositions, the Governor is expected to be experienced enough to make any necessary changes to his position and vote accordingly. When the Governors vote, only those propositions that pass overwhelmingly (2/3s in favor) are accepted.

Conservative, steadfast, and consistent—all are admirable qualities, especially in this day and age where there are few standards, no absolutes, and everything is "situational." There has been a view for the past few years—no new rules, no new categories. The Governors have been entirely consistent—voting "no" on virtually every proposition brought before them ... and basically did so again this year!

The Territorial Governor's Las Vegas Summit 2011 is now history. Governors, new and old, met to wrestle with the latest set of SASS questions and potential rule changes. In spite of what many may think, this is not an easy job, or one that is taken lightly. The Governors control the "rules of the game," and what they decide is important.

One of the things that often

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Refusing to accommodate change does, indeed, keep things “the way they are” ... but another way of looking at it is it stifles creativity, innovation, and disallows needed change. To paraphrase—if something is not evolving and growing, it’s dieing.

So, how did things go at this year’s Summit?

Issue #1. Must a shooter finish a match in order to receive any awards? Finish means cannot miss shooting two or more stages.

After lengthy and heartfelt discussion and debate, the vote was 83% in favor of requiring a shooter to finish the match to earn an award. It passed!

Issue #2. Should shooters be required to shoot categories *only* in their respective age brackets?

After lengthy debate, much of it obviously ignoring the inherent philosophy of the original rule, the proposition was defeated (only 39% in favor). Arguments alleging the present system is unfair to younger shooters (!) and we need to prevent unscrupulous folks from “jumping categories” just before a match for competitive advantage were wisely swept aside. The age-based brackets are to protect the *older* shooters from the younger shooters ... *if* the older shooter wishes to be protected. One can still shoot in any category for which one qualifies.

Issue #3. Should there be an “Open” Category?

This proposition was particularly confusing ... sort of a solution looking for a problem. One notion was to have a category where only the “hot dogs” would play (if you want to win Overall, you better be in the Open Category ...), which was a failed concept 20 years ago! Another interpretation was it would be a category where anything goes (so long as SASS rules apply ...). This proposition was also turned down (only 46% were in favor).

Issue #4. Are the B-Western costume restrictions too limiting for the ladies?

There were simply too many folks (men and women) who apparently believe the only appropriate B-Western ladies were those who played starring roles in the Wild West shows like Buffalo Bill’s and the 101 Ranch. Obviously there were more than just the silver screen heroes in the movies ... and it wasn’t just the ladies. None of the Bonanza crew qualifies as B-Western either! (See page 18 of this issue.) In the end, there was support for expanding the rules for the B-Western ladies, but not enough. Only 64% favored the proposition.

Issue #5. Should the present category system be modified as proposed? (i.e., Add a couple of cate-

gories, recognize additional age-based brackets, and drop several under-represented ladies’ categories, retaining a list of 32 categories.)

After several years of rhetoric to retain the 32 existing categories (“no more categories!”) a reasonable (but perhaps flawed) proposal was put of the floor to accommodate a few additional badly needed categories and begin dealing with the aging of our membership base. The notion of dropping some of the under-populated ladies’ categories (they’re ALL under populated when compared to the regular categories BECAUSE there is a corresponding ladies’ category for every regular category, and women constitute only 25% of our membership base) was not well received. No one was willing to compromise, and the ladies’ categories, led by Grand Dame, were all added back into the mix. The number of categories instantly went from 32 to 40! Then real trouble set in. Many did not like the idea of additional categories, period. Most were not willing to give up ladies or favorite categories. A significant number did not like the idea of requiring a minimum number in a category in order to honor it at a match. A vocal group was not willing to let the match directors off with simply providing certificates or modest prizes for winners—major matches should give major awards to its winners. And, to do nothing leaves things the way they are where already there are a significant number of people (and growing) who are disallowed from shooting with their peers ... a situation the Governors decided a few years ago was of paramount importance. Once again, in the end, there was a majority support for change, but not enough agreement on what that change should be. Only 52% voted in favor of the amended proposition.

Conclusion

Issue #5 is, perhaps, the most significant of the items tabled this year. Arguments that changing or eliminating what we have now is “unfair” to some of the existing categories doesn’t carry much weight when one recognizes what we have now is “unfair” to many presently disenfranchised competitors. Match Directors cannot afford to provide wonderful trophies for literally dozens of potential shooting categories. Are we a competitive sport where one *should* compete against several “peer” competitors to win an award, or are we simply a wonderful recreational pastime where “everyone is a winner?” Change is absolutely required ... the only question is what that change should be. 🐶

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Civil War Heritage Preservation

The North-South Skirmish Association held its 124th National Competition October 7-9, 2011 at Fort Shenandoah near Winchester, Virginia. Member units competed in live-fire matches with original or authentic reproduction Civil War period muskets, carbines, breech loading rifles, revolvers, mortars, and cannons. It is the largest Civil War event of its kind in the country.

The 8th Virginia Infantry won the musket match with a time of



Members of the 17th Virginia Infantry compete during the carbine match at the North-South Skirmish Association's 124th National Competition. The 17th won the match with an outstanding time of 311.3 seconds for the five-event program. The N-SSA's 125th National Competition is scheduled for May 18-20, 2012.

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423.4 seconds for the five event program, besting the second place 111th OVI by a mere eight tenths of a second! A total of 215 eight-member teams participated in this N-SSA signature competition. In the carbine team matches, the 17th Virginia Infantry bested 164 other companies and won the gold. The 17th Virginia Infantry also won the revolver competition, and the 8th Virginia Infantry also won the smoothbore musket match. The breech loading rifle competition was won by the 2nd Maryland Artillery (CSA), and the single shot rifle match was won by the 149th Pennsylvania Infantry.

In the artillery competitions, 47 guns participated in the cannon matches. The winners included the 3rd Maryland Artillery (#1 Battery) in the smoothbore class; the 3rd U.S. Artillery (Galloway's Battery) in the rifled class; the 3rd U.S. Artillery (Kurdt's Battery) in the howitzer class, and the 15th Independent Battery, Ohio Light Artillery in the rifled howitzer class. Completing the artillery competition was the 3rd U.S. Artillery (Well's Battery) holding off 54 other competitors to win the mortar match.

In the special Civil War Sesquicentennial All-Star three-stake match, the Potomac Region defeated the other 12 N-SSA regions' teams by breaking all three stakes with musket fire in just 90 seconds!

The N-SSA has 3,200 individuals that make up its 200 member units. Each represents a Civil War unit or regiment and proudly wears the uniform they wore over 150 years ago.

The 125th National Competition is scheduled for May 18-20, 2012 at Fort Shenandoah. For more information about the N-SSA, contact Public Information Officer, Bruce Miller, at (248) 258-9007 or spartan70@sbcglobal.net or visit our web site at: www.n-ssa.org.

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By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375

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SASS will provide (at no charge) the parking space—probably on Row 7 next to all the Dancing Girls! Raffle winners will be required to sign and abide

by Camping/RV Rules and purchase water refills and pay for sewage dump, if needed. Winners will pick up camping and car passes with their registration—all this for \$20 a chance (or five tickets for \$100). Get your group together and share the cost of purchasing raffle tickets!

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Realizing time is of the essence, raffle tickets can be purchased immediately on the SASS Website at:

<http://www.sassnet.com/chapel/index.php>

Also realizing non-winners will need time to book accommodations, the cut-off date for the sale of raffle tickets is May 1st with notification to the winning party immediately afterward ... so move quickly! Get your group together and purchase tickets now. By golly, you're a Daisy if ya do! 🐣

Ruger Media Update

Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. is proud to announce the new Ruger LCP® and LC9™ pistols equipped with LaserMax CenterFire™ lasers. Now the same award-winning LCP and LC9 pistols are available from the factory fitted with a trigger-guard-mounted LaserMax CenterFire red diode laser.

“We are very excited about the introduction of the LCP and LC9 with the LaserMax CenterFire lasers,” said Chris Killoy, Ruger Vice President of Sales and Marketing. “Our customers have made these two pistols some of the most popular concealed carry firearms in the nation, and we're happy to provide more options in this product line by incorporating durable LaserMax CenterFire lasers into factory production models. For those who prefer a firearm with a laser, this combination can't be beat,” he concluded.

The new LCP and LC9 pistols both feature a LaserMax CenterFire trigger-guard-mounted laser with ambidextrous on/off switch. The laser can be adjusted for both

windage and elevation, and can be removed easily with an Allen wrench (included). These rugged, reliable pistols are polymer-framed, hammer-fired, double-action only pistols, and both have won the Shooting Industry Academy of Excellence “Handgun of the Year” award. The LCP is chambered in .380 Auto and has a capacity of 6+1 rounds. The LC9, which is available for sale in all 50 states, is chambered in 9mm Luger and has a capacity of 7+1 rounds. Both pistols are designed for snag free carry in a pocket or holster, and come with both flat bottom and finger groove extension magazine buttplates that can be changed to accommodate the shooter's preference.

For more information on the new Ruger LCP and LC9 LaserMax CenterFire laser pistols, or to learn more about the extensive, award-winning line of Ruger firearms, visit **Ruger.com** or **Facebook.com/Ruger**. To find accessories for the LCP, LC9, and other Ruger firearms, visit **ShopRuger.com**. 🐣

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The "Declamation Day at the Seven Rivers Regulators' 9th Annual Shooting Shindig" match report was missing a category in the awards section. The winner of the Classic Cowboy category was Val Darrant, SASS #39689."👉



Seven Rivers Regulators President, Mike D. Harkey, SASS #36762, presents the Classic Cowboy award to Val Darrant, SASS #39689, at the Seven Rivers Regulators' Annual "Shooting Shindig" on May 20, 2011.



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BOB MUNDEN'S OUTRAGEOUS SHOOTING DVD

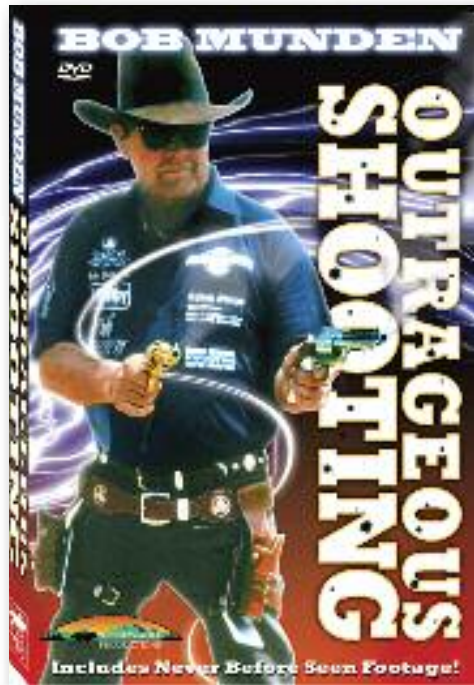
Now, including footage Never Seen Before, here are decades of *Fast Draw* and *Incredible Exhibition Shooting* with *Outstanding Instructional Demonstrations*, *Vintage Fast Draw* footage—plus a segment captured on 8mm film showing Bob Munden (a.k.a. Bad Bob, SASS #118) setting one of his many world Fast Draw records.

EXTRA FEATURE: Bob in his shop doing his unmatched, Option #1 Six-Gun Magic custom gun work on a single-action revolver from start to finish.

OUT•RA•GEOUS *adj:* highly unusual or unconventional; remarkable

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2. I Can Shoot
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 8. Live Ammo Exhibition at END of TRAIL
 9. Becky Munden Interview
 10. The Mover
 11. 1911 x 2
 12. Pop Bottles
 13. Long Distance
 14. Aerial
 15. Single Action Action
 16. Aspirin
 17. Bob and Becky Team Shooting
 18. Cigarettes
 19. Credits over Bonus Scene
- Premiered in historic Butte, Montana.
Running time: 122 min
English subtitles for the hearing



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"Bob's Shooting is utterly amazing." For people who like shooting, this DVD is "entertaining and informative." — **Phil Spangenberg**, Contributing editor for *True West* and *Guns & Ammo* magazines.

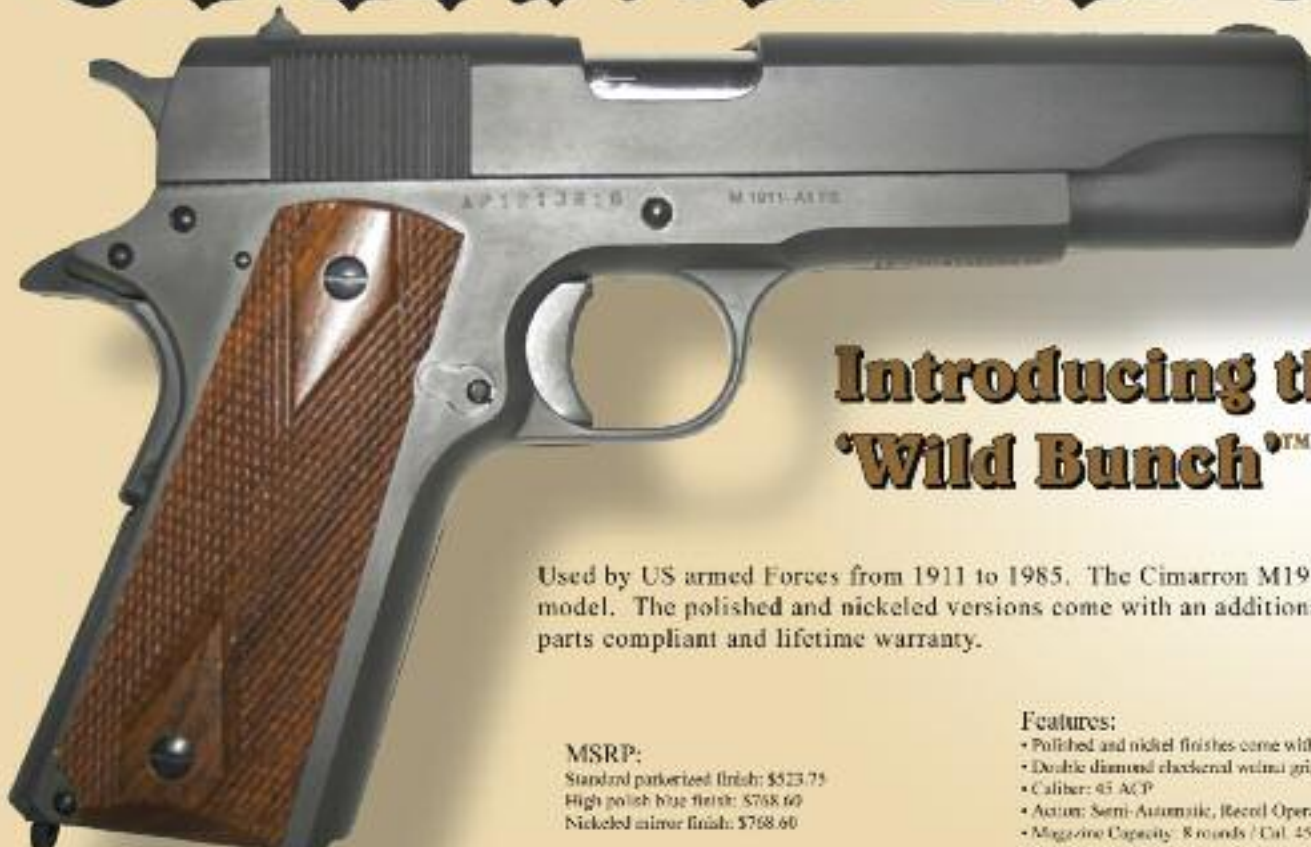
"This DVD combines Bob's legendary feats of marksmanship with fascinating vintage footage from the Golden Years of Fast Draw competition. No shooting library is complete without this DVD!" — **Tame Bill**, SASS #30699 Life/Regulator

"Amazing shooting from an amazing man ... the history section alone is worth the effort!" — **Gregg Townsley**, Area 6 Vice-Chairman, WFDA

"There are some people out there who don't think Bob did anything in Fast Draw, and there he is doing it and winning all kinds of trophies." — **John Taffin**, Gun Writer

Other reviewer comments ...
Barbara C., Butte, MT
My house was like a feeding frenzy when I brought the DVD home. I
(Continued on next page)

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Bob Munden's Outrageous Shooting DVD . . .

(Continued from previous page)

thought I might be trampled by my own grown sons. There is no one else out there like you. You are amazing!

Burak S., Turkey

I received *Bob Munden: Outrageous Shooting* DVD yesterday and watched it three times last night. Thanks for this great documentary.

Mathew P., Grafton, VA

First of all, the overall professionalism wowed me—the fades, the cuts, the clever graphics that separate sections. Bob is an especially funny man. Reminds me of Jonathan Winters as well as a friend of mine who grew up in rural Virginia—same kind of rapid fire, expressive confidence. So down to earth. Bob is a natural entertainer, as is Becky. They're so comfortable together in front of the camera, which makes watching them all the more enjoyable. My favorite section? Wooo ... they're all engaging and have a special attraction. The *home*

movie part was my favorite of them all. I could just see Bob and Becky sitting in front of a fireplace watching those old scenes, chatting about them.

Holly M., Missoula, MT

After watching the DVD I am telling everyone I know to buy copies for their family members and friends. Bob is too cool.

Liane M., Madisonville, TX

Watching *Bob Munden: Outrageous Shooting*, I just sat there the whole time with my mouth open.

Vic S., Northern Ireland

Received your new DVD today. WOW, love it! You are a comedian, Bob, you should be on the stage ... the next one out of town ... LOL!

Kam M., Carthage, IL

Just got done watching the *OUTRAGEOUS SHOOTING* DVD. Awesome is not the word for it, as it does not do it justice. It is not expressive enough a word.

James W., Merced, CA

Great DVD, Bob! Can't stop watching it! 🤠

Louisiana and SASS Make Great Partners In Recreation!

By Lily Grey, SASS #77190



Louisiana Slim'—designed and constructed by Rambling Grey, SASS #76053, of the "Up the Creek Gang."

The Louisiana Recreation and Parks Association (LRPA) will be highlighting SASS at their Annual Conference, (<http://www.lrpa.net/Conference/LCon12Reg.pdf>) being held in Lake Charles, Louisiana this coming January 29th thru 31st, 2012, and the Members of LRPA will earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for attending.

An awesome opportunity awaits our SASS members, as well as attending members of the LRPA, when they arrive in Lake Charles for the Conference. Not only will they be greeted "at the Range" by several local "Up the Creek Gang" and "Orange County Regulators" members, they will be treated to the history of SASS as well as go through a condensed version of the Gun Safety Course our SASS members follow.

Of course, what would SASS be without the shooting?

A special "Stage" will be set up providing an opportunity to shoot "quick draw" with "Louisiana Slim" as well as a couple of the Gang's regular stages.

Any and all SASS members traveling in the Southwest Louisiana region are welcome to attend this event. Be sure to come in shooting duds and be prepared to greet the LRPA with a resounding Cowboy Greeting! 🤠



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Sign in starting at 7:30 A. M.
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 Main Match Starts at 11:00 A. M.
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Match Info - Rowdy Hand 435-637-8209
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PEACHES' SCARLET

1887 Reception Gown

The Salvation of a Beauty

By Peaches O'Day, SASS #68389

In the 1800s, unless she was very wealthy, a Victorian lady had to get good mileage out of her clothes. Unless it was donated to charity, it was not uncommon for a used dress to be taken apart, remade, and restyled. In some cases, if the dress was too tattered or damaged to be redone, oftentimes at least the laces, trims, buttons, and other fastenings would have been removed from the worn fabric, salvaged, and given new life on another gown.

This was especially the case for a

poor little 1887 reception gown I purchased from Canada. Despite the fact it was beyond saving, I knew when I saw it, it was special. I asked myself, "Do I box it up because it's too deteriorated for display, or do I use it for study?" I decided instead to undertake the challenge of having the blue silk faille gown completely remade, with the goal to save as much of the original garment as possible. As often as possible, if she could afford one, a Victorian lady would have hired a professional seamstress to do her sewing, and I have one of my own. I



Peaches O'Day in her beautiful re-created Scarlet 1887 Reception Gown.



Peaches O'Day and Princess Rita at the 2005 SASS Convention's Masquerade Ball, where Peaches won second place for Best Dressed Lady. Rita is wearing a vintage 1887 copper silk reception gown.

placed this challenging job into the skilled hands of Geri Bosley, a talented seamstress and friend of mine who for years has helped me restore about 20 of these delicate vintage gowns from the Victorian and Edwardian eras.

The first step was to let the dress air for several weeks on a dress form before taking it apart. Being in storage for over 115 years does NOT encourage pleasant odors in a gown. Next began the task of disassembling the gown, seam by seam. There are

always surprises in store when taking apart garments of this age. Fabric bolts in the 1800s weren't the same widths as today. What appeared in this gown as long, wide, seam free and draped pieces were actually patched, stretched, and hidden pieces disguised under fancy trim. It was amazing to view the creativity the Victorian seamstress had employed to make the construction work.

The gown was tiny—probably about a size zero or smaller. The bodice had no boning, which seemed



Peaches' new bodice used the vintage trims and incorporated the same styling designs as the original piece.



Detail of vintage beadwork and appliques.



Peaches opted to add a velvet overlay and small train in her reconstruction.

odd. The underskirt was of a lightweight buckram-type fabric, which gave stability and form. Surprisingly, this underskirt was in good shape, and we decided it could be reused. The elaborate and fabulous gold trim was all in excellent condition and was also salvaged. Sadly, since portions of the blue silk faille looked like Clorox had been thrown on it, it had to be scrapped.

I picked a new color, scarlet red. I love the jewel tones. Upholstery-like fabrics were common in the 1880s; dresses could easily weigh 10 pounds. Heavy silk was one of the favorite fabrics used. Gem tones such as ruby red, emerald green, and amber were popular through most of the decade.

Geri used a textured scarlet red Dupioni silk and silk velvet, and gold satin. The disassembled blue gown was used as a pattern so we could duplicate the new gown exactly as it was before. Adjusting from the size

zero pieces was painstaking due to the difference in fabric and body size while we endeavored to keep the original look and scale of the garment.

The most outstanding part of this gown is in the details. At the hemline, the gold satin pleats are made like Japanese origami, or fancy paper folding. The floral trim is of opalescent bugle beads, silver beads (possibly marcasite), and silk velvet and chenille flowers. Countless hours of hand-sewing went into positioning and attaching to the new body all of the beautiful vintage trims.

After five months of focus and labor, the re-made gown was complete. Incredible! Geri had successfully transferred the elegance of the Victorian blue gown into a new stunning masterpiece, creating a work of wearable art combining the old and the new.

To say this gown was a labor of love would be an understatement. Geri and I refer to this creation as my "Mercedes Gown," because I laugh-

Front view of original blue silk faille dress.



Photo showing the back of the blue dress. Fabric damage can be seen on elbow and on bustle.



ingly say I could have bought a car for what I have invested in it, but oh, was it worth it!

In 2005, as a brand-new member, I attended my first-ever SASS event, the SASS Convention in Las Vegas, with my friend Princess Rita, SASS #67182. The theme for the Saturday night ball was "Masquerade," and I took the opportunity to showcase my beautiful new dress and enter the costume contest that evening. To my joy and delight, I was honored when the judges awarded me second place in the Best Dressed Lady category. What a memorable evening!

This gown is one of those creations with which I will probably never part. I am forever grateful to

Peaches shows off the front of the remade dress.



Close up of original bodice, showing the fabulous vintage trims.



Geri Bosley for helping me achieve my dream dress.

Peaches O'Day is a clothing historian with a large collection of vintage Victorian, Edwardian, and Titanic era clothing. She is the founder of the Ladies of Locust Grove, a group dedicated to the preservation of the opulence of these eras through the production of vintage clothing fashion shows, teas, and other events. She is also a professional singer, songwriter, and entertainer who has won numerous awards and released multiple CDs, and is best known in SASS for her portrayal of Mae West in River Crossing's Silver Screen Saloon Show. Peaches can be reached on her Facebook page under Lonna Martin Miller, where she has posted many more photos of this Scarlet 1887 Reception Gown and her incredible vintage clothing collection. Geri Bosley of Dreams Remembered is a professional seamstress and can be reached through her email address of gmbosley@comcast.net.

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cially designed and *HOLLOW GROUND* (like professional gunsmith sets) to maximize grip and prevent damage to the screw slots.

As with all of the “Slix” branded products, one size will not fit all. The four different *hollow ground* tips have been designed to fit the most common screw slots found on Colt’s clones, Ruger Vaqueros and Blackhawks, Marlin Rifles, and Uberti 1873 and 1866 rifles. You will have to select the tip best suited for your applications and may have to trim them for a more perfect fit. The Slix-Driver is not intended to be used as a complete overhaul tool for disassembling new firearms that have traditionally been assembled by ‘Guido’ and his handy over powered air wrench, although it is very handy for removing the soft headed screws after the initial torque-lock has been broken.

The cost of the Slix-Driver is \$20, and they are available through:

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TV WESTERN Should Be An Allowed Costuming Category

By Ben Cartwright SASS #84097



I read with interest the editorial written by Tex SASS #4 and the article written by Miss Tabitha #26972. I agree with Miss Tabitha, that costuming is too narrow when it comes to B-Western. Fancy and Flashy only

I am a young 58 and don't remember the B westerns from the 30's and 40's or even the 50's, and if I am not mistaken it was the 30's and 40's that had the flash, however what I do remember are the TV Westerns, they dominated my life growing up. Who can say they don't remember Matt Dillon, Ben Cartwright, James West, Paladin, The Virginian, Maverick, and their sidekicks and the female stars? Here is a wealth of costuming and



yet hardly any of the costumes they wore are "Classic Cowboy" but they all fit a persona and to anyone attending a SASS shoot they would say "the West! a Cowboy" because that is what they are used to. I am not saying end the Flash of B-Western but either broaden it to "TV and B-Western" the TV from the heyday of TV Westerns or have a whole separate category "TV Westerns" My moniker is Ben Cartwright #84097 and my youngest of my three sons, is Joe Cartwright #84497, a lefty who however is built more like Hoss! and I would like to be able to dress just like him, I have been searching for a felt hat the is identical to his, and am working up my vest to have the silver Conchos on it, I got my drop loop gun belt exactly like he wore and am looking for belted pants like he had (but I cannot wear it unless I have a flash B-Western costume that he never wore). He also wore shirts that buttoned down the front and had pointed collars.

Since I cannot dress exactly like Ben Cartwright, I have stayed away from SASS regional shoots, going to one we have at our club once a year and did attend the Evil Roy School in NH in my Ben Cartwright costume (see picture) and no one minded, but I don't want to go to a shoot and be all ready and have to leave because my persona is too non-B-Western. I am sure someone looking at me wouldn't say "Wall Street" or even "Wal-Mart." I have heard people saying that we have to find ways to get people into our sport, that it may be slipping, especially with the video game group, well why not open it to them by opening another costuming cate-

gory "TV Western?" The reruns are popular and everyone knows Hoss Cartwright or James West, but we cannot dress like them in matches.

Here is a picture of me at Evil Roys school and a couple pictures of Ben Cartwright, notice the TV Western outfit, it wouldn't fit in Classic Cowboy or B-Western.

Ben — I don't disagree ... the current B-Western category is, at the very least, misnamed! Silve Screen Hero, or something similar might better describe it. Heck, even Tonto can't shoot in the B-Western category!

That being said, I'm more disturbed by your comments that you are avoiding the "big" or "away" matches because you don't comply with the B-Western rules. I really don't understand that! You're cheating yourself by staying home! Go to to the matches and shoot in your age bracket ... you get to play and compete and have a good time.

There has NEVER been a category that satisfyies my desires and shooting approach. I'm old, I shoot blackpowder, I shoot full load .45LC and .44-40s, and I shoot Gunfighter. Elderstatesman Pale Rider Gunfighter is not a recognized category ... and even if it were, there wouldn't be any of us in it. Do I win? Sometimes, but it's rare. Why do I shoot like this in a non-existent category? For the love of the game! It's MY fantasy, and NO ONE can take it away from me.

Be Ben Cartwright ... look like Ben Cartwright ... but shoot in whatever category you have to.

Thanks for you note ... it's thought provoking ...

Editor in Chief... 🐾

PICTURE PERFECT

I am writing to add a very significant note Miss Tabitha left out in her article about Artie and Sadie of Major Photography. I, too, have known them for years. It was during my two deployments with the US Army Reserves I got to know another side of them.

Via email Artie has made several cabinet cards for me, some in cowboy clothes, others in uniform in Bagdad and Afghanistan. They would only accept payment in the

form of some small local currency.

The most noteworthy item was their support of the troops in general. Every month, I was deployed, like clockwork I would get a care package to share with my soldiers. Candy, sunscreen, baby wipes, jerky, antacids, and any number of personal hygiene items. Thank you, seems very insignificant to such wonderful people.

Thank You Again
Lightnin' Jack, SASS #12951
Lakewood, CO 🐾

HOLSTERS ANYONE?

James B. Frew, 1856-1939, operated a saddlery in Harrison AR and later West Plains MO after his enlistment with the US Cavalry in the Indian Wars. He was one of the eyewitnesses to the fight between Buffalo Bill Cody and the Cheyenne warrior Yellow Hand. I have seen a few of his saddles in museums and one still in use. He did marvelous work.

It was common at that time for saddlers to use their scraps to make

other leather items, not the least of which were holsters and other gun leather. I have been trying to locate some of his work of that type with no success yet. Is there anyone out there who has seen, or better yet, has a sample of Mr Frew's work? It might be stamped Frew Saddlery, Harrison Saddlery, or West Plains Saddlery.

I would like to duplicate one of his holsters to have a period authentic part of my costume.

Bat Masterful, SASS #64675
Joplin, MO 🐾



THE CAPGUN KID RIDES Love a Gamer and The Truth Shall Make Us Free

By The Capgun Kid, SASS #31398

Forget about the fact Gamers are the chief impetus for the whole sport in the first place. Forget about the fact that, without them, the rest of us would be lacking in matches, have no reason to buy our stuff, nor have any place to go to pose with it, nor have a good reason to drop loose change in a mug so we could afford things like END of TRAIL or a good Regional.

In fact, these guys are gold, and the rest of this article about them is irresponsible and immature gossip. The only justification I have is that, once upon a time, Grandma Bea said I was special. I believed it up until the third grade or so and would occasionally get away with flagrant manners violations ... like this article, for instance ... without getting my lights spanked out. I'm not sure all Gamers had Grandma Beas. Indeed, that may be the reason so many of them are so intense and have to prove their self worth on the stage so much ... ya think?

I am certainly not accusing them of pointless and intense motivation, here. Just like any good gamer, I measure weddings, job scheduling, family picnics, and so on



They're not even Gamers!

against my shooting calendar. I consider that normal and cannot imagine why the rest of the family does not shoot cowboy. In fact, I gave specific instructions to my

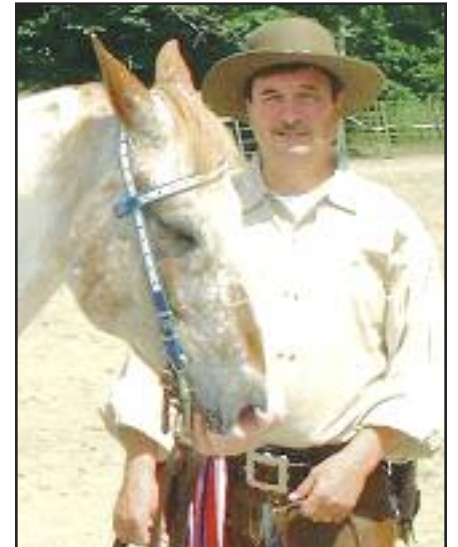
daughter and daughter-in-law not to deliver my grandchildren on a shooting date, but they didn't listen to me. Maybe I would have had more influence if I could shoot a 20 second stage, but I'll never know, and I missed a River Junction and Logans Ferry shoot when they were born anyway. So Nyeah nyeah-nih-Nyeah Nyeah, I am just as motivated as a Gamer ... sans shooting skill, of course ...



I wish I could have been there with a Kodak when the first Gamer sent the first arc of ten Mattel Play Bullets in the air all at once. Even then they had vision ...

The bottom line of all this is we gotta love our gamers and here are the top ten reasons why.

Number Ten. They Shadow. Did you ever hear of a Doctor Shadowing before he pulled out your Gall Bladder? How about The Checkout Lady at the Grocery Store? Does she mentally spec out your order before tallying up your cost? Or the guy at Burger King when "you have it your way?" Nope. The rest of us just try to watch the shooters in



The Capgun Kid, SASS #31398

front of us to figure out the shooting order, but Gamers Shadow. They are a breed unto themselves.

Number Nine. They ensure quality control in our props. Notice how they place their Winchesters on the hay bale making sure the lever is exactly in the right position. Not one inch too far in, not one inch too far out. When you're making a prop, you better make it right so the gamers can lay their firearms down to grab that tenth of a second. That's the hidden reason our props are so cool. Thanks, Gamers.

Number Eight. They make us appreciate the guns we spent so much money on. When those guys and gals thumb their hammers and choke their actions and make their guns scream like a woman, the rest of us wimps wince. I'd rather die than take my replicas to the edge of their envelope and maybe break them because original wheelhouses and lever actions were not made for speed. Slow is my friend ... slow is my friend ...

Number Seven. They induce better gunsmith quality across the industry. Who's the Dude or
(Continued on page 22)



I gave specific instructions to my daughter and daughter-in-law not to deliver my grandchildren on a shooting date, but they didn't listen to me!



It had one huge bullet, you could only chamber one of them at a time, it weighed a ton to a seven year old, and the mechanism required that you eat yore spinach to crank it!



2011

DURANGO HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Fabulous Fun in the Rockies!

By the Prussian Princess, SASS #66758

The economy is tougher all the time, but our little mountain town's Old West and Victorian event just gets better every year. For the past four years, living up to its title of one of the "Top Ten True Western Towns" (*True West Magazine*), Durango, Colorado has hosted this great weekend-plus extravaganza to celebrate its early history. Even though the town wasn't incor-



SASS is perhaps the only game in the world where the guys routinely walk up to each other and exclaim, "Fantastic! Where did you find that material?"



The President attended the event accompanied by Mrs. Lincoln, offering words of encouragement before the Ball and reciting the Gettysburg Address on Sunday morning during the Civil War tour of the local cemetery.

porated until 1881—when it snatched up the opportunity to locate the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad depot here, rather than letting its older, slightly northern sister town of Animas City have that honor—it has a great deal of history packed into it.

Visitors arrived, with bags bulging with Old West and/or Victorian attire, from as far away from

the Four Corners as New York, Virginia, Minnesota, Montana, and California, to put aside their modern personas and re-enact being a part of the Old West, either the cowboy or the Victorian part. This year we covered a bit more history, including a banquet to replicate the last dinner aboard R.M.S. Titanic. Of course, Colorado couldn't be much further from an ocean, but we didn't let that stop us from donning beautiful 1912 dinner clothes and pretending to be on that ill-fated ship. Fun was had by all—until some learned their fate at the end of the evening!

This year's Victorian Ball commemorated the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, with era-appropriate decorations and music by the Grandview Victorian Orchestra and dance prompting by Miss Tabitha of River Crossing and a visit and welcome by much beleaguered "President Lincoln." Even Tex, SASS #4, accompanied by his lady, Cat Ballou, SASS #55, showed up in uniform, although it was one from the losing side!

During the day everyone was kept busy with activities from a "Hollywood Versus History" fashion show to a vintage firearms presentation by Tex and Mad Dog Too, SASS #2814, with other SASS members and local vintage firearm enthusiasts displaying and discussing their firearms as well. And, of course, we offered another Heritage Train ride (costumed folks only) on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. Unfortunately, as the economy gets worse, the local train robbers get trickier. This year before the train had even departed from the depot one of the dastardly robbers, Yellowstone Kelly, SASS #4908, had kidnapped and tied to a post a fair young damsel to hold for ransom. Luckily for her, the passengers had lots of silver and "gold" coins to fatten the coffers of his fellow desperadoes who overtook the train, with guns a'blazin', on horseback along the way. Ultimately, good pre-



The dastardly Yellowstone Kelly abducted and tied to a post a young damsel to be held for ransom. Although the ransom was eventually paid, Yellowstone didn't escape to enjoy his foully won bounty. However, Colorado justice isn't what it used to be ... Yellowstone worked his way through the legal system in time to attend the Saturday evening Ball!

vailed over evil and Yellowstone Kelly was himself captured and dragged back in shame to Durango to await his fate. The local legal system must have been speedy and lenient, since he was already out from behind bars in time for the



Miss Tabitha leads the Grand March opening the Saturday evening Ball. The theme was the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. The President was in attendance as were several officers from both sides of the conflict.



The Prussian Princess thoughtfully reflects on the lives and history of those brought to life through the efforts of knowledgeable local officials during the cemetery tour. The Prussian Princess heads the planning committee for the Durango Heritage Celebration, and is already laying plans for 2012!



This lovely quartette provided appropriate entertainment aboard the R.M.S. Titanic during dinner that fateful evening ...



ball that night!

The autumn Sunday of the Celebration dawned dreary and cloudy and was just right to create the perfect atmosphere for a Civil War Veteran Cemetery Tour of our local Greenmont Cemetery. City of Du-

(Continued on page 22)



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2011 Durango Heritage Celebration . . .

(Continued from page 21)

rango officials and other locals, in re-enactment attire, were on hand to portray the lives of a number of survivors of the Civil War—the War Between the States or the War of Northern Aggression, depending on your view of that conflict. President Lincoln was again present, this time to deliver a stirring rendition of the Gettysburg Address, as the tour began.

Of course, as chairperson of this annual downtown Durango event, I'm positively biased; however, my opinion of the entertainment and educational value of the Heritage Celebration seems to be shared by most everyone who attends. So, I'd like to encourage you to visit our website www.durangoheritage.org to see what we offered for this year and, a few months from now, to check it again to see lots of wonderful photos of the event and offerings for 2012. If you want to step back in time to the Old West and Victo-

rian eras, you can't beat what our town puts together each October! Put October 12 through 14, 2012 on your calendar and come join us. I just about guarantee you'll be back – again and again! 🐾



The Capgun Kid Rides . . .

(Continued from page 19)

Dudette who thought of an action job in the first place? Would he or she have done so if I were the only type of Cowboy Action Shooter to come along? No siree. You gotta have a real speed demon maniac to make a good gunsmith think of something like an action job. You also need a smart gunsmith, so it is obvious there has been a distinct improvement in gunsmithing because of our gamers. Could you imagine the real OK Corral shootout with action jobs? They'd all have been dead, and there would have been no reason for Val Kilmer to cinch up the Doc Holliday part in the movie *Tombstone*. We're sooo lucky.

Number Six. They burn time so we can get to lunch faster. Dunno about you, but that 19-second speed freak is real handy when I am getting hungry long about stage three. Put a few of 'em in a row and a body can get to the hot dogs while they are still warm. My nutritional instincts require I thank folks like Yukon Mike, Annabelle Bransford, Rowdy Bill, Quaker Hill Bill, Appaloosa Amy, and Smilin' Pete because they once saved me from a fainting spell by shooting all in a row. Indeed, one

time I could have died of thirst had not Punch, Sunshine Marcie, Dirty Dale, and some guy I didn't know with a great B-Western rig enabled me to get to the next stage with its water cooler. Besides, those folks all dress nice.

Number Five. They put counters to the test. You gotta concentrate to count when these folks start banging away. Helps keep the quality control higher because you don't dare blink when they are up. Almost as good as caffeine for staying on your toes. Sometimes I fancy even the brass pickers are compelled to move it because they are cleaning up after a shooter in afterburner.

Number Four. They started as kids. The seed was in there, I mean. I was content in 1956 with my Nichols Stallion Rifle. It had one huge bullet, you could only chamber one of them at a time, it weighed a ton to a seven year old, and the mechanism required that you eat yore spinach to crank it. It even sounded menacing when you cocked it. Then along came the Mattel Winchester Saddle Gun with its realistic play bullets, slick loading and ejection action, and Greenie perforated Caps. You could crank

that thing at least once (before it broke) and spit those play bullets out all over the lawn. Okay, so Dad would get ticked when the lawnmower hit one, but ... hey ... it was worth it! I wish I could have been there with a Kodak when the first Gamer sent the first arc of ten Mattel Play Bullets in the air all at once. Even then they had vision ...

Number Three. Mostly they make the rest of us look good. A good percentage of them show up with the minimum requirements of boots, a shirt, and straw hat. That does wonders for the rest of us who are throwing money at our outfits and can transcend in the mind's eye from Elmer Fudd to John Wayne. They are living proof that American Fashion Designers can turn us Frogs into Princes on a dime. When they do take the time to outfit, they are something to watch and make the meaning of The Spirit Of The Game jump right out at you. If Cowboy Action Shooting™ had a New York Yankees, they'd all be on the team.

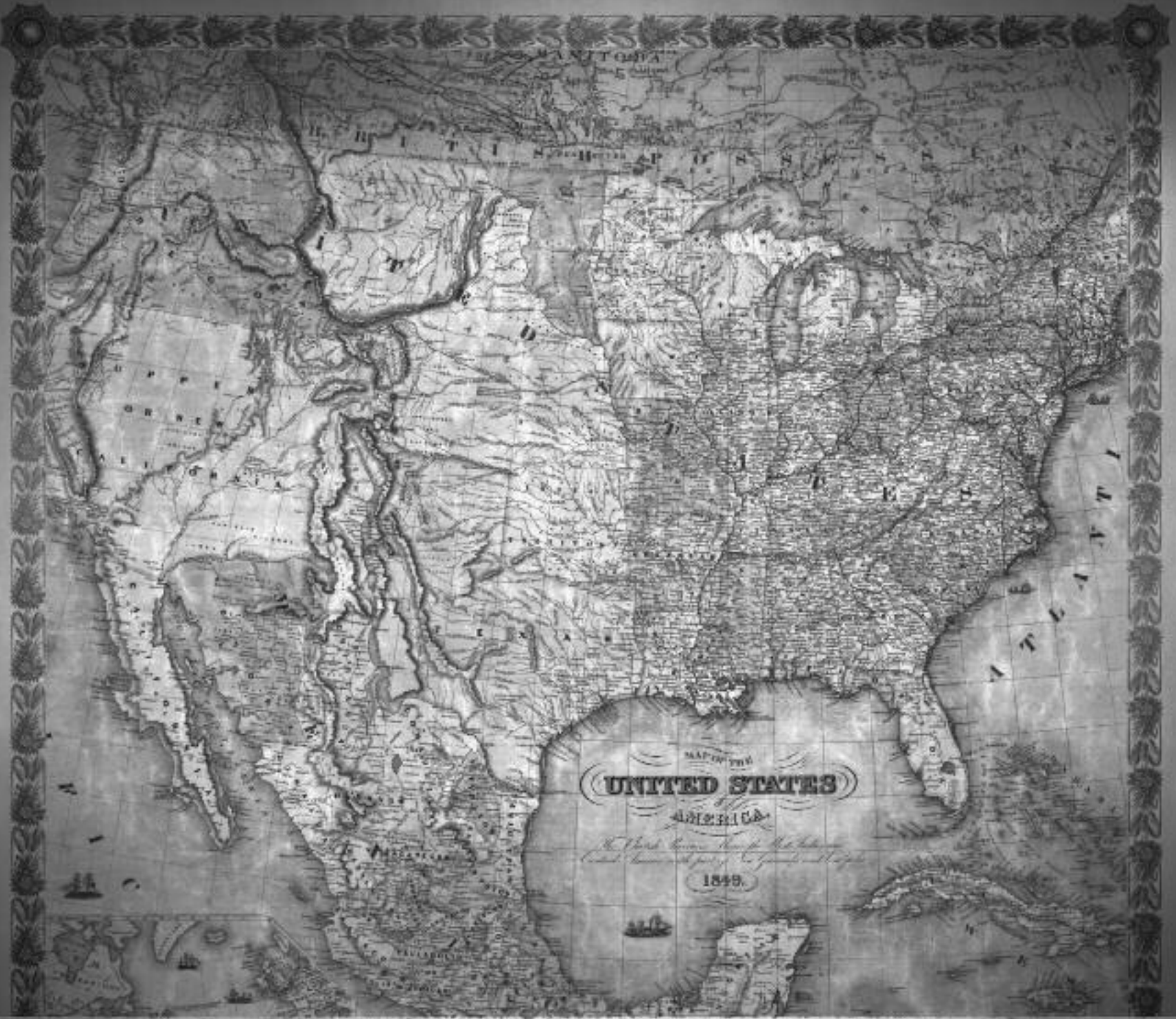
Number Two. Gamers are the principal source of quality control in gong size. Remember being a kid in High School? Give a C Student a D, and he could live with it. Give an Honors kid a 98 instead of a 99 and they would blow a fuse. Same is

true with the gamers. If it weren't for their need for speed, we'd all have small gongs too far away, and a guy like me couldn't hit a bull in the fanny with a Tomahawk missile, let alone score a clean match once in a while. They demand great gongs.

Finally, The Number One Reason ... They are Ecologically Sound. By shooting them allegedly sissy .38s, they are using less brass, less powder, and smaller primers than the rest of us, and leaving more raw materials for our manly man .45s. They are also causing less grief among the over enlightened left wing voters because they deposit less lead into the ground. The hidden benefit here, by the by, is that at least two or three times in a match a brass picker will dump a couple of .38 empties in with my .45s. I get to clean 'em, put 'em in a plastic bag, and give them to one of my best friends named Dirt Slider so he and Dusty Lady can reload 'em. They're not even Gamers. It's still nice being able to think of great friends like those two whilst 460 miles away from them, waiting for the next match when I can see them and the Gamers again.

Thank you Gamers, thank you very much!

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COWBOYS and Coffee

Nothing goes together better than cowboys and coffee ...

By Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835



responding to the rigors of campaigning, even the Union War Department revised the ration from ten pounds of roasted coffee beans to ten pounds of green coffee beans or eight pounds of roasted beans. Because of an average twenty percent moisture loss in roasting, ten pounds of green equals eight pounds of roasted coffee.

Soldiers North and South could go for days without food as long as they had their coffee. In the Confederacy, coffee became as highly prized as shoes, and commanded outrageous prices in times of insufficiency. Substitutes were tried using burnt chicory or parched corn. Some used the roasted dry crusts of brown bread, others tried rye grain soaked in rum, if they could get rum, and even others attempted to roast peas in the same way as coffee. Even acorns were roasted and ground. Nothing approached the real article. As a result, coffee was the item most often asked for when Rebs informally met Yanks between the lines for illicit trading. Virginia tobacco was most often the commodity exchanged. The taste of coffee laced with burnt chicory became habitual; perhaps a sign of Southern pride, and you can buy coffee laced with chicory in Louisiana to this very day.

There was rarely any shortage of coffee beans in the North, and coffee became so popular with the army the Sharps Rifle Manufacturing Company issued a few experimental models of their New Model 1863 Carbine with a small coffee mill with a detachable handle in the stock! It has been said the idea was to issue one Sharps carbine with a coffee grinder built into the butt stock per 100-man Company. Ac-

ording to research by David H. Arnold, the grinder might have been a mill for grinding forage grains into flour. It is reported that perhaps only four are now in existence.

According to the Civil War Cookbook, the best coffee was slow roasted over a low fire, "until of a chestnut brown color and not burnt, as is so commonly done." It was to be boiled briskly for two minutes, then taken from the fire at once, a little cold water thrown in, then the boiler's contents poured through a piece of flannel after it had settled for five minutes."

Every soldier was provided with some sort of bag in which he stored his coffee; but the sort of bag he used indicated pretty accurately the length of time he had been in the service. For example, a raw recruit would put his coffee ration in a paper sack and stow it in his haversack, only to find it a part of a general mixture of hardtack, salt pork, pepper, salt, knife, fork, spoon, sugar, and coffee by the time the next halt was made. A recruit of longer standing would put his coffee in a bag made of a scrap of rubber blanket or poncho; but after a few days, the rubber would peel off or the paint of the poncho would rub off from contact with the greasy pork or boiled meat ration and make a black, dirty mess, leaving the coffee-bag unfit for further use.

Now and then some young soldier would bring out an oil-silk bag lined with cloth, which his mother had made, but even oil-silk couldn't stand everything, certainly not the peculiar inside furnishing of the average soldier's haversack, so it also did not last long. But the plain, straightforward old veteran, who roughed it, took out an oblong plain cloth bag, which looked about as clean as the every-day shirt of a coal miner and into it scooped both his sugar and coffee, and stirred



Sgt. Shuster,
SASS #60835

them thoroughly together. That way he had sweetened coffee.

As for milk in his coffee, condensed milk of two brands, Lewis and Borden, was to be had at the sutlers when sutlers were handy, and occasionally milk was brought in from stray cows. In any event, each time the march stopped, fires were built, coffee was roasted, roasted beans were either ground or crushed with a rifle butt, coffee was brewed, and men were refreshed.

The love of coffee spread after the war as veterans from both North and South headed out to make their fortunes in the growing cattle industry, and in the gold, silver, and copper mines of the West. The Folgers Coffee Company was founded by James A. Folger in San Francisco, California, in 1850. James came to San Francisco from Nantucket Island at the age of 15 with his two older brothers during the California Gold Rush. They imported coffee mostly from Brazil to supply the California miners.

Coffee was also being imported to the West from the Kona region of the Hawaiian Islands, and the era from 1860 to 1890 saw a steady growth in Kona coffee being shipped to California and the West. Although far superior to the Robusta coffees from South America, Kona Arabica coffee was more expensive to grow and ship in rather meager amounts and so was making little progress economically in getting very far beyond the West Coast

Before the end of the Civil War, only green coffee beans were sold in stores because after exposure to air,

During the Civil War, Union General George B. McClellan issued the very unpopular General Order #136, which banned the issuance of whiskey among the Federal troops. Whiskey was thought to increase bravery, or at least bravado, but it also caused lethargy, indolence, sluggishness, and not a little insubordination. Thus, the drink of choice for soldiers in the field became coffee. And a little caffeine made them more alert! And being alert, attentive, and on the ball is what a general wants in a soldier.

In 1861, the standard daily ration of victuals in the Union army was based on the assumption that not all required ingredients would be available at all times and places. Supplies were issued on an either-or basis. Each 100-man company was to share ten pounds of roasted coffee or one and a half pounds of tea. The Confederate War Department adopted precisely the same ration allowance as the old prewar United States, except the Confederacy recognized the scarcity of coffee and cut rations from ten pounds of coffee to six. In any event, the Southern commissary was rarely able to provide coffee. The blockades were cutting off the importation of everything from New York apples to Brazilian coffee. In 1863,



roasted coffee beans would become stale or rancid. The green coffee beans had to be roasted in a skillet on a cook stove or over a campfire before it could be ground and brewed. A single coffee bean burned in the roasting process could ruin the whole batch.

In 1865, John Arbuckle and his brother Charles, partners in a Pittsburgh grocery business, changed all this by patenting a process for roasting and coating coffee beans with an egg and sugar glaze to seal in the flavor and aroma. Marketed under the name Arbuckle's Ariosa Coffee, in patented airtight, one pound packages, the new coffee was shipped all over the country in sturdy wooden crates, one hundred packages to a crate. The Arbuckle Brothers printed coupons on the bags of coffee redeemable for all manner of items, including handkerchiefs, razors, scissors, and wedding rings—everything a cowboy or a westward moving pioneer might come to need. To further entice the chuck wagon cook to purchase, each package contained a stick of pepper-

mint candy, which became a means by which cookie could get the firewood collected and the coffee grinder handle spun with the call "Who wants the candy?" Some of the toughest cowboys on the trail would jump at the opportunity to satisfy a sweet tooth. Arbuckle's Ariosa Coffee became so dominant in the West many cowboys were not even aware there was any other kind.

Coffee has been a staple of cowboy cuisine since the days of the great cattle drives. The cowboy's job was to bring herds of half-wild Mexican cattle through the range to the railheads. After working cattle for hours, the cowboy was hungry. He welcomed the cookie's call to "Come an' get it!" With his famished appetite, he was prepared to chow down. The cookie's job was to prepare steaks, create stews, cook the beans, bake sourdough biscuits, and boil coffee. The staple of the cowboy was coffee. It kept him awake. It kept him alert for dangers on the trail. And to do that, it had to be black and strong.

There is a certain mystique

about making coffee for the cowboy. The most common story about cowboy coffee is that cookie has to toss in a horseshoe, and if it sinks, put in some more coffee. The standard coffee pot was three to five gallons, which handled ten to twelve cowboys. And those cowboys expected their coffee to be "brown gargle," and that means hot, black, and strong. Some ignore the horseshoe and say that it has to float a six-shooter. The Cowboy Coffee folks up in Jackson Hole, Wyoming say it should float a pistol, heal an ailing steer, scare off a pack of wolves, and cure the effects of a short night.

The paniolas at the Kona Cowboy Coffee Company in New Mexico and Hawaii suggest you start with a pot full of good, clean tasting water. In most towns I use bottled water. Measure out one rounded tablespoon of ground coffee for each cup. Now here's where you're experimenting. If that's too strong for you, use less the next time. If not strong enough, add more.

The best way to make coffee is with a French Press, but you want

to make it the cowboy way. Put that coffee directly into the pot, if you're not using a drip coffeemaker or a French Press. If you have a percolator ... remember those? ... throw it away. They always made bitter coffee. Don't give it to the Salvation Army; toss it! If you're brewing directly in the pot, bring it to a rolling boil and take the pot off the fire. Here's where a splash of cold water will settle the grounds. Or just let it sit a spell. Legend talks about dropping in an eggshell to settle it, and you might have tried that. Then, pour and enjoy a cup of cowboy coffee. And enjoy some history of the Old West at the same time.

Or, you could put a handful of roasted coffee beans into an old sock, beat the coffee beans in that sock with the butt of your six shooter, pop the sock full of crushed coffee beans into a pot of boiling water and end up with some pretty bad coffee and a clean, although brown, sock.

Western artists and writers such as Frederic Remington, *(Continued on page 27)*

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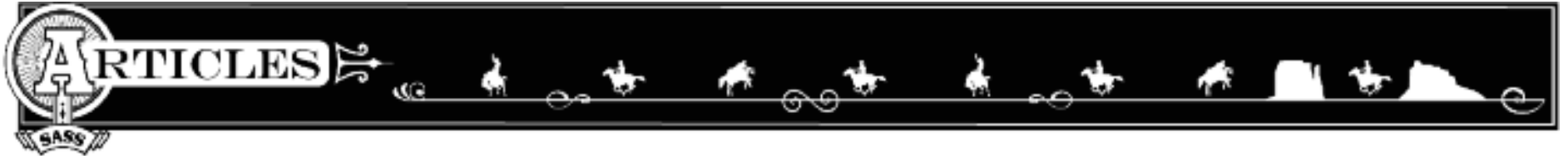
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Fantasy Sport - 'Yes'

Fantasy History - 'No'

By Blue Steel Traveller, SASS #70994

I've been pondering for quite some time as to whether or not to write an article on the best practices for evaluating sources when conducting historical research. This interest is driven by an observation that some articles published in *The Cowboy Chronicle* appear to lack the historical rigor with respect to sources used to establish credibility.

When historians review information, they attempt to ascertain if the information is from a primary or a secondary source.

Primary sources are the original material provided by eyewitness accounts. Some examples (not all inclusive) include:

Diaries	Family Bibles
Photographs	Newspaper articles
Scrapbooks	Personal letters
Maps	Wills
Meeting Minutes	Autobiographies
Official Government Reports	

Secondary sources are writings about the primary sources (not all inclusive) are:

Biographies	Encyclopedias
Textbooks	History Books

¹Does not include Wikipedia as Wikipedia is a source that can be updated by anyone and there is no rigor regarding content. Therefore, it is not considered a valid source of

information and should never be referenced.

When analyzing the information, we need to remain skeptical, as every source is biased in one way or another. As information is biased, it must be cross-referenced with other information to establish its worthiness. We then must apply the time and place rule.

Time and Place Rule

Simply put, the closer in time and place a source and the writer of the information were to the activity heightens the credibility of the source. Examples of this rule from the most reliable to the least reliable are:

Actual recording of the event,

- Photographs,
- Movies.

Specifics of the event created at the time of the event by those who observed or participated, e.g.,

- An article by a newspaperman observing the great Chicago fire,
- Major Reno's official report regarding his actions at the Little Big Horn.

Specifics of the event created after the event by those who observed or participated, e.g.,

- Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant written 1884 and 1885,
- My Life on the Plains by George Armstrong Custer.

Specifics of an event that are noted after an event by individuals who were not involved but who conducted interviews or discovered evidence from the actual time of the event, e.g.,

- The plethora of interviews conducted after the Gunfight at the OK Corral.

Now that we understand all information is biased, what Primary and Secondary Sources are, and the Time and Place rule, let's apply what we have learned:

Notes of a Russian Sniper by Vassili Zaitsev

Primary: Zaitsev was a hero of the Soviet Union for his sniping abilities during the siege of Stalingrad. The movie *Enemy at the Gates* is about Vassili Zaitsev.

Time and Place: Written in 1956 as a journal. It was partly based on an interview of Zaitsev by Russian Army reporters from 1943. If the complete journal had been written in 1945, it would be considered more reliable, as it would have been closer to the time of the events. The mere fact it was written in the U.S.S.R and the vast amount of Soviet propaganda at the time forces us to read this material with a bit of skepticism.

A Terrible Glory Custer and the Little Big Horn by James Donovan

Secondary: Donovan is writing about a person and events using information collected from both Primary and Secondary material. The question now becomes how much credibility do we afford Mr. Donovan's work?

Validity of source material: A trip to the bibliography section will give us the answer. There are 20 pages of references across the spectrum of available resources. Upon review, we see in detail the depth of research and cross-referencing conducted by the author. Therefore, his book can be and is regarded as highly credible.

In summary, what we have learned through this article is all sources need to be viewed with skepticism, the closer to the time and place of the event the better, and there is a need to review the bibliography of secondary sources to ascertain their credibility. As a final note, I will add a comment from my daughter who teaches U.S. History at the College level.

"The quickest way to fail my class is to copy from or reference Wikipedia"

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Cowboys and Coffee . . .

(Continued from page 25)

Charles Russell, Zane Grey, and Louis L'Amour have embellished images of cowpokes brewing coffee over chuckwagon stoves and blazing campfires. And every Western film and every TV oater has featured those same scenes.

Thanks to history and legend, cowboys and coffee have been paired forever.

Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835 is a social and cultural his-

torian, founder of the Lincoln County Regulators in Ruidoso, NM, and purveyor of Kona Cowboy Coffee.

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20 SMOKELESS CENTER FIRE CARTRIDGES



GUNS OF AUGUST



(Continued from page 1)

shooting from horseback was a tremendous thrill.

I assume everyone has seen the great movie, *Quigley Down Under*, and remembers the scene where our hero has to prove his shooting skill by shooting a pail at an impressive distance. Well, we had a lot of folks show up to demonstrate their long range skills with those old buffalo rifles, and Slow Poke Smith had the top score with 6 hits in 90 seconds. This was also the day for the Blackpowder Mini Match and the Wild Bunch Mini Match. After the smoke had cleared, Bad Creek Kid was the overall "Dark Side" winner.

Taking its name from the old Sam Peckinpah cowboy classic, *The Wild Bunch* was shot with the trusty old slab sided model 1911 pistol and a Model '97 Winchester shotgun. It's great fun for those who like shooting the classics, and we had a lot of competitors dress in old Rough Rider costumes, too. Ethan Callahan was top Traditional, Honey B Quick top Lady Modern, and Max Montana top Modern. For those who plan to shoot this event in the future, please note SASS requires a big bore pistol .40 caliber or larger lever action rifle as well. For all details on the Wild Bunch check out SASS' web site.

Days three and four were the main competition days, and they were action packed! Lassiter, the range officer, had 12 stages set up, and we shot 6 stages each day. They were challenging, they



Match Officials, Lassiter (l) and Deadwood Stan once again produced a very successful and entertaining Guns of August. Lassiter continues to be a force in Cowboy Action through his shooting prowess and his organizational efforts at Guns of August, END of TRAIL, and elsewhere. Deadwood Stan was recently inducted into the SASS Cowboy Action Shooting™ Hall of Fame for his efforts to bring quality Cowboy Action venues to the Midwest.

were fun, and they were quick! After the smoke cleared and the last bullet went down range, the winners emerged. Campo Kid, a Young Gun competitor, won the Guns of August Top Gun Shoot-off. The Mounted Shooters Men's Champion was Stoneburner and the Mounted Women's Top Shooter was Rawhidenlace.

For SASS, Colt Mc McAllister

was the overall top male competitor, and Sage Chick was the top lady competitor. The goal of every competitor is to shoot the match smooth and clean—no misses, and I'm proud to announce 35 members (including myself) all achieved this honor!

The future of our shooting sport lies with the youngsters, and there are several categories for our younger shooters, Buckaroo and Buckarette for those ages 13 and under and Young Guns for ages 14-16. I had the privilege to shoot with one of seven Buckaroos, P.T. Younger. If this young cowpoke continues the way he's going, I wouldn't be surprised to see him as a Regional champion some day.

The Mounted Shooters invited all attendees to the Mounted Arena for the return of the Muleskinner Challenge. Action Shooters could hitch a ride on their wagon to take on the Mounted Shooting course. At \$5 for a team of two, the teams could go as many times as they could pay. The team with the best time was declared the Champion Muleskinner at this year's banquet. Cowboy Trap and Skeet re-

turned on Thursday and Friday between the hours of 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the clubhouse, and Not So Quick Nick won skeet.

We played hard, the targets were big and close, the props were humorous—we even got to shoot a dummy at Stage 2! The scenarios were challenging, and the side matches drew big crowds of spectators. Many thanks to the Middletown team for their outstanding shooting facilities. Their dedication surely shows "the cowboy way," and we are grateful they helped make everything run so smoothly! Our vendors also sponsored each of the twelve stages, and our berm marshals did a superb job of outlining the course of fire while also paying homage to the sponsoring vendor. Scores were posted daily at the entrance to the competition area for every one to peruse.

The Guns of August helps out in many other ways. The event raised over \$1200 for the local Boy Scout Troop through donations and the brass auction, and over \$200 for the SASS Scholarship Foundation. The Texas Hold 'em charity poker event took place at the Middletown Sportsman's Club clubhouse and those in attendance

(Continued on page 41)

Winners



Match Winners and Midwest Regional Champions for 2011 are Colt McAllister and Sage Chick. Congratulations and Great Shooting!



Frederick Jackson Turner brought his unique brand of cowboy entertainment to Guns of August. His light-hearted, energetic performances have delighted audiences across the country and in Europe. He always guarantees a fun evening!



11-14 AUGUST 2011



Winners			
Overall & Midwest Regional			
Man	Colt McAllister, SASS #13823	MI	
Lady	Sage Chick, SASS #48454	OH	
Top Gun	Campo Kid, SASS #82432	KY	
Categories			
Buckaroo	Missouri Lefty, SASS #91721	MO	
Young Gun	Campo Kid		
L Young Gun	Shayna Sureshot, SASS #67122	OH	
Cowboy	Deuce Stevens, SASS #55996	MI	
Cowgirl	Sage Chick		
Wrangler	Colt McAllister		
L Wrangler	Short Fuse Ruby, SASS #47939	KY	
49'r	Doc Noper, SASS #65017	MI	
L 49'r	Turkey Legs, SASS #48384	IL	
Senior	Knob Creek Drover SASS #29843	KY	
L Senior	Honey B Quick, SASS #47009	OH	
S Senior	OI Short Tom, SASS #12635	IN	
L S Senior	Two Sons, SASS #12636	IN	
E Statesman	Darby, SASS #41290	OH	
B-Western	Cheyenne Culpepper, SASS #32827	OH	
L B-Western	Perfecto Vaquera, SASS #69780	KY	
C Cowboy	Ethan Callahan, SASS #41005	MI	
C Cowgirl	The Lady, SASS #15467	MI	
Gunfighter	Lassiter, SASS #2080	OH	
L Gunfighter	Clementine Valentine, SASS #66179	OH	
S Gunfighter	Bad River Marty, SASS #23076	MI	
Duelist	Samuel Eells, SASS #40531	OH	
L Duelist	Miss Lead Lisa, SASS #51615	OH	
S Duelist	J M Brown, SASS #27309	NC	
F C Duelist	Doc Roy L. Pain, SASS #28321	MI	
F C Traditional	Bad Creek Kid, SASS #62230	OH	
L F C Traditional	Fancy Free Spirit, SASS #73738	OH	
Frontiersman	Split Rail, SASS #24707	OH	
Pale Rider	Ruger Ray, SASS #29234	OH	
Pale Rider Gunfighter	Stone Creek Drifter, SASS #58853	OH	
Blackpowder Match			
	Bad Creek Kid, SASS #62230	OH	
Wild Bunch			
Traditional & Overall			
	Ethan Callahan		
Modern	Max Montana, SASS #23907	IN	
L Modern	Honey B Quick		
Side Matches			
Speed Rifle			
Man	Colt McAllister		
Lady	Sage Chick		
Bought It	Colt McAllister		
Speed Revolver			
Man	Deuce Stevens		
Lady	Sage Chick		
Bought It	Bad River Marty		
Speed Shotgun			
'97			
Man	Campo Kid		
Lady	Sage Chick		
Bought It	Campo Kid & Willowmaker Kid		
'87			
Man	Lassiter		
Lady	Miss Lead Lisa		
Bought It	Lassiter		
Double Barrel			
Man	Little Wing, SASS #18241	KY	
Lady	Two Sons		
Bought It	Deuce Stevens		
Hammered Double			
Man	Ethan Callahan		
Lady	Miss Lead Lisa		
Bought It	Ethan Callahan		
Derringer			
Man	Ethan Callahan		
Lady	Honey B. Quick		
Bought It	Ethan Callahan		
Single Action Pocket Pistol			
Man	Black Jack Beeson, SASS #11523	OH	
Bought It	Indy Kid, SASS #4638	IN	
Double Action Pocket Pistol			
Man	Black Jack Beeson		
Lady	Honey B. Quick		
Bought It	Woody Shootem, SASS #24816	OH	
Ladies Only			
Lady	K J Stevens, SASS #62782	MI	
Bought It	Two Sons		
SASS Scholarship			
Man	Three Gun Cole, SASS #50738	MI	
Lady	Sage Chick		
Plainsman	Black Jack Beeson		
Lawman	Black Jack Beeson		
Long Range			
Quigley Pail	Slow Poke Smith, SASS #31585	OH	
Lever Action Big Bore			
Man	Rodent, SASS #41270	MI	
Lady	Sage Chick		
Bought It	Grubsack, SASS #7992	OH	
Lever Action Pistol Caliber			
Man	Ketchum Quick, SASS #72923	MI	
Lady	Sage Chick		
Bought It	Doc Noper		
Single Shot			
Man	Doc Noper		
Lady	Fancy Free Spirit		
Bought It	Doc Noper		



STORY FROM THE PAST "Bose Ikard"



Story complements of Dakota Livesay of
Chronicle of the Old West

Following the Civil War, fully a third of the men who became cowboys were Black. Most of us are familiar with Bill Pickett. But, like the subject of today's story, there were others who unfortunately have faded into obscurity. Although the chances are excellent you've never heard of Bose Ikard, when we're though with his story, you'll discover you knew more about him than you thought.

Bose Ikard was born a slave in Mississippi. His owner moved to Texas and brought his slaves along

with him. As a slave, he learned to farm, ranch, and fight Indians. Following the Civil War, as a free man, Bose went to work driving cattle for Oliver Loving. When Indians killed Loving, Bose went to work for Loving's partner, Charles Goodnight. Charles and Bose became close friends. Goodnight once said of Bose, "I trust him farther than any living man. He was my detective, banker, and everything else in Colorado, New Mexico Territory, and the other wild country I was in."

In 1869, Bose Ikard bought a farm and settled down in Parker



Country, Texas, and began a family. Indian attacks were still taking place, and Bose fought against Quannah Parker, riding with his former slave master.

After Bose's death on January

4, 1929, Charlie Goodnight placed a granite marker on his friend's grave. It said, "Bose Ikard served with me four years on the Goodnight-Loving Trail, never shirked a duty or disobeyed an order, rode with me in many stampedes, participated in three engagements with Comanches, splendid behavior."

Earlier, I said you might be more familiar with Bose than you thought. Supposedly, Larry McMurry's novel, "Lonesome Dove," was loosely based on the lives of Charley Goodnight and Oliver Loving. If so, then the role played by Danny Glover was surely that of Bose Ikard!

Source – The Possible Shop webpage.

Loose Latigo Jack, SASS #70357

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Holster Rig valued at \$1500.00





Use Those 'Newfangled' Automatics?

NEVER!!

By Boss T, SASS Life #8147

It's the summer of 1917. Another hot Idaho Junio is ahead for us waddies. We are so busy this year trying to produce potatoes and beets. The wartime economy is always good for the farmer and helps us keep busy. It is so sad our young boys need to go overseas one more time to help others solve their problems. Hopefully, the "Great War" will end this forever.

My intent here is to respond to the notion a real cowboy uses one of those newfangled automatics. It would never happen in a steer's lifetime. As I ride the supply train from Horseshoe to Boise, Idaho, I jotted down these notes to share with you all.

I live the cowboy lifestyle every day. My life has been spent on the Idaho ranges. I have seen many a Colt .45 come and go, but all those had cylinders. My boy just came home in January of '17 from the Pancho Villa War with his military sidearm, a 1911 semi-automatic. In my opinion, no cowboy would ever carry one of those things.

For us all, the American Westward movement ended two months ago with the passing of William Cody up in Colorado. The American West will never seem the same again now that the most famous celebrity in America has gone to the happy hunting grounds. I came West in 1880 when my father and mother were lost on a ship off the coast of Delaware. My dad was a General under Grant during the Civil War and always carried a Colt revolver in the later years, full of loaded blackpowder cartridges. These, of course, at the turn of the century gave way to store bought rounds that were preloaded by various gun makers. They are called "smokeless powder" on the box, but, shoot six in a row, and I can't see my hand in front of my own face!

As for the topic at hand, John Moses Browning's bunch of Utah gun makers came though Boise a few months back celebrating the 5th anniversary of his auto loading pistol,

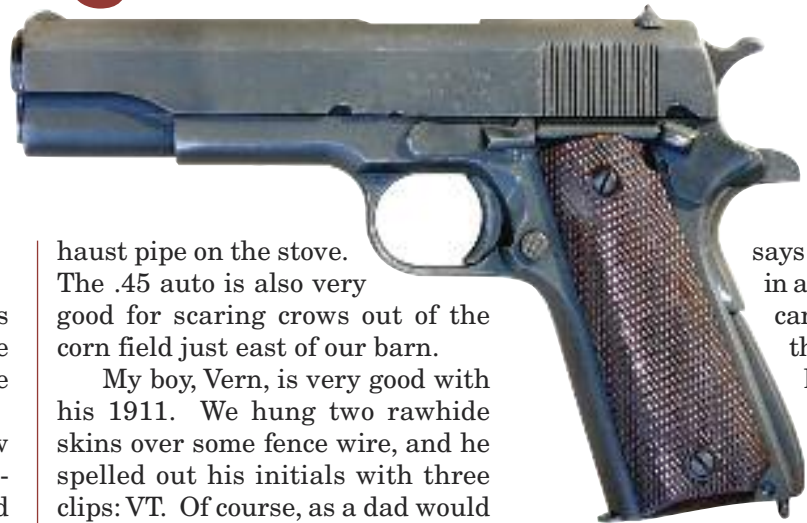
the 1911 semi-automatic firearm. As of right now, a few of them are in the hands of Texas Rangers like Dubose and Captain Miller.

We went to the picture show downtown and saw "The Gun-fighter" starring William Hart and Margery Wilson (she's sweet). We had to check our guns at the office and the six-shooters were stacked like a cord of wood, but there weren't any automatics in the pile.

My boy just brought one over last week for us to take a look at and match up against my Colt Six-Shooter. His 10th Cavalry drill instructor calls this new government toy "Old Slabsides." Sgt. Davis has his troops take their newly issued 1911s and wrap the strap safety with rawhide soaked in hot water and cover with some candle wax. This allowed .45 auto soldiers to shoot without holding the grip safety down. A common problem with the auto is without a tight grip on it, the thing will not fire. As my boy showed me, it was not so easy to get a good grip on when your hands are wet or on horseback. He also mentioned many accidental discharges from keeping a round in the chamber while riding on rough trails.

I, being much smarter, keep the chamber under my hammer empty. This has kept me from shooting my own leg, as happened a few times in my boy's unit. Besides, if I had carried one of those in my waist what would I shoot in my Winchester? Cowboys enjoy putting belly gun rounds in their rifles, but you already knew this fact.

As a final consideration, I use my Colt six-shooter for many other farm duties like nailing in barbed wire, and have used the barrel to wind up ropes and tighten fence braces. My boy did show me one use for the .45 auto when we needed to plumb a line through our ceiling in the parlor for a new chimney. We used a carpenter's level and lined up the top slide with the wall and shot one round clean through the roof. It did give us a very plumb hole to line up the ex-



haust pipe on the stove. The .45 auto is also very good for scaring crows out of the corn field just east of our barn.

My boy, Vern, is very good with his 1911. We hung two rawhide skins over some fence wire, and he spelled out his initials with three clips: VT. Of course, as a dad would do, I pulled out my Colt six-shooter and shot the wire in two, causing his hides to fall to the ground. I still think to this day it was just a lucky shot.


Well, as the train pulls into Boise, I must close my letter. If you need bullets for those new automatics, just grab a Sears & Sawbuck Catalog #134. They can be found on page 732 after the fishing supplies. Our boy

says they are not in a store, but you can mail order the stubby bullets from Sears. There is also a new Smith & Wesson coming out that uses the same round.


My son is now headed to France with Patton. At least I know he will be safe. Captain Patton carries a pair of Colt six-shooters instead of one of those 45 automatics. So, thanks for listening to my opinion. If we get all those hard ballers around and stretching the cowboy era, what will be next: Thompson machine gun matches in little Chicago! 🤠

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As of today there has been \$48,622 earned and the goal is \$75,000



Cree Vicar Dave,
SASS Life, #49907

THE BLACKSMITH TRADE LIVES ON

By Cree Vicar Dave,
SASS Life #49907

Working with metal has always fascinated me. My paternal granddad was a blacksmith/ferrier. He died when I was a baby but my father passed on to me a few tricks of the trade. Metal shop was one of my favorite classes in the 8th and 9th grades. The teacher, Mr. Don-



Kyle Loree, age 13, firing up one of the group's forges.

aghy, helped us fashion works of art and functional items out of

various metals. I still enjoy cutting, heating, bending, and welding metal, creating something useful. The blacksmith trade has been around for thousands of years. The LORD says in Isaiah 54:16a, "See, it is I who created



Fred Berg and Wolverine Wrangler at a forge. Fred has been a blacksmith for over 20 years. He gave Wolverine Wrangler and myself a tour of the place.



Hilton Headley cutting steel the old fashion way. He was making parts for wind chimes, one of the guild's group projects.

the blacksmith who fans the coals into flame ..."

Last week I picked up Wolverine Wrangler, SASS #22963, and headed over to observe a working blacksmith organization that meets every Wednesday in Midland, Michigan. They are the "Max Carey Blacksmith Guild" located at 3400 Cook Road, Midland, Michigan 48640. They have been pounding metal on an anvil for over three decades. Fred Berg, a 22-year blacksmith veteran, showed us around and explained the basics of their trade. Their objective is "To Promote and Teach the Blacksmithing Trade."



Dale Thompson and Fred with a fireplace tool set, a group project of the guild.

Blacksmiths of all ages were in attendance, from teenagers to old timers like me.

Twice a year they offer the, "Steve Anderson School of Blacksmithing," which is an introduction to the trade. The class is a six-week course, three-hours a week, covering the basics of the craft. Many of those who take the class go on into metal art.

When they meet each week, their work consists of small individual projects to larger group productions. Some of the group's undertakings are an iron fence for the Veterans Memorial and an iron fence/rose trellis outside the Bradley Carriage House, which is



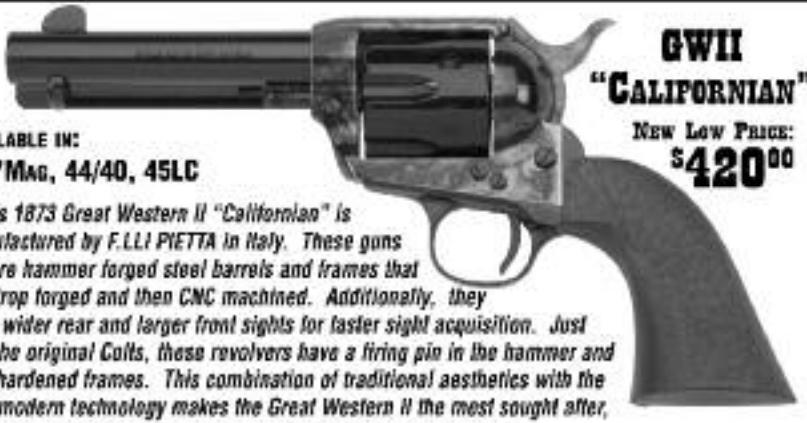
Kyle Loree and Keith Lumbert bending steel. After heating it in the forge they wrapped it around the form and tapped it with a hammer to get the shape they wanted.

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Blacksmith group photo: SEATED left to right; Jim Curtis, Kyle Loree, Dale Thompson, Steve Avery (Center), Hilton Headley, Bob Impullitti, Don Robinson, and Jim Taylor. STANDING left to right: Bob Beeckman, Fred Berg, Keith Lumbert, Al Vanderbrink. Notice the buggy in the background.



Iron fence and rose trellis at the Bradley Carriage House. The "Max Carey Blacksmith Guild" has made several ornate projects for organizations in the Midland, Michigan area.



Al Vanderbrink holding one of his works of art—a horse drawn log sled with a man standing beside it.



Al Vanderbrink and Wolverine Wrangler with horseshoe display. Notice the BIG WHEEL bicycle in the background.



Bob Impullitti reading The Catobog Chronicle. I took a Chronicle along for them to look at and told them about Cowboy Action Shooting™. A couple of the blacksmiths seemed very interested.

a hammer and chisel. Then, place it in the forge until the right temperature is achieved, grab it with the tongs, place it on the anvil, and hammer away until the desired form is obtained. One of the things on display that caught my eye was a progressive construction process of a hand-forged horseshoe. It started on the bottom with a piece of flat stock steel and ended up with a finished horseshoe on the top, all made by hand. Quite impressive.

If you would like to get involved with a blacksmith guild near you, check out the WEB to see if there are any meeting in your area. I found blacksmith associations in several states in a short time on my PC. There may be a group that meets nearby where you can "Put the hammer down," literally, and forge something impressive to display in the home or at your local Cowboy Action Shooting™ club.

creevicardave@hotmail.com
www.sucker creek.org

Photos by: Wolverine Wrangler & Cree Vicar Dave 🐾



Wolverine Wrangler and Cree Vicar Dave inspecting a SURREY with the FRINGE on the top. I had heard of them before but this was the first time I saw one in person.



Bob Beeckman, Al Vanderbrink, and Bob Impullitti standing by one of their brick forges.

with brass petals, a functional coat rack, a portable fireplace tool set, and much more.

The Bradley Carriage House also holds several antique carriages, horse drawn sleighs, and an old big wheel bicycle. There are four forges in their shop, several anvils, and other antique tools. They also have more modern devices, like power grinders, saws, and so forth, if you want to speed up the metal preparation time. Or, if you desire the nostalgia of the good old days, you can heat up the metal and cut it with



The blacksmith shop at work. Don Robinson operating forge in foreground.



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THE TRAIL TO THE UNFAMOUS CENTAURE Mystery Conversion

By James "Panhandle Paden" Frugé and
Wolf D. "Long Johns Wolf" Niederastroth

Who needs a Colt Model 1860 conversion cross between an army barrel with the cool looking barrel lug of an 1861 Navy conversion profile, on which a Richards-Mason type ejector, cylinder, and frame assembly with narrow "saddle" type conversion ring has been mounted for good measure? Exactly—every red-blooded cowboy should have one ... or better still, a pair! **(Photo 1)**

Why? Because less than a dozen of these exotic breech load-



1 Original Colt 1860 Army "Mystery" Conversion engraved in Mexican style, nickel plated, carved ivory grips: Picture liberated from R. Bruce McDowell A STUDY OF COLT CONVERSIONS AND OTHER PERCUSSION REVOLVERS.

ing conversions from yesteryear are known to exist. In the opinion of late "Conversion Guru" R. Bruce McDowell, they were probably made in Mexico around 1875, but who made them and exactly when is open to discussion. A couple of interesting theories are pushed around among collectors, and new speculations pop up now and then, but except for the surviving pistols, there are no hard facts, just mysteries.

Here's what we know for sure. The 1860 base guns used for these conversions are from Hartford. However, the conversions were not executed at the Colt factory; hence their nick-name, "Mystery" conversions, used by collectors.

There are some indications these unique breech-loaders were fabricated around 1875. Two or more Mexican gunsmiths are allegedly the makers of this mini-series of Colt 1860 Armies-go-conversion by the 1861 Richards-Mason Navy method. **(Photo 2)**

The majority of the Mysteries known are chambered for the .44 Colt round and have 8" barrels. Many feature some Mexican style engraving, are nickel plated, and enhanced with ivory grips.

To the best of my knowledge, none of the conversion artists

in the USA or Europe converted a 2nd or 3rd generation Colt or Italian Colt Army clone into a Mystery. That is, until Austrian master gunsmith Karl Nedbal entered the scene, better known in Europe as, "The Tinkerer from Vösendorf."

Among many other accomplishments, Nedbal is famous for his small series of newly made Lugers in .45 ACP cal., but he is also an experienced cartridge converter.

Since the 1980s, he has transformed mostly Uberti C&B revolvers into state of the art Colt Richards-, Richards-Masons, and Thuers or gated Remington Armies for his demanding clients the world over. Nedbal strives to make them the way they used to be made at Colt's in Hartford or Remington in Utica. A couple of years back yours truly introduced him to the Belgian Centaures and their harder steel. Since then, these Belgian Colts became the base pistols for most of his newly made Colt Army conversions. **(Photo 3)**

The Making of the Centaure "Mystery" Conversion

After some reading through the McDowell "Conversion Bible"



3 Centaure Regular New Model Army (RNMA) #11691—base pistol for the "Mystery" project



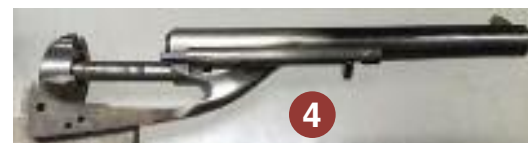
2 Original Colt 1861 Navy RM Conversion: note "ship bow" contoured barrel lug. Picture courtesy Collectors Firearms Houston, TX.

and calculating measurements, Nedbal started the project in earnest in the fall of 2009. **(see Table below)** Here is what we

Custom "Mystery" Centaures	Project Outline
Base pistol	RMMA 1 st variation, 2 nd sub-variation #1800, made 1875
Barrel	4 ^{1/2"} , 1861 with Colt 1860 Army conversion profile "flaw" corrected
Barrel marking	THE COLT CO. HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT "made 1875" MODEL ARMED
Caliber	.44 Colt, saddle horn design, 45° rifling groove
Ejector	Richards-Mason type
Frame	altered to Centaure profile, notches added to divide thick to thin deck
Wedge	Centaure
Conversion ring	special, Richards III type
Conversion cylinder	newly fabricated macaroni type, Centaure proprietary
Flange	altered to match general altered previous type from Centaure
Locking gate spring	altered
Flange strap	Centaure Grand, with notch on back for absolute safety
Trigger guard	Centaure Grand
Plating	nickel, including both screw neck band, other parts (optional) Centaure-machined

had on November 9, 2009. See pictures below. Nedbal had completed the following steps:

- reshaped the 1960 Army barrel lug like one of a Colt 1861 Navy Richards-Mason conversion,
- plugged the slot for the loading lever in the barrel lug, and
- installed the RM-type ejector housing. **(Photo 4)**
- Although the "S" line on both sides of the barrel lug is now more pronounced in true 1860 Colt-fashion, no harm was done to the Liège Proof house acceptance marks on its left side dur-



ing this operation (below picture), and

- removed the typical "Centaure step" where frame and barrel lug meet.
- For the Mystery, Nedbal left the Belgian factory arbor in place. A modification for reliable function was not necessary. Note the lack of separate grease grooves on this late type Centaure arbor.
- However, he opened the right side of the recoil shield wide to make room for the internal spring loaded gate of general RM Navy 1861 outline, making it just a mite larger. **(Photo 5)**
- For a PC installation of the Richards III type conversion ring of "saddle" design, the mas-

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ter would have to attach it to the recoil shield by a screw. This required working on the two



5

notches for the shoulder stock and welding them shut. He then contoured and finished the area to shape, and *voila* ... now this is no longer a RNMA frame...

(Photo 6) ... but this little operation transformed it into a Civilian frame, see above and below. Neat little job, isn't it?

Regarding the finish of the Mystery conversion, we have a change of the original plan that called for nickel plating in true Mexican fashion. After the RM



6

experience, it is going to be Nedbal's traditional rust blue. He will make every effort to maintain the pretty factory case colors of the frame. (Photo 7) November 14, 2009: The loading gate is

shaped and installed. Please, note the following small, but important, details of



7

this conversion ring: it has this enlarged section at its base to straddle the frame, and it flares out on both sides where it meets the frame.

December 3, 2009 and the beat goes on: Nedbal is approaching completion of the Mystery conversion. The conversion cylinder has already been milled to specs by now, but Nedbal had to remove a tiny layer of steel from the forward area of the frame. This is because, for reasons unknown, Fabriques d'Armes Unies de Liège had lathed the original C&B cylinder of #11691 with a diameter ca. 1 mm less than what is

the norm (!), and had adjusted the position of the arbor in the recoil shield accordingly. In other words, the overall height of the barrel lug is smaller than those of other Centaures or an original Mystery. (Photo 8) December 7, 2009

brings more news from down range on the Mystery front: The cylinder lathed from 1.7225-42 CrMo4-V320 steel is completely done now. This #11691 is turning into a glorious PITA. The technician 1972 back at Fabriques



8

Conversion cylinder lathed, ratchets cut ...

d'Armes Unies de Liège in Belgium had cut the slot for the hand in the recoil shield too far off center compared to original Colts and other Centaures. Therefore, it will engage only half of a ratchet tooth. However, the teeth of the conversion cylinder have only half the width of what is needed for reliable engagement, due to the recesses for the cartridge rims in the breech side. To correct this, Nedbal opened up the slot towards the center for proper functioning and made a new, wider hand (same as for an original). This is one of the chal-

(Continued on page 36)

Hats Off To Starline COWBOY SHOOTERS

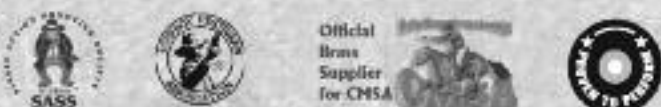
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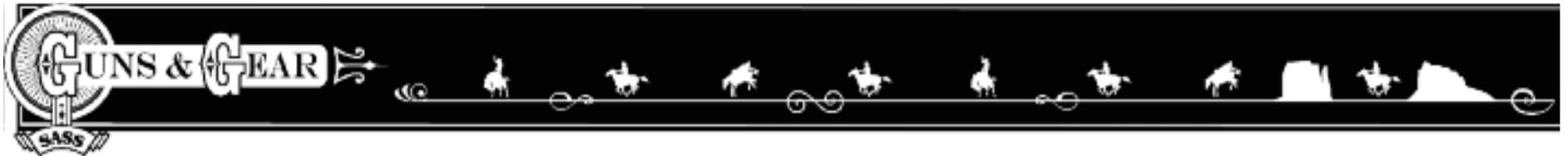


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The Trail To The Unfamous Centaure Mystery Conversion . . .

(Continued from page 35)

lenges the master needs from time to time to maintain his sharpness, I reckon ... **(Photo 9)** December 15, 2009: Notches are cut into the cylinder. Nedbal test-fires the Mystery conversion for the first time with my light nitro load behind 200 grainers. **(Photo 10)** The pistol will be transferred to the Vienna Proof house now for proof testing before the finishing tasks can be completed. **(Photo 11)** January 30, 2010: The deed is almost done. The Mystery conver-



... and cylinder installed. Note slot on the right side of the barrel for the ejector housing

sion has passed the Viennese proof testing procedure. Nedbal's contract engraver has applied the naval scene with the legend NEW MODEL 44 between the scenes. The barrel marking CENTENNIAL TRADE MARK "1960 NEW



MODEL ARMY" has been maintained. **(Photo 12)** She is now ready for the master's finishing touches: Installation of the .429 diameter liner for my .44 Colt inside lubricated bullets, adjustment of the sights to hit POA and finally, the rust bluing of the barrel assembly, new cylinder, and other

formerly cyanide blued parts.

1st European FROCS Meeting 2010 and the Other Important Little Details: Unfortunately, due to some business projects, I could not put my hands on her before July 16, 2010, but the Centaure Mystery conversion was pre-

ented to the public on occasion of the 1st European FROCS Meeting to celebrate 50 years of the Centaure "1960 NEW MODEL ARMY" in Hofheim, Germany, on July 17 and 18, 2010. **(Photo 13).**

Together with the factory engraved Presentation RNMA and the FROCS Special, the Mystery

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13

Right side view of the Nedbal Centaure "Mystery" conversion: Does this re-contoured forward portion of the barrel lug look like the bow of a yacht to you? Now I understand why the US Navy preferred the stylish RM conversion of the Colt 1861 Navy over the 1860 Army, ha!

conversion was one of the highlights of the Centaure exhibition of Sunday, July 18, 2010. She surely got proper attention of the initiates.

Our visiting cowboys and cowgirls of the German Cowboy Action Shooting™ faction, and particularly, ruling European champion of the Classic Cowboy category, Lederstrumpf, SASS



Right side view of frame and cylinder



Yours truly a bit blurry, but happy, just before the 1st round is fired!



Narrow conversion ring rests like a saddle on frame, 44 CAL stamped on trigger-guard



After 10 rounds of relaxed shooting



Hole in conversion ring for firing pin, long lip of loading gate



Proof marks, caliber stamp, and NK again for Karl Nedbal under barrel



... engraved Centaure naval engagement scene with correct marking between the scene ends. Diameter of rebated portion is increased in line with other Nedbal conversions

#69087, all liked her a lot after firing a couple of rounds at the pistol range of the club.

The functionality of the Centaure Mystery was flawless. Experienced Cowboy Action Shooting™ and bulls eye shooters had no issues with the narrow rear sight, unlike some target shooters who were used to Remmies and R&Ss.

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(Continued on page 38)

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The Trail To The Unfamous Centaure Mystery Conversion . . .
 (Continued from page 37)



The tiny rear sight is difficult on some shooters not used to Colt open-top (OT) type revolvers.



"Mystery" is a very special, one-of-a-kind conversion revolver. None of the US or European conversion artists ever made one as far as I can tell! That is, until Karl Nedbal got bitten by the vicious Centaure conversion bacillus!

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NEW this Year on **FRIDAY** - **LONG RANGE MATCH** immediately following completion of the 5 Main Match Stages.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. 29 SASS Categories offered and include the Wild Bunch and Cody/Dixon. A minimum of five (5) entries are required to establish a category.
2. ~~Prizes shall be limited to a maximum of 20 persons. Absolutely no category/prize changes shall be made after the first shot of Main Match on Friday.~~
3. Shooters **MUST COMPLETELY** fill out the information requested to ensure correct Category and Prize Assignment! **IF THE SHOOTER FAILS TO provide ALL of the information, there can be no guarantee of Category or Prize Assignment! INCOMPLETE FORMS MAY BE RETURNED WITH PAYMENT.**
4. Young Guns ages 13- 17 years. Buckaroo - Buckarette ages 9- 12 years - No shooters under the age of 8.
5. \$25.00 Late Fee on entries postmarked after 02/13/12. Cancellation must be made in writing. No refunds on cancellations will be made after 02/23/12.
6. **NO GOLF CARTS, MOTORIZED GUN CARTS, OR VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED ON THE RANGE.**

IF SHOOTER NEEDS TO POSSE WITH FAMILY MEMBER(S) as specified in #1 above (a) check YES

Name(s) _____

Categories - CHECK ONE ONLY

MEN: - Cowboy (all ages) - Wrangler (26 & up) - Gunfighter - 457r - Duckst - Senior Duckst - Frontier Cartridge - Senior (50 - 64) - Silver Senior (65-69)	- Elder Shooters (70 & up) - Frontiersman - Frontier Cartridge Duelist - Classic Cowboy - "B" Western - Young Guns (9 thru 12) - Buckaroo (13 thru 17) - Cody/Dixon Single - Cody/Dixon Lever - Wild Bunch	WOMEN: - Cowgirl (all ages) - Lady Wrangler (26 & up) - Gunfighter - Duckst - Frontier Cartridge - Senior (50 - 64) - Silver Senior (65-69)	- Grand Dame (70 & up) - Classic Cowgirl - "B" Western - Ladies 457r - Young Guns (13 thru 17) - Buckarettes (9 thru 12) - Cody/Dixon Single - Cody/Dixon Lever - Wild Bunch
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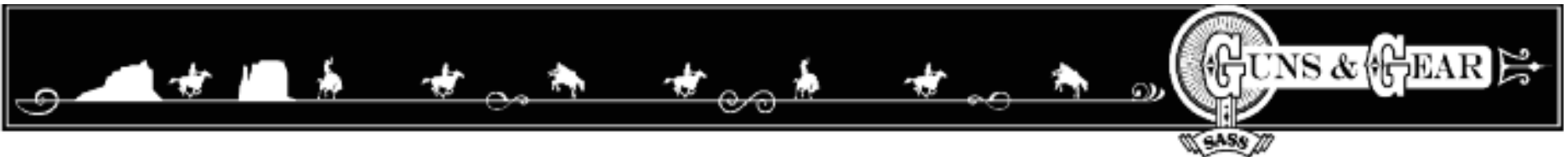
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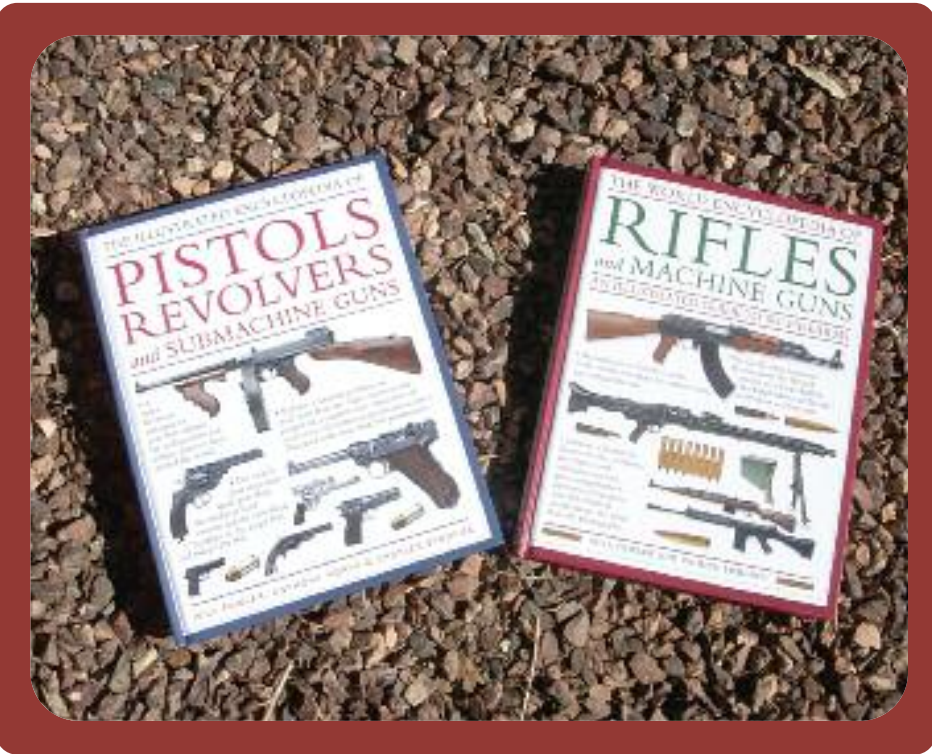
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Whooper Crane,
SASS Life #52745

By Whooper Crane,
SASS #52745



Howdy Pard:
We had such a great response to our Bargain Barrel Buddies *BOOK* review in last September's *Catboy Chronicle* that we decided to tell you about another superb book bargain at Barnes and Noble. And, to make things even better, we have a "matching set" of Bargain Buddies to recommend this month.

These are two incredibly well put together cocktail table books that, between them, cover the entire spectrum of firearms from their very beginnings right up to modern guns like the fantastic Dillon Aero.

Their titles are *The World Encyclopedia of Rifles and Machine Guns* and *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Pistols, Revolvers and Sub-machine Guns* by Author Will Fowler and others.

Lets look at the Rifles and Machine Guns book first.

Actually, the first guns were arrow-firing bamboo tubes used by the Chinese as early as the 12th Century. They were terribly inaccurate as you can well imagine ... and prone to exploding if overloaded with their crude gunpowder.

Powder itself made its way to Europe in the 12th Century where

some bright guys figured out how to use it in crude cannons and, then in the early 14th Century, in "hand cannons" as they were known.

It's hard to believe today's M134 Minigun and Vulcan multi-barreled guns, which can fire up to 6,000 rounds per minute, could have their roots in these early attempts, but they do.

The book goes on to describe how the hand cannons evolved into flintlock muskets, percussion lock rifles, cartridge guns, lever-actions, bolt actions ... all the way to the sophisticated guns used by today's warriors and sportsmen. It's a wondrous story, both well-researched and well-written.

Of particular interest to me was the extensive section on Machine Guns and the role they've played in wartime, from the Gatling Guns of our Civil War right up to the present day's high-tech automatic weapons.

If you're a gun nut, you'll enjoy discovering all sorts of well-known and lesser-known rifles and carbines of the world ... from 58 different nations.

And, for just \$9.98, you can pick up this \$30-value Bargain Barrel Buddy at Barnes and Noble.

As mentioned earlier, this book has a companion piece devoted to handguns and Submachine Guns. They're usually found side by side on the Bargain Books table.

The second book goes into the same depth of coverage as the previous one with just as many outstanding photos and illustrations of the very earliest hand cannons through matchlocks, wheel-locks, snaphances, flintlocks, and all the rest up to today's fine semi automatic pistols.

Then it moves into my favorite area, Submachine Guns (SMGs)!

Italian soldiers were the first to use SMGs in 1915. Theirs was designed by Abiel Revelli and was know as either the "Villa Perosa" or the "Fiat," depending on which company made each gun.

WWI also saw German soldiers attaching shoulder stocks to fully-automatic models of the famous 1895 broomhandle Mauser and using them as trenchbrooms during "The War To End All Wars." There were plenty of experimental models from just about every nation involved in that conflict, but none in any great supply.

Most of us give credit to American Inventor John T. Thompson for creating the first/best SMG with his M1928 "Tommy Gun." Even though it got a bum rap as the "Violin of the Gangs" during Prohibition, the Tommy Gun became the go-to weapon for Britain, the U.S., and many of our allies during WWII.

The war also saw any number of SMGs used by the Germans (MP38 and MP40 "Schmeisser"), the Brits (various Stens and Sterlings), the Russians (PPSh-41 "Shpagin") and the Japanese (Nambu Type 100). The U.S. supplemented its famous, but expensive, Tommy Gun with the less-costly M3 "Grease Gun" late in the war. These guns saw action all over the globe.

If you want to learn a lot about

handguns and SMGs, this is your book! And, for a paltry \$9.98 at B&N's Bargain table, how can you go wrong?

Better yet, smack down a picture of Andrew Jackson and walk away with *both* of these outstanding books!

You'll get over 500 pages of gun-guy reading with a couple thousand photos and illustrations of guns, gun makers, gun accessories ... and lots of other great gun stuff! They're definitely Bargain Barrel Buddies!!!

Photos by Deadeye Al

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44 MAG		300 FP
45/70	NEW	405 RNFP

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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

Revisiting the Black Powder Smoke Standard

By Captain George Baylor, SASS Life #24287

It is expected the blackpowder competitor shall contend with smoke-obscured targets. To insure this, all shotgun, revolver, and rifle powder charges must produce smoke at least equivalent to a base line load of 15 grains by volume (1 CC) of FFg blackpowder.

The blackpowder standard was developed using the following loading data:

- Standard .38 Special case

- 1 CC Goex 2F Powder
- Federal Standard primer
- 145-grain bullet lubed with SPG
- Powder lightly compressed with a medium roll crimp

Any challenges to the blackpowder standard will be administered using the process listed below in the *Appeals, Challenges, and Protest* section. Also, the Range Master may, at their discretion, require the testing of any ammunition suspected of not meeting SASS ammunition requirements at any

time during the match. If a competitor's blackpowder ammunition is checked, they will be asked for five rounds from each suspect firearm, preferably already loaded at the loading table. These loads will be compared to the amount of smoke produced by this published standard regardless of the specific loading techniques or components used. Failure to comply will result in a penalty for not adhering to category guidelines. The first offense is a procedure, the second offense in

the same match is a stage disqualification, and the third offense in the same match is a match disqualification." - *Range Officer Safety Course Level II, Version K, January 2011*

The smoke standard was originally written using 1 CC of Goex Cowboy. It was generally felt Cowboy had less smoke per CC than any currently available blackpowder or substitute. Hodgdon, the new owner of Goex, is simplifying the product line and has discontinued

(Continued on next page)

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Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

(Continued from previous page)

Cowboy, so now the smoke standard uses Goex FFG. Goex FFG is NOT the lowest smoke per CC available.

To see what effect this would have, I made up a batch of smoke standard ammunition. I used a 1.0 CC Lee Dipper, Black Dawge 145 gr. bullets with SPG lube, Federal small pistol primers, and standard .38 Special brass. It is my intention to have a box with me at any match I attend and make it available to any committee needing smoke standard ammunition. I have been at major events that didn't have such ammunition and thus couldn't test any doubtful ammunition.

I made up several test loads of commonly available blackpowder and blackpowder subs in an effort to find out at what point failure occurred with various powders. Testing every available powder in every available granulation was not attempted. Until I did the testing, I assumed 1 CC of any currently available BP or BP sub would pass with almost any bullet. Since fillers such as ground corncob (Black Dawge Filler), grits, or corn meal are consumed during firing and add to the smoke, I used Caulk Backer Rod (CBR) filler when needed, as it doesn't add to the smoke. Although sometimes the burning CBR wad will be visible going down range, it is clearly sep-

arate from the general smoke.

The test was done at Founders Ranch in August, at 75-80° F, in humid conditions just after a rain. This accentuated the smoke, making the test easier. Preliminary testing in higher wind, drier conditions had proven inconclusive. Additionally, preliminary testing convinced me I needed judges who shot blackpowder.

Blackpowder shooters Shirley Shooter, SASS #33848, and Shaky Shooter, SASS #33849, acted as judges. Both of them stood behind the shooter (me), with Shirley off to the left about five feet and Shaky right behind me. This gave us multiple angles. Shirley could see the length of the smoke column, for example. They did not know which round was which.

Because substitutes are less dense than blackpowder, using grains weight was too confusing. 12.8 gr. of APP 3F, 11 gr. Triple 7 2F, or 10.3 gr. Pyrodex P equals 1 CC, for example. So all measuring was done in CCs. I used a Lee Dipper to measure powder volume.

Blackpowder and Pyrodex pretty much require a special blackpowder bullet lubricant such as SPG to prevent fouling. American Pioneer Powder and Triple Seven prefer smokeless lubed bullets. Some lubes smoke more than others. The bullet and lube used were

noted for each load.

A new model Ruger Vaquero .38/.357 with a 4-3/4" barrel was used for all of the testing.

a 1.18" group at 15 yards. The 105 gr./1.0 CC APP FFG load averaged 855 ft./sec. for a power factor of 89.8 and grouped 0.69". Passing

Powder	Vol. (CC)	Bullet (gr.)	Bullet Lube	Filler	Pass/Fail	Remarks
APP 3F	1.0	105			Pass	More smoke
APP 3F	0.7	105			Pass	
APP 3F	0.5	105			Fail	
Pyrodex P	1.0	105			Pass	Darker smoke
Pyrodex P	0.7	105		CBR	Fail	
777 2F	1.0	105			Pass	
777 2F	0.7	105		CBR	Fail	
Goex Express 3F	1.0	147	SPG		Pass	More smoke
Swiss 3F	1.0	147	SPG		Pass	More smoke
Elephant 2F	1.0	147	SPG		Fail	
Cowboy	1.0	147	SPG		Fail	Old Std

DISCLAIMER: Due to the subjectivity of the test, the inability to calibrate absolutely, and the variations due to weather, light, and conditions, no guarantees are offered or implied that any marginal load (the one below which failure occurred) will pass at any given time. Do not extrapolate data and apply it to similar but not exactly the same powders. For example, Swiss 3F passes with 1.0 CC in the test load. Swiss 2F, which wasn't tested, might or might not pass. If in doubt, increase minimum passing loads by 10-15% margin.

I did some testing of comparable loads with and without compression and with light vs. heavy bullets. The results were variable enough I can't make a prediction. If in doubt, test. If your load is so light that changing bullet weights will make it legal/illegal, it's probably too light for all weather/light conditions. Upping it to a definitely legal condition probably can't be felt in recoil, and the smoke won't be functionally that different in competition, meaning you won't shoot slower.

FYI

I included a couple of these loads the last time I was doing Ransom Rest and Chronograph testing. The weather was hot, 89° F, dry, and we were at 5700 ft. altitude. The Smoke Standard Goex FFG load averaged 638 ft./sec. for a power factor of 93.8, and produced

the SASS 60 Power Factor is not required in blackpowder categories, but this gives an idea of how the loads compare to competitive smokeless loads. I think it is difficult, if not impossible, to make a .38 Special (or larger) load that passes the smoke standard that does not also exceed the minimum power factor.

We didn't do any .32 H & R Magnum testing. It is the most likely caliber to be checked simply because its size is marginal. But one of the reasons for the 1.0 CC standard is the fact you can get 1.0 CC in a .32 H & R Magnum case with a normal sized bullet and reasonable compression. Passing the standard was doable when the standard was Cowboy. It should be now, especially if you use APP FFG, which gave the most smoke per volume in our tests. If in doubt about your loads, test them against smoke standard loads.

The smoke standard has achieved its purpose, which is to make sure contestants in the blackpowder categories have to contend with smoke. Sometimes, when it's windy, it doesn't matter. But at ranges facing east (such as Founders Ranch, the home of END of TRAIL, or the Tombstone Livery, home of Bordertown), if you can see after firing one round on a calm, sunny early morning stage without "bobbing and weaving," you probably need more powder! 🐾

Guns of August . . .

(Continued from page 28)

had a great time. Big Six Henderson won the poker tournament. During the banquet the silent auction of cowboy items raised nearly \$1200 for the Hospice of Dayton in memory of Huckleberry Honey (Deadwood Stan's wife).

Speaking of the banquet, it was great to see all the cowpokes dressed up in their various costumes reminiscent of that period. Sexy Sadie and Artie Fly from Major Photography did all the posse pictures and were on hand for more formal portraits in the anti-room. George Stengal and the folks of Stengel's Catering provided a first class prime rib dinner. Two buffet tables were going simultaneously, and the carvers had hot and juicy prime rib piled deep on the plate.

After dinner and all the awards were given out, we were highly entertained by the witty cowboy songs of Frederick Jackson

Turner. You may have seen him featured on Midway's Cowboys TV show. He's not only a college professor, but a world champion Duelist competitor as well. He's a true American original whose music has won prestigious awards and has several albums, including *The Way of the Cowboy*. All in all, it was a mighty fine time!

Large numbers attend Guns of August every year. And to a person, they all agree it's the hospitality of the Middletown Sportsman's Club, the Big Iron Rangers staff, the stage designs, and the cowboy camaraderie that keep them coming back. Come see us again for Guns of August 2012. It should prove to be a bang up time celebrating our 15th year of hosting this event. If you are interested in competing in the next Guns of August or any cowboy event in Ohio, please check out the SASS web site.

Hope to see everyone back next year! 🐾



ONE POT CHUCK

Cooking Up Some Tasty Grub Like Cookie Did Out On The Trail

By Whooper Crane, SASS #52745, and The Missus



Whooper and The Missus

then turns them into a cookout delight. He uses Bush's Black Bean Fiesta Grillin' Beans and those tasty Lit'l Smokie sausages from Hillshire Farms because he likes to whip up his victuals without a whole lot of wasted effort.

The crowning glory is baking drop biscuits in the same Dutch Oven while you're heating up your bean mixture. (Remember, this is One Pot Chuck!) This method produces a biscuit that's somewhat moist, like a dumpling, so we call them *Bisclings*.

Serve it all up with chunky applesauce and an adult beverage of your choice, and you'll be in hog heaven 'round your campfire!

Big Wolf's Beautiful Beans and Bisclings

Ingredients

- 6 Strips of thick bacon
- 2 Cans of Bush's Black Bean Fiesta
- 1 Package of Lit'l Smokie sausages
- 1 Cup of whole kernel corn (drained)
- 1 Cup of pickled red peppers or sun-dried tomatoes (chopped)
- 2 Cups Bisquick
- 2/3 Cup milk

— Butter and Honey for the biscuits

Directions

- Build a good bed of glowing coals.
- Lay bacon in the bottom of your Dutch Oven.
- Combine the beans, sausages, corn, and peppers in a big bowl.
- Pour this mixture on top of your bacon.
- Now, place Dutch Oven on your coals.
- Cook for 20 minutes with lid on.
- While this is cooking, make your



Would you like some more, Gonzo?

biscling batter by combining Bisquick and milk (don't knead).

Drop golfball-sized blobs of batter *right on your beans*.

Cover DO with lid and put 10-12 hot coals on top.

Cook for another 20 minutes. Test bisclings for doneness.

Remove bisclings and set aside. Serve generous portions of everything to your hungry cowboys.

Applesauce or other fruit are great go-withs.

Photos by Deadeye Al.

Our good shootin' buddy, Big Wolf, got the idea for this month's recipe after enjoying one of Cowboy Doug's fantastic Chuckwagon Feasts during the Bordertown Match at Tombstone in October.

Big Wolf starts with beans and

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HORSE PLAY

STEERING YOUR RIDE



Valrico Kid, SASS #77635

By Valrico Kid, SASS #77635

Volume 6

On this trip I want you to exercise your imagination and utilize your visualization, and we'll have some fun.

Just recently I was again counseled by a championship shooter on the importance of using your mind to actually picture what you are going to do in a stage, as if you were watching yourself in a movie. This mind exercise is as critically important as the muscle memories developed through thousands of repetitions of gun handling and

other basic techniques. I have been told this many times before for many different applications, and accept it as accurate and true. I have also heard and know intellectually that cigarette smoking is a bad thing, but I still do it, which only shows some of us are slower learners than others. Mind-movie visualization is difficult for me, but I'm working on it ... dang it, where the heck did I leave that lighter?

Anyway, now let us allow our minds to drift and think about steering. I'm not talking horses

right now; I'm talking about various vehicles with which we all have experience, and the connection to horses and analogies will emerge from the fog later. If you've ever driven a large truck, a big rental truck, a massive motor home, or even that weekend RV, two things are quickly perceived from behind the wheel. First is the reality when looking through the windshield, it is obvious this monster is much larger and wider than the skinny little traffic lane in which you're supposed to remain.

Second is the distinct feeling turning the steering wheel seems to have little immediate effect upon the direction of travel or the constant wandering. There is also the added benefit of being totally disconnected from the road, and you would only notice losing one of the rear tires after observing flying rubber and smoke in your rear-view mirror. Very unnerving.

Continue this mind drift through the increasing levels of vehicle precision you have experienced. Remember those 24' long hog wallowers of the 60s and 70s like the Buick Electra Convertible? Yea, something happened all right if you turned the steering wheel too sharp! You scraped the rocker pan-

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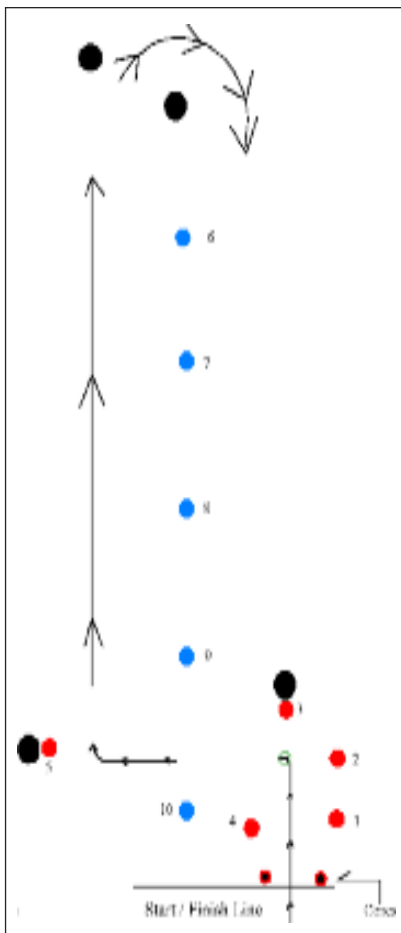




els on the pavement. Talk about body roll! Car design and performance progressed greatly in the 90s and 2000s, where road feel, precision, and performance with economy were the new masters. These production vehicles were now better than track racing cars of just the previous generation.

Lastly imagine if you can, the open wheel racers of Formula 1, where the mere thought of driver input is transformed into immediate action and a tiny pea rock stuck to the tire seems larger than granny jumping creek beds on the way to the post office. This, by the way, if you happen to live in Florida, is not as rare of an occurrence as you may think. It's not because granny is out having fun, it's because she's on her way home from the glaucoma clinic, wearing her disposable Ray Charles glasses, and is completely oblivious to the world beyond the horn ring on the steering wheel. But, I digress.

The point here is that horses are sensitive to inputs in varying degrees. But, just like in different types of vehicles, there are various sizes and types of horses. It is important you as the rider, leader, and partner must first do an objective evaluation of your mount. Are you riding a Winnebago or a Ferrari? The subtlety of your steering input must be adjusted accordingly. We have a husband and wife that are riding Percherons for Mounted Shooting. I simply love it! When those dark monsters come rumbling around for the run-down, you can hear the thunder in their hooves



and feel the ground shake. WOW! This is a far cry from the little Arabian who seemingly and smoothly sneaks around the course in a delicate fashion, or the quarter horse who can explode with acceleration. So, like in driving various vehicles where something happens when you turn the steering wheel, the same is true when steering your mount using legs and reins. The basic technique and end result are the same. The differences are all in the subtleties required that are suitable and compatible with your ride.

So now, here are some things to practice either at home or at your training facility. In Mounted Shooting, the best and majority of successful steering comes from the legs and not the hands; think of the reins as a subtle secondary control mechanism. Below is a discussion of why I say that. Feel free to refer often to the practice diagram below as you sift through my blather. The whole intent of this specific practice design and exercise was to promote steering control and demonstrate to the rider the subtle problems that can arise as additional movements are added. This can help to plant a mental picture in the rider's mind of what they were or were not doing at any given moment and the intended and unintended consequences of each.

The first time through the course, at a walk, the riders were instructed to keep their hands on the reins, enter the course exactly centered between the cones, and focus on heading directly to the barrel of target #3 without even looking at targets #1 and #2. Then

at the appropriate shooting distance, turn and head directly to the barrel of target #5 and again at the correct shooting distance turn and head directly toward the furthest barrel at the end of the course. Upon reaching $\frac{3}{4}$ of the distance, they were to stop. The stopping move is to purposefully keep the horse under control and remove the anticipation of the final turn and run-down.

Fifteen riders walked through the course, and by the third try, each and every one had total control, and to any observer it appeared to be a well-organized parade.

The fourth time through, the riders were instructed to finger point and pretend shoot at the first five target balloons. It is worth noting here no penalties had to be given out for incorrect loading, inappropriate pretend gun handling, or sweeping of others with loaded fingers. But what did happen was quite astounding and instructive. All of a sudden the cohesive, orchestrated parade turned into a country western side-winding dance all over the place.

Why? Because the riders were changing the steering wheel input without even realizing it—the act of raising their shooting arm, turning their heads to look at the target, subtly changed their seat, their legs, and their rein inputs.

(Continued on page 47)

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MOUNTED SHOOTING

Training

By Banjo Bama, SASS Life #27693

I have been a Civil War Reenactor for almost 20 years. I began as a cavalryman, and then progressed to Infantry officer, mainly because I was mounted, as most officers in the Civil War had a horse. In my early days as a cavalryman, our unit was growing, so we had many inexperienced riders and inexperienced horses that needed training.

Before I became a life member of SASS, I was competing in cavalry competitions, much like the Mounted competitions today with SASS. Our courses were set up with a jump of approximately 3-feet, draw your pistol and pop some balloons, draw your saber and whack a watermelon, then take 4-

inch rings off poles at full gallop. Each one of these disciplines is a challenge for rider and horse, and both need training and practice.

But first, you need to introduce your horse to gunfire. The new recruit, or sometimes a seasoned reenactor brought a new horse to our drills. After explaining the training exercise to the recruit, we would take the new horse, with the rider mounted, and place two experienced riders and horses on each side of the new horse. It is important to take your time and never rush this process. The rest of the mounted riders would form a large circle around the three horses in the center, being no closer than approximately 15 yards. Then we would start walking our horses in a circle

around the three horses. After a few minutes, when the new horse is settled and accepting the experience, the riders would draw their pistols, and pointing the pistols away from the circle, fire their pistols, one at a time, while watching how the new horse, (and rider) reacted.

Usually the first few shots caused the horse to flinch or circle, and when they did, firing stopped, while the rider and two "escorts" talked and soothed the horse. When he settled down, we would resume our circle and fire individually again, and repeated this until the horse did not flinch or try to bolt. If the horse accepted this process, then the circling riders would increase their firing, while increasing their pace. As the firing continued, we slowly reduced the size of the circle until we were approximately 15 feet from the three horses. Usually after 20 to 30 minutes of this exercise, the new horse dropped his head and began grazing, and at that point you knew it was time to go to the next step. If the new horse did not settle down and accept this part of

the drill, you had to stop, take a break, and try it again. If the horse does not accept this process, chances are the horse will not move to the next step and is not safe for firing while mounted.

The second phase is to put the new horse in line with the other horses, and start the horses moving at a walk. As other riders fire their pistols, (but not close to your horse), the rider of the new horse draws his pistol, holding it out to the side, and pointed upward, cocks and fires the pistol. When the first shot is fired from the horse's rider, most horses will flinch or try to speed up. It is important to anticipate the horse and if he does react this way, gather him and calm him before shooting again. At this point, your next step is determined by the horse's behavior. The good news is if you are still mounted and in the line at this point, you most likely have a horse that will continue to advance and learn to accept the noise and vibrations connected to firing a gun while mounted. From

(Continued on next page)

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Mounted Shooting Training . . .

(Continued from previous page)

this point, you and your horse can advance as the horse becomes more accustomed to the action.

I would also suggest bringing the new horse to an event, just to observe and get acquainted with the activities before starting the training. Exposure is important to any unnatural activity for a horse. The rider must also know what he is doing, in respect to handling a pistol, and understanding his horse. The calmer and more confident the rider, the calmer and more confident the horse. Horses

pick up our vibes and react to us. If the rider is tense and nervous, the horse picks up on it and thinks, "Hey, if he is scared, I need to be scared too!" So, be cool and confident. It helps your horse accept new experiences.

There are other training methods to introduce a new or young horse to Mounted Shooting. This is just one of many acceptable exercises. I hope someone will benefit from my experience and develop a good bond between rider and horse. There is nothing more fun and enjoyable. 🐾

Horseplay - 6 . . .

(Continued from page 45)

Those who depended too much on rein steering rather than leg steering, and those who were too stiff within their own bodies had the most problems.

It is not easy, but like a good dancer, it is useful to keep what is happening in your lower body and legs isolated from what is happening in your upper body and arms while still maintaining your balance. Your lower body belongs to your partner! Try to imagine yourself as a bobble-head doll that is split above the waist instead of at the neck. Practice—practice on steering, stopping, and starting using your legs—and pretend the reins are for supplemental and specific inputs only, or maybe for 'emergency use' only.

In the next phase of practice with this exercise, the second half of the course was added, first at a walk. At the appropriate distance from the furthest barrel, the horse is directed into a radius turn that will place them in the correct position and set up for the run-down. The entire course was practiced this way at a walk, then at a lope, and riders added speed at their comfort level and where the distances allowed it, but maintaining steering control was the primary objective. When an acceptable level of steering and speed control is reached, then the next steps are progressing to finger shooting and then onto primer shooting.

Note here for practices and training we use a variety of loads for specific purposes. When I mention primer shooting I mean we take blank rounds that can no

longer be reloaded for practice or low loads because the upper brass is split from too many crimps. We cut those off and only insert fresh primers. These work well for beginning horses and to trick horses out of anticipation. For desensitizing and practice, we may load revolvers with a combination of primer load, ¼ load, ½ load, and match loads in no set order. This gets the horses used to a variety of sounds not associated with any particular circumstance. Pretty soon they come to accept anything we throw at them.

In conclusion, remember your horses are sensitive to inputs. If they can feel a fly on their hindquarter, do you actually think they can't feel what you are doing? It is the horse's confusion of receiving conflicting and inconsistent speed and directional inputs that causes problems. If they could talk, they might say, "Well just what the heck did you expect me to do when your butt says run, your leg says go left, and your ham-hand says something different? So I decided I'd just get you the heck off my back, so there!"

Practice, practice, and practice your steering and control. Do not worry about speed and beating the timer because you will soon discover the speed will come naturally and smoothly as you gain control.

If you are interested in further information about some of the team members, people, places, techniques, or products discussed, you can email me at:

valricokid@tampabay.rr.com.

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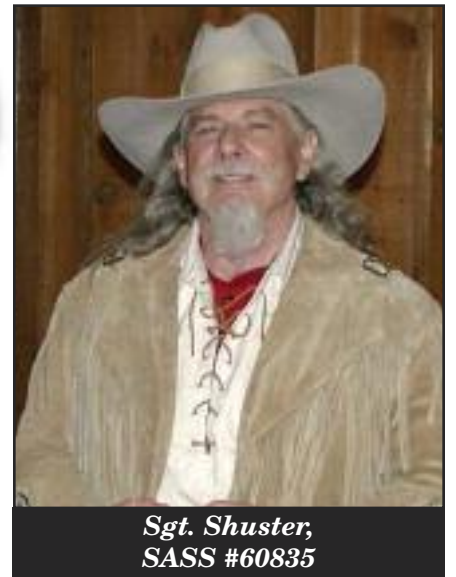
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GERONIMO

Goyathlay and the Massacre at Kas-ki-yeh

By Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835



Sgt. Shuster, SASS #60835

Most of us know of the Apache leader Geronimo, but most of what most of us know we learned at the movies. Leader of the Chiricahua Apaches, Geronimo led the fight against the expansion into Apache tribal lands by the United States during the Apache Wars. But you knew that much from the movies. Here is how it all began.

Geronimo was born on June

16, 1829, a birth date he gave himself, near Turkey Creek, a tributary of the Gila River, in what is now the western part of the state of New Mexico. It was in Old Mexico then, but in reality it was Bedonkohe land. He was given the name, "One Who Yawns," or Goyathlay in English (often Gokhlayeh or Goyahkla and spelled Goyaaḗ in the Chiricahua dictionary). In more recent times, the Fort Sill

(Oklahoma) Apaches have suggested his birth name meant, "Intelligent, shrewd, clever."

Goyathlay was raised with his three brothers and four sisters by his father, Taklishim and his mother, Juana in the Apache traditions. Mako (Mahko), his grandfather, had been chief of the Bedonkohe band of Apaches. Following the death of Taklishim, his mother took Goyathlay to live with the Chihenne, the "Red Paint People." It was with the Chihenne band (Warm Springs) that Goyathlay reached maturity. At the age of 17, he was admitted to the Council of Warriors and began to lead raids on Mexican and American settlers, stealing their horses. He quickly became known for his craftiness and ferociousness. He was also given permission to marry Alope, a woman of the Nedni (or Nedni)-Chiricahua band. With Alope, Goyathlay fathered three children.

With his wife, Alope, his mother, Juana, and three children to support, Goyathlay emigrated to the Big and Little Burro Mountains area of Arizona, where he met and formed a deep and lasting friendship with Mangas Coloradas (or Dasoda-hae, which means Red Sleeves), father-in-law of the famous Cochise.

But all was not peaceful, and there were historical precedents for that lack of peace. In order to counter notable Apache raids on settlements, the government of Spain had established presidios, fortified settlements, at Janos in Chihuahua and at Fronteras in northern Opatá nearly 200 years before. As late as 1835 the Mexican state of Sonora in an all-out effort to rid the Sierra Madres of the Apaches passed a law offering one hundred pesos (roughly equal to one American dollar) for every scalp of an Apache warrior. Two years later, by 1837, the state of Chihuahua set a scale of one hundred pesos for a warrior's scalp,

fifty for a woman's, and twenty-five for a child's. It became increasingly dangerous for any Apache to live anywhere in Apacheria. Geronimo and his Bedonkohe adherents had come under the full leadership and protection of Mangas Coloradas. And, by the 1850s, Mangas Coloradas became principal chief and war leader and began a series of retaliatory raids against the Mexicans. Apache raids on Mexican villages were so numerous and brutal that no area was safe.

That said, in the spring of the early 1850s, the Apaches were at peace with the Mexican towns and at peace with the surrounding Indian tribes. On a trading trip south to Casa Grande in Old Mexico, with Mangas Coloradas leading, they stopped at the town of Janos in the Mexican state of Chihuahua, a town the Apaches called Kas-ki-yeh. It was a peaceful expedition, the women and children were along, and they stayed for several days. Every day the men went into Kas-ki-yeh to trade, leaving the camp under the protection of a small guard so their arms, supplies, and women and children would not be disturbed during their absence.

It was while most of the men were off trading Colonel José María Carrasco led a company of 499 Mexican soldiers from Sonora in an attack on Goyathlay's encampment. The Mexican troops swept down upon the campsite and butchered nearly everyone in sight. It was while the Apaches were on their way back to the campground from Kas-ki-yeh that Goyathlay and the others were met by a few women and children who informed them of the massacre. Upon reaching camp, they discovered all of their guard war-

(Continued on next page)

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Geronimo . . .

(Continued from previous page)

riors killed, their horses captured, their supplies destroyed, and their arms gone. Even worse, many of the women and children had been killed as well.

Fearing the murdering soldiers would return, the Apaches quickly separated and hid until nightfall. Assembling in a thicket by the river, they placed sentinels and silently filtered back into the encampment. Goyathlay discovered that among those who lay dead were his young wife, his three small children, and his aged mother. All had been brutally slain by the soldiers. Goyathlay quietly turned away from the carnage and stood alone in his grief by the river.

That night, in the Warriors' Council, it was decided as there were only eighty warriors left, without arms or supplies, surrounded by the Mexicans and far inside Mexican territory, they could not hope to fight with any success. Mangas Coloradas gave the order to leave the dead in the camp and return at once to Arizona.

Goyathlay was dumfounded. As the rest of the band passed him by, he stood there and contemplated that he had no fight in him, he had no weapon, he was forbidden to recover the bodies of his family, and he just felt empty inside. He finally turned and followed the tribe in silence. The next morning, while some killed a small amount of game and stopped long enough to cook and eat, Goyathlay killed no game, and did not eat. He spoke to no one and no one spoke to him. There was nothing to say.

Goyathlay's depression was deep but understandable, especially his feelings of sadness and emptiness. His reduced interest in activities he once enjoyed and his loss of energy were all common signs of melancholy. The words of Goyathlay, dictated to and translated by Asa Daklugie and edited by Barrett, also describe Goyathlay's difficulty in concentrating, holding a conversation, paying attention, or making decisions that used to be made fairly easily. These are all symptoms of a deep depression.

They walked for two days and three nights stopping only for meals. Finally camping near the Mexican border, they rested two days. Here Goyathlay began to come out of his depressed mood. He took some food and talked with

the other Indians who had lost much in the massacre. Goyathlay felt none had lost as much as he had, for he felt he had lost all. They arrived home within a few days. There Goyathlay found the decorations that Alope had made and the playthings of his little ones. Following the Apache way, he burned them all, even his tepee, and he burned his mother's tepee and destroyed all her property.

Goyathlay vowed vengeance upon the Mexican troopers who had wronged him, and whenever he saw anything to remind him of former happy days, his heart would ache for revenge upon Mexico. His depression turned to a deep, burning anger and hatred for all Mexicans. The stress caused by the trauma he experienced in the slaughter of his family turned Goyathlay from a peaceful Indian into a bold warrior, and he carried that enraged, burning, post-traumatic abhorrence against the Mexicans until his dying day.

His chief, Mangas Coloradas, sent him to Cochise's band for help in getting revenge against the Mexicans, and Goyathlay soon joined that famous band of Apaches known as Chiricahua, and with them took part in numerous raids in northern Mexico and across the border into U.S. territory. It was those Mexican adversaries who gave Goyathlay the nickname of "Geronimo." It is said Goyathlay was given the name Geronimo (Jerome) by Mexican soldiers because of the daring feats he performed. Few historians agree to the reasons.

Goyathlay became exceedingly fierce and unafraid in his war with the Mexicans. Each time they saw him the soldiers would begin to cry out in terror, "Cuidado! Geronimo!" In one battle, ignoring a deadly hail of bullets and armed only with a knife, Goyathlay repeatedly attacked and stabbed the Mexicans, purportedly causing them to call out supplications to Saint Jerome, allegedly the Patron Saint of the Mexican Army. Although in the Roman Catholic Church, Jerome is recognized as the patron saint of translators, librarians, and encyclopedists, Jerome did write quite a bit about the horrors of hell and perhaps it was in this context the Mexicans were asking for his aid.

Goyathlay attributed his numerous raiding successes to his special spiritual insights and abilities known

(Continued on page 53)



*Joe Fasthorse,
SASS #48769*

LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE Way Out West -

By Joe Fasthorse, SASS #48769

Oliver Milton Lee

Oliver Milton Lee was born in 1865 in Texas, but spent most of his life in New Mexico. During Lee's life and times he was a Deputy U.S. Marshal, a rancher, a gunman, and a state Senator. He was a crack shot with any weapon and an expert with a pistol in either hand. In 1884, he and his brother Perry bought a ranch in Dog Canyon (near present day Alamogordo, New Mexico) and founded the Circle Cross brand, which still exists. When Lee sold his ranch, his holdings had grown to over a million acres.

But growth wasn't easy on the western frontier. Owners of larger ranches tried to limit the growth of smaller ranchers. Squabbles led to gun-fights, and Lee was involved in many of them. In 1895, Col. Albert Jennings Fountain, a large landowner, set off a range war when he swore out warrants for Oliver Lee, Jim Gilliland, Bill McNew, and 23 other small ranchers. The charge was cattle rustling. Weeks later, Fountain and his 8-year-old son disappeared. Oliver, Jim, and Bill were suspected of murder. They were chased and overtaken at Wildy Wells by Sheriff Pat Garrett. A gun battle broke out, and Deputy Kurt Kearney was killed before the posse withdrew. Lee knew he would never get to trial if he gave himself up to Garrett, so he didn't surrender until his good friend, George Curry, was appointed Sheriff of Otero County. Charges against McNew were dismissed. Lee and Gilliland were acquitted. None of the other ranchers were indicted. The bodies were never found.

Oliver Lee later held office in the New Mexico Senate, and continued operating the Circle Cross Ranch & Cattle Company. He died quietly in 1941, at age 76. He had nine children and seven grandchildren. Several descendants still live and ranch in New Mexico. *J.*



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EMF's ALCHIMISTA II 1873 GREAT WESTERN REVOLVER

By Tuolumne Lawman, SASS #6127

Back in 2008, I wrote about a new version of the Great Western II revolver EMF introduced called the Alchimista. EMF and Pietta have now taken their "Alchimista" revolver one step further, and improved it with the Alchimista II. They have created another exceptional Cowboy Action Shooting™ main match revolver.

The Alchimista was named in

honor of Alessandro Pietta, of F.lli Pietta firearms, otherwise known by his SASS alias of "Alchimista," SASS #41531. This is the same configuration of the Great Western revolver Pietta had made by his factory (to his own specifications), for his personal use as a SASS main match revolver. Alessandro Pietta has been involved in Cowboy Action Shooting™ for quite some time, and is a driving force of Cowboy Action Shooting™ in Europe. (He insists his father is Mr. Pietta, not him. He is Alchimista.) F.lli Pietta had created an excellent 1873 Peacemaker clone in collabo-

ration with Boyd Davis at EMF. EMF markets this 1873 style revolver under its registered trade name of "Great Western II."

In Italian, Alchimista means Alchemist. The dictionary defines an Alchemist as "one who practices alchemy ... concerned principally with discovering methods for transmuting baser metals into gold." Well, Alchimista has certainly continued turning steel into gold with his latest offering of the Alchimista II. It is a 5 1/2" barreled, 1873 clone in .45 Colt and .38/.357, with modified hammer and trigger, and a longer brass 1860 Army grip frame with checkered stocks!

SINGLE ACTION ARMY HISTORY

The westward moving pioneers, cowboys, and Indian-fighting Army carried a wide variety of side arms prior to 1873. These include 1851 and 1860 Colt percussions and their cartridge conversions, 1858 Remington percussions and cartridge conversions, and even Smith and Wesson #3 American revolvers in both .44 Henry Rim-fire and .44 S&W American. The Army used most of the aforementioned revolvers on the frontier in varying quantities. With the increase in violence between the Native Americans and the encroaching settlers, they were particularly interested in the rapid firepower of self contained, metallic cartridge revolvers. With this rapid reloading capability, and in an effort to standardize in the early 1870s, the Army sought a durable, robust, and powerful sidearm with which to arm the U.S. Cavalry. Colt submitted the prototype 1873 Single Action Army for trials, along with their new, proprietary .45 Colt cartridge. The Colt offering was a single action, solid frame revolver with a 7 1/2 inch barrel and fixed sights.

This .45 caliber cartridge itself was a vast improvement over any of the revolver calibers in use up to that time. It used a 250 to 255



The Alchimista II offered by EMF Company, Inc. Great ergonomics and high quality make for a pleasant, competitive shooting experience.



Wide, set back trigger leaves plenty of room inside the trigger guard for big fingers.



10 yard target shows this particular gun shoots slightly high and left, but tight groups are the norm—even with rapid fire!

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The wide hammer spur makes for fast action, and is dramatically easier to cock when shooting one-handed.

grain conical lead bullet over 40 grains of coarse (FFG) blackpowder in a balloon head case. This potent revolver round developed well over 400 lbs. of muzzle energy, more than double that of the percussion revolvers and cartridge conversions. The round was so brutal in recoil, though, the army eventually reduced the powder charge to either 30 or 35 grains (depending on what source you read) to reduce the recoil. Even in this somewhat reduced load, it was still a potent stopper, equivalent to a modern .45 ACP in a 1911A1 pistol. (Author's note: current .45 Colt brass has a solid head, and will only take about 35 grains of blackpowder. About fifteen years ago, I found some old balloon head .45 Colt cases. I loaded these with 40 grains of FFFG Goex under a 255 grain bullet and fired them from a martial marked Henry Nettleton 1873 Colt SAA. It certainly did buck and roar!!!!) A man who was shot in the torso with a .45 Colt generally noticed it immediately, no matter how excited and full of adrenalin he might have been. The fight would almost certainly be over very quickly.

The Colt Single Action Army revolver (or 1873 SAA for short) itself was an improvement over the percussion and cartridge conversion revolvers of the day. The 1873 SAA had a robust solid frame with a top strap (initially developed by Ryder and Remington prior to the Civil War), rather than the inherently weaker strapless, two-part frames of the original percussion Colts and the cartridge conversions of those revolvers. It had very few moving parts, and these, for the most part, were very strong. I have had several First Generation Colts, the most recent being a 1902-made .38 WCF (.38-40) Single Action Colt. Though very well worn and somewhat loose from many years of use on horseback, it still fired EVERY time I pulled the trigger, and could shoot a tighter group than I could hold!

Also known as the "Peacemaker," the 1873 SAA was an instant success, not with just the Army, but civilians as well. With its

simplicity of design and ease of repair, it was a favorite on the frontier with lawman, bad men, gunmen, and cowboys. Initially offered only in .45 Colt, in 1878 it was released in .44 WCF (.44-40), marketed as the "Frontier Six Shooter" to be a companion piece to the popular 1873 Winchester. In 1886, it was released in .38 WCF (.38-40), also a companion for the newer Winchester 1873s chambered in the same caliber. In all, between 1873 and 1941, the Colt SAA was offered in over 30 different calibers from .22 to .455 Webley!

In the mid 1890s, the 1873 Single Action Army was replaced with a .38 Colt Double Action model 1892 revolver as standard Army issue. The Model 1892 .38 proved to be such a poor stopper in the Philippine Insurrection and Spanish American War (its dismal performance not equaling a modern .380 auto), the old Colt Single Action Armies were resurrected and re-issued. Many of these had their barrels cut to 5 1/2" to make them handier to use in the dense jungles. These have been commonly called "Artillery Models." The 1873 SAA remained popular with the Army until the issuing of the Model 1911 Colt .45 ACP semi-automatics just prior to World War One.

**EMF'S ALCHIMISTA II
.45 Colt**

The Italian firm of F.lli Pietta was one of the primary pioneers in making Old West revolvers. They started with blackpowder revolvers like the 1851 and 1860 Colts, and 1858 Remington revolvers. They are now among the leaders of the industry in manufacturing cartridge revolvers for Cowboy Action Shooting™ with their current line of 1873 Single Action Army Colt clones. These were created as a collaborative effort with EMF Company of Santa Ana, California, as the Great Western II. EMF's president Boyd Davis, a.k.a. SASS' Wild Bunch General Grant, SASS #2, foresaw the problems and eventual availability issues arising from Uberti being bought out by Beretta. This was one of the factors that motivated Boyd into developing and marketing the Pietta-manufactured Great Western II. They have now greatly improved quality control of Pietta revolvers since the pre-collaboration production standards. Piettas are now very comparable in quality to Uberti and even some Colts I have seen, though they are far less than the cost of even a basic Colt 1873 SAA.

When the Alchimista II arrived from EMF, I was not disappointed. It is almost identical to the original "Alchimista" and is just as gorgeous! It is a 5 1/2" barreled model, with a deep, lustrous polished blue



finish. The fit and finish is uniformly excellent. It has the "smokeless" style frame with transverse mounted, spring loaded, cylinder pin retaining screw of the post-1898 models. It also has the "smokeless" crescent style ejector rod. The metal-to-metal fit is perfect, as is the wood-to-metal fit.

The grip is the most interesting aspect of the "Alchimista" revolvers. It has the long, slender, brass frame grip of the 1860 Army Colt mated to the 1873 Colt frame. (There is historical precedent for this, as about 15 years ago at a high-end gun shop, I personally handled an old, first generation 1873 Peacemaker having an original 1860 Army grip.) It has nicely checkered one-piece walnut grips. When you first pick it up, your initial reaction is "WOW! What a nice feel!" The 1860 grip is longer and slimmer than the traditional 1873 Army grip. While not quite the ninety-degree angle of the Bisley Model Colts, it definitely points better and more naturally than the revolvers with the standard 1873 grip. If one of your main match guns is a Pietta 1860 Army with a .45 Colt R&D or Kirst Kon-

verter, the "Alchimista II" Great Western II with its 1860 grip would be a perfect revolver to pair with the 1860.

One of the improved features offered by the Alchimista II is a totally redesigned hammer. The spur is lower than a standard hammer spur, almost like that of Bisley model, though not quite as low and dramatic. It also has a wider thumb pad at the tip of the spur to ensure more positive control of the hammer when cocking the pistol. I found this redesigned hammer MUCH easier to cock with the strong hand thumb than the hammer on a standard Single Action Army. This was reflected in the extremely tight group size of rapid fire drills at 7-10 yards. The timing of the Alchimista II is right on the money. This model shares the modified trigger of the original Alchimista version. It is wider than the standard Colt Single Action Army and more set back. This allows for a larger finger in the not overly-large SAA trigger guard. The trigger breaks at 2 1/2 lbs, crisp with no creep. This is great for

(Continued on page 52)

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EMF's Alchimista II . . .

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keeping it on target while squeezing off a round. The Alchimista II's action is exceptionally light and smooth, facilitating quick cycling of the hammer. The front sight is a robust blade, and the rear sight notch is ample, giving it a great sight picture. This gives the Alchimista II very quick target acquisition.

How does the Great Western Alchimista II do as far as shooting? I took it to the Como, Mississippi, range to find out. It is certainly above average in the rapid-fire accuracy department. This is probably because of their great sight picture, the easily cocked lowered hammer, and its generally excellent trigger pull and smooth action. I had absolutely no problem doing a 1 1/2 inch, rapid-fire five-shot group at 10 yards. It is the most accurate Cowboy Action Shooting™ pistol I have fired in a long time! I used Mag-Tech .45 Colt Cowboy loads, and Black Hills .45 Schofield for the test. All groups were uniformly tight and consistent, though my sample tended to shoot a little high and to left. On a Cowboy Action Shooting™ target, a dead center hold would still result in a solid center of mass hit, though.

Conclusion

I know you won't be disap-

pointed. They will be available in two calibers: .45 Colt (which will also chamber and fire the .45 Schofield and .45 Cowboy Special rounds), and .357 Magnum/.38 Special. This variety should make most Cowboy Action Shooting™ shooters happy. It is available only in blue finish with color case hardened frame. As for barrels, it is only being manufactured with the 4 3/4" and 5 1/2" barrels. That's OK, though, as they are the most popular barrel lengths in Cowboy Action.

It should be fairly obvious to most people the Great Westerns, in general, are a much better buy for the buck than the "Real" Colts. While I do prefer to "buy American," when possible, it is not always possible in this global economy. The EMF Great Westerns are made by Pietta's craftsmen, in Brescia, Italy—a region famous for making guns since prior to the Revolutionary War. The Alchimista II in .45 Colt (or .38/.357) would be a good addition to anyone's Cowboy Action Shooting™ battery. Once you hold it and feel the balance, it will sell itself!

You can check out all the Great Westerns at their web site at: www.emf-company.com.

You can also call Debbie or Becky at 949-261-6611. Tell them ol' Tuolumne Lawman sent you! ♪

FACTOID

Carrying the flag was a dangerous job, as it often provided an easy target. On one day alone at Gettysburg, twenty three flag bearers were killed from just two units.

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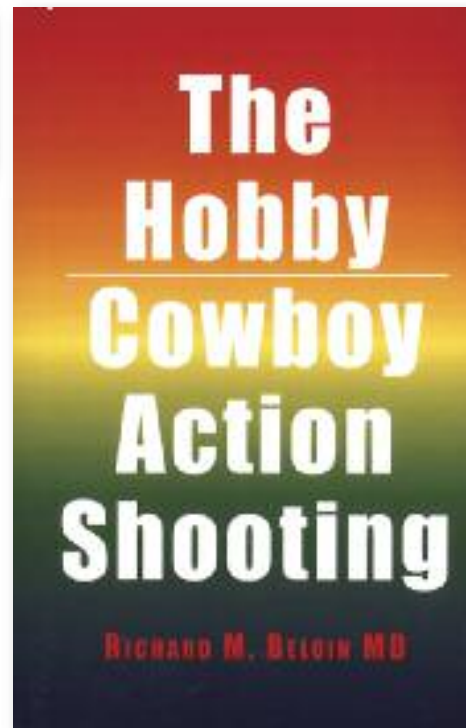
By Richard M. Beloin, MD

Reviewed by Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835

The contagious joy and enthusiasm Richard M. Beloin, MD has for Cowboy Action Shooting™ can be found in his book, *The Hobby: Cowboy Action Shooting*. When someone asked him why he was writing the book, Doctor Beloin replied, “Because I know a lot of stuff!” With more than 12 years experience in the sport we all love best, Beloin proves that he “knows a lot of stuff.” Beloin covers everything you’ve ever wanted to know about Cowboy Action Shooting™ and then some.

Even the most experienced

shooter might find something in this book not heretofore considered. Whether you are a novice or a skilled competitor, you’ll find just the information you’re searching for and exactly what you need in this 14-chapter book. Doctor Beloin covers everything from shooting accessories and firearm modifications to reloading and practice techniques. Want to know about shooting glasses? It’s in there. Looking for shotgun practice techniques? Look in this book. Want to start reloading? What you need to know is in *The Hobby: Cowboy Action Shooting*. Everything is in there! Beloin even



takes the reader on a typical day at a Cowboy Action Shooting™ match.

Reviewing Dr. Beloin’s book in *The Cowboy Chronicle* might be considered akin to preaching to the choir, but if you have a spouse, a relative,

or a friend whom you would like to get interested in the sport, buy that prospective Cowboy Action Shooter a copy of *The Hobby: Cowboy Action Shooting* and head for the range. This is a perfect introduction for the general public, as well as a starting point for a retiree looking for a hobby with action. And, Doctor Beloin recounts a lot of unusual and comic events he has experienced in over 12 years of shooting with SASS ... from brain cramps and procedurals to getting your spurs tangled and your hat airborne in a surprise wind.

Richard M. Beloin is a retired physician, best known in Single Action Shooting Society circles since 1998 as Doc Morgan, SASS #17885. He belongs to SASS affiliated clubs in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Florida, and is an award winning shooter. *The Hobby: Cowboy Action Shooting* is Doc’s first book and can be ordered from Xlibris.com.

Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835 is a social and cultural historian, founder of the Lincoln County Regulators in Ruidoso, NM, and purveyor of Kona Cowboy Coffee.

Geronimo . . .

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to Apache people as “Power.” He had a reputed invulnerability to gunshot, the faculty to walk without leaving tracks, and the abilities now known as telekinesis and telepathy. He was wounded by buckshot and bullets many times, but survived. Apache men chose to follow him of their own free will, and offered eye-witness testimony regarding his “Power.” They declared this was the main reason why so many chose to follow him: they thought he was favored or protected by “Usen”, the Apache high-god. Goyathlay believed that the bitter loss of his family brought him

his “Power.” While sitting with his head bowed in sorrow, he heard a voice tell him, “No gun can ever kill you, and I will guide your arrows.” The fact that he was often wounded, but remained alive, strengthened his conviction in this power.

At any rate, Goyathlay officially became Geronimo, and the name caught on. His “Power” served him well, and his exploits in the Southwest have become international legend.

Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #6083,5 is a social and cultural historian, founder of the Lincoln County Regulators in Ruidoso, NM and purveyor of Kona Cowboy Coffee.

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 NOTE: Reproducible photos of Geronimo are available from the National Museum of the American Indian’s Collection Search at:
<http://www.nmai.si.edu/searchcollections/results.aspx?catids=0&des=geronimo&src=1-5>



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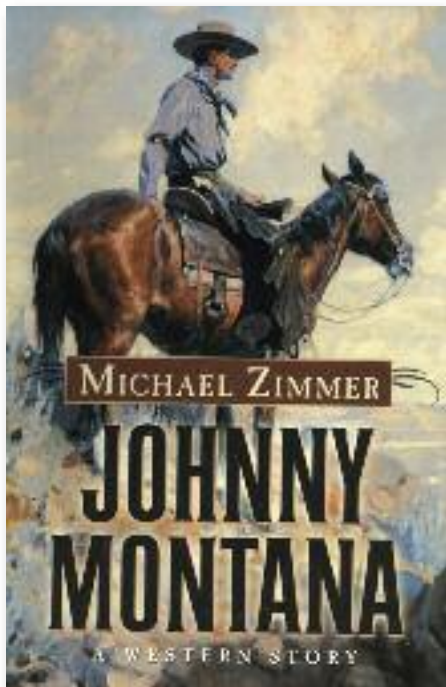
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JOHNNY MONTANA

By Michael Zimmer

Reviewed by Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835



John Owens became known as Johnny Montana in the Redhawk Mining District of southwestern Montana Territory. And, he and his partners became successful gold miners. Now Brett Cutter and his gang of cut-throats are attacking the miners and stealing their gold. So Johnny Montana and the miners decide the best way to avoid attack is to get the gold out of there. Johnny Montana is the hero and *Johnny Montana* is Michael Zimmer's western story. It's up to Johnny to get \$48,000 in gold dust and pea sized nuggets from the rough-hewn mining community of Ruby City to Salt Lake City. Others had tried it, and

no one had made it. This will be a hard book for you to put down.

Turn off the TV, settle down somewhere comfortable, and within a few pages, in an almost mysterious way, Zimmer will put you right in the middle of the action. In *Johnny Montana*, western novelist Zimmer will have you riding right along with Johnny and trying to get the gold out of Montana. You'll accept as true that you are in 1863 Montana Territory, giving Johnny a hand packing the gold in panniers, helping Allie Purcell get through that snowy pass with the bad guys in close pursuit, and coming off that last summit before Salt Lake City.

Michael Zimmer, author of five Western novels, is an American history buff who has done much research on the Old West. He has experienced many of the things his characters experience, has been on horseback treks with authentic 1800s equipment, and owns and shoots a number of Old West Firearms. While still in high school, Michael Zimmer started breaking and training horses. He grew up on a small Colorado horse ranch and now lives in Utah with his wife, Vanessa. His latest Five Star Western is *Wild Side of the River*.

Johnny Montana is published by Five Star Publishing, a part of Gale, Cengage Learning. Michael Zimmer's website is www.michael-zimmer.com. Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835 is a social and cultural historian, founder of the Lincoln County Regulators in Ruidoso, NM and purveyor of Kona Cowboy Coffee. 🐾



Postman, SASS Life #10622 2/11/49 - 10/28/11

By Lemon Drop Kid, SASS Life #36857

Springfield, IL Postman, AKA Gregory Leland Cross, 62, of Rochester, IL, passed away on Friday, October 28, 2011, at his home. The Postman was a Cowboy Action Shooter and a member of SASS for more than 15 years. He was a member and past president of the Long Nine Cowboys of Springfield, IL.



Postman stood very tall among his fellow Cowboy Action Shooters and was the first to offer new shooters assistance and equipment to pursue our sport. He was an RO-II and held the safety officer position on many occasions. Postman also taught many fellow Cowboy Action Shooters the correct way to reload and the care and maintenance of equipment.

The Postman always delivered and will be greatly missed by his posse.

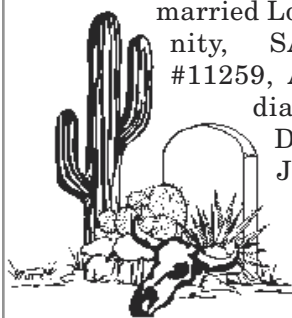
He was born on February 11, 1949, in Springfield, the son of Charles Robert Cross and Arlyce Mae Catron Fromm. He married Lotta Calamity, SASS Life #11259, AKA Claudia B. Van Dyke, on January 4,

1969, in Springfield.

He retired in 2004 after 34 years at the U.S. Postal Service as a lead mechanic. Postman served in the U.S. Navy in the Vietnam War, was a life member of Rochester VFW Post 11463, Springfield American Legion Post #32, and a member of Lefthanders Gun Club (Loami) and Grace Lutheran Church in Springfield.

The InterVeterans Burial Detail of Sangamon County conducted military honors.

He is survived by his wife, Claudia; daughter, Anjanette Lord (Randall) of Rochester; grandson, Christopher Stephen Puckett of Rochester; his mother, Arlyce Mae Fromm of Rochester; and a sister, Kelly Beck (Rick) of Springfield. 🐾



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APPALACHIAN SHOWDOWN

SASS West Virginia State Championship 2011



By *SunShine Marcie*, SASS #64900

Largent, WV – Shooters began arriving despite the minor rain for The Appalachian Showdown XX, SASS 2011 West Virginia State Championship, on Friday September 23, 2011. This year was a celebration of the past 20 years and drew over 100 shooters from 13 states! It was the 20th anniversary of the Appalachian Showdown and the 12th West Virginia State Championship! The Cowboy Action Shooting Sports club was among the first clubs to get started on the east coast and the Appalachian Showdown is the longest running annual match on



Don't drop the roosters!

Apathy.” This stage took place on Lane 1 at the fort and tested your ability to shoot as fast you could and reload your rifle. The other side matches included all of the favorite venues like speed shotgun with eight rounds, speed rifle, speed pistol, pocket pistol, derringer, and the entire suite of long range rifle events. The long-range rifle events are a bit challenging because of the uphill grade. 1st and 2nd place winners were



Top Gun Shoot-off winners – Rimfire Randi, SASS #87690, and High Noon Henry, SASS #67649. Good shootin'!

the East Coast! To celebrate, all registered shooters received a free entry for a regular monthly match in their shooter's packet. Like early Showdowns, posse leaders gave each shooter a ribbon. Every posse had a different color. All of the main match stages were chosen from previous Showdowns and full of action.

Side matches started on Friday with a mini stage called “Last Stand at Fort

recognized in each event.

During the opening ceremonies after the national anthem, Punch SASS #4368, was recognized as being the only shooter to attend all 20 Appalachian Showdowns. He will be the guest of honor at next year's Showdown. Lady Benson was recognized for being the host of all the Appalachian Showdowns at the Singing Hill Ranch. Deputy Doran, SASS #66296, was made the newest member of the Cowboy Action Shooting Sports territorial rangers for her hard work over the years.

The shooting started on Stage 1 with a “target rich environment” sporting three different shooting positions and a target for every shot! Stage 2 started with a branding iron stirring a

fire and branding a dummy. Stage 3 consisted of pulling an arrow out of the adobe wall before shooting a rifle. Stage 4 had the shooter cutting a deck of cards to determine on which target to start. Black meant left to right, red meant right to left. Stage 5, “I'll take the money now!” had the shooter shooting a pistol through the bank teller bars, then picking up two money bags, but don't drop them!

Stage 6 was one of the favorite stages. The shooter starts standing in a doorway with a rooster under each arm. Say “Reach or run you rotten ricochet ravine rooster rustling wranglers!” At the buzzer, set the roosters on the hay bale in the doorway and engage the five
(Continued on page 56)



Working Costume Winners – Ruby Blast, SASS #74331, and Yankee Hoot, SASS #74330.

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Appalachian Showdown XX . . .

(Continued from page 55)

pistol targets in two left to right sweeps. Move to the left window, remove a rooster from the rifle, set it on a hay bale, engage rifle targets in two left to right sweeps, move to the right window



Lady Benson has hosted the Appalachian Showdown for all 20 years at the Singing Hills Ranch.

and remove another rooster from your shotgun, and put it on another hay bale, and then engage the six shotgun targets.

Stage 7 included the posse for the starting line. Stage 8 started with a strongbox, and the shotgun and rifle were shot while sitting on a stagecoach, and there was a Texas star. At stage 9 don't forget to give the horse a beer. Stage 10 "Fire in the hole" had the shooter remove dynamite from the mine wall, take it with him, push the ore cart to the end of the track, and throw the dynamite past the end of the ore cart. These were just a few of the highlights on each stage.

On Saturday there was an onsite BBQ and side match award ceremony. Every shooter when they picked up their shooter's packet during registration got to draw a door prize. This was made possible because in January Miss Shir Dar, SASS #52388 started calling businesses to ask for donations. Big



Miss Shir Dar, SASS #52388, says "Pick your Prize!"



Punch, SASS #4368, has attended all 20 of the Appalachian Showdowns!

ticket items were drawn after the side match awards.

On Sunday, shooting started with a little rain, but it stopped within an hour and the last four main stages were completed. At the awards ceremony, Twin, SASS #9553, was named the overall match winner and WV State Men's champion. SunShine Marcie was named the overall ladies winner and Ladies' WV State Champion.

After the awards ceremony, the top eight men and top eight ladies went head to head in the top gun shoot-off. Each shooter stood behind a horse rest, engaged five targets on a Texas star with a pistol, engaged a shotgun popper with a clay bird, then five rifle knock-downs, and reloaded for any targets missed on the star or not knocked down. A separate reload was used for the stop popper. High Noon Henry, SASS

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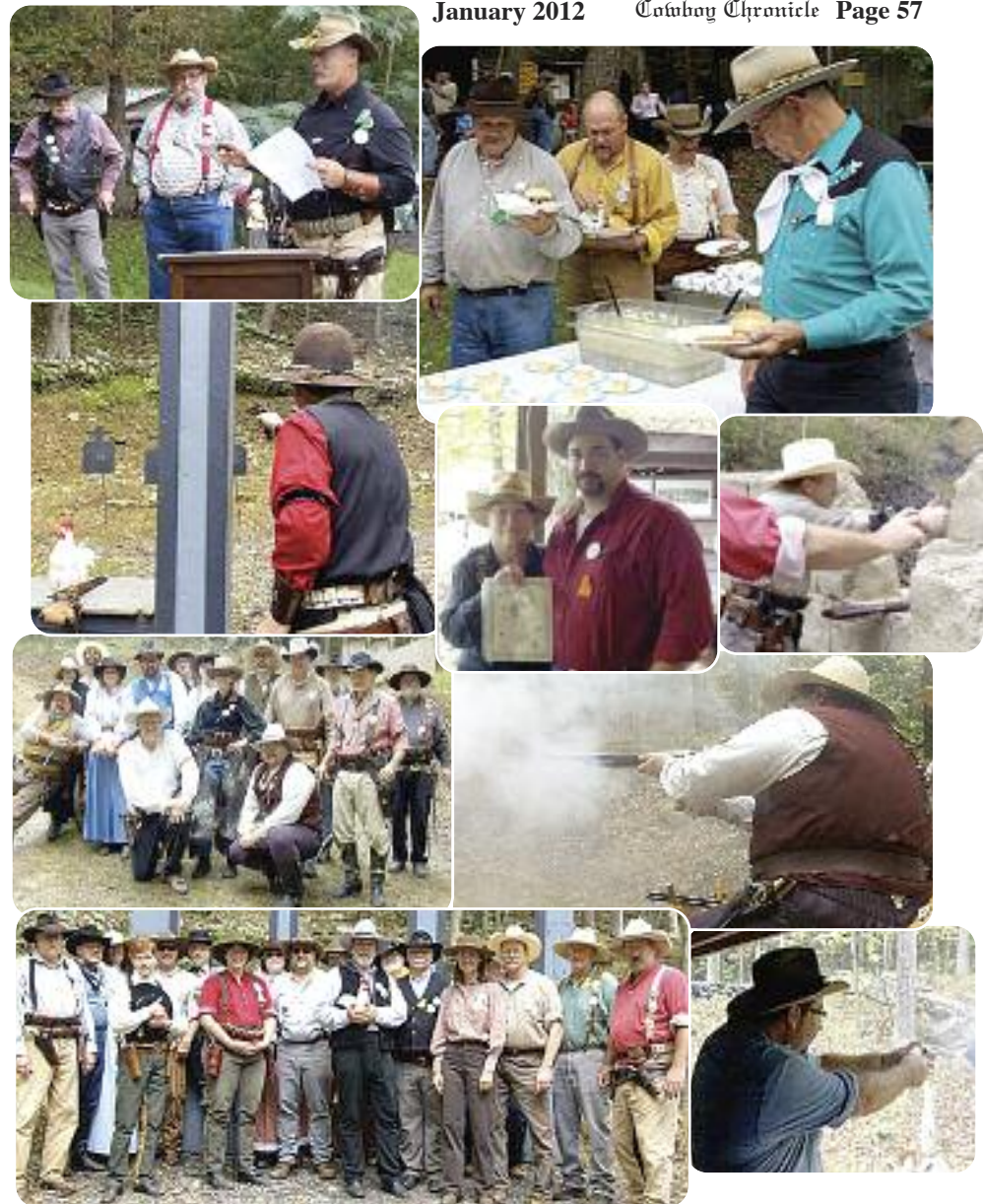
West Virginia State Champions – Twin, SASS #9553, and SunShine Marcie, SASS #64900. Congratulations!



Newest CASS Territorial Ranger, Deputy Doran, SASS #66296

#67649, was the men's champ and Buckarettie Rimfire Randi, SASS #87690, was the ladies' champ with the LADY as the overall champ!

If you missed the fun this year, we hope to see you next year for Showdown XXI September 21, 22, and 23, 2012! 🤠



**Winners
Overall & West Virginia
State Champions**

Man Twin, SASS #9553
Lady SunShine Marcie, SASS #64900

Category

49'er Punch, SASS #4368
L 49'er Lady Lopez, SASS #89552
Buckaroo Jake Earp, SASS #80174
Buckarettie Rimfire Randi, SASS #87690
B-Western Lucky, SASS #70337
L B-Western Ruby Blast, SASS #74331
Cowboy Hand Cannon, SASS #60485
Cowgirl SunShine Marcie, SASS #82128
C Cowboy Dutch Coroner, SASS #82128
Duelist Big Fred, SASS #28338
L Duelist Willa C.U. Parrish, SASS #92399
E Statesman Flatboat Bob, SASS #32310
F Cartridge Mud River Marauder, SASS #58809
L F Cartridge Tricky Trina, SASS #59582

F C Duelist Missouri Marshal, SASS #50682
F Cart. GF Jack U Mist, SASS #65183
Gunfighter Walker Colt, SASS #3035
Senior Goatneck Clem, SASS #16787
L Senior Misfire Maggie, SASS #69350
Wrangler Twin
L Wrangler Last Word, SASS #22225
S Senior Rascal Rick, SASS #51258
L Silver Sr Tango Rose, SASS #51321
S Duelist Chilliwack Buck, SASS #57645
Young Gun Birds Eye Jack, SASS #58564

Top Gun Shootout

Man High Noon Henry, SASS #67649
Lady Rimfire Randi

Side Match Winners

Derringer
Man Twin
Lady Miss Shir Dar, SASS #52388
Buckaroo Maverick, SASS #92789

Pocket Pistol

Man Twin
Lady Side Saddle Sue, SASS #73023
Buckaroo Maverick

Speed Rifle

Man Twin
Lady SunShine Marcie
Buckarettie Rimfire Randi
Buckaroo Maverick

Speed Pistol

Man Twin
Lady Side Saddle Sue
Buckarettie Rimfire Randi
Buckaroo Maverick

**Speed Shotgun
Double Barrel**

Man Dutch Coroner
Lady Ruby Blast
Buckaroo Maverick

Model 97

Man Hand Cannon
Lady SunShine Marcie
Buckarettie Rimfire Randi

**LR Rifle
Single Shot**

Man Cicerone, SASS #90958
Lady Ruby Blast
Buckaroo Maverick

Lever Action, Rifle Caliber

Man Mad Dog Max, SASS #92788
Lady Ruby Blast
Buckaroo Maverick

Lever Action, Pistol Caliber

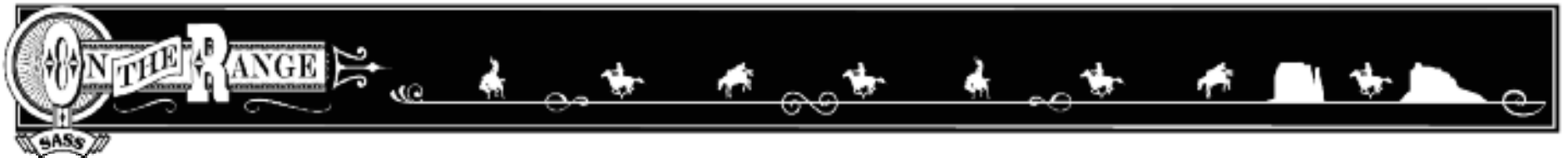
Man Three Toed Pete, SASS #81589
Lady Ruby Blast
Buckaroo Maverick

Last Stand at Fort Apathy

Man Punch
Lady SunShine Marcie
Buckarettie Rimfire Randi
Buckaroo Maverick

Memorial Awards

Three Barb Benson Memorial Award—64th place
Gentleman Doc, SASS #68157
Hardrode Memorial Award —34th place
Bull Shoals, SASS #25400
Dusty D. Weems Memorial Award —27th place
Flatboat Bob, SASS #32310



Smoke in the Badlands

Oregon's First Blackpowder Championship Shoot!

September 10, 2011

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375

Bend, OR – PROLOGUE: To emulate the Oregon of yesteryear, we turn the pages of history back to 1873. We find ourselves deep in the heart of Central Oregon's high desert country where Chief Paulina and his band of renegade Paiute Indians could pounce upon us at any time! We note some of the Pioneer Shooters have the new Winchester Model '73 Rifle and others have the older '66. We also note regardless of year, both rifles are in large calibers, thus meaning when fired they will belch-out a great deal of acrid grey smoke. The Scene is set, and there

is no doubt soon there will be "Smoke in the Badlands!"

WHAT IT WAS LIKE AT THE SHOOT: All of Oregon's "Darth Vaders" were there. My Pard, Juniper Butch Cassidy, SASS #2229, and I decided against our better judgment to load-up some dark stuff and join the Vaders in their first annual blackpowder championship shoot. These dark side shooters seemed to be having a great deal of fun, so we thought we would join them—it was a good decision. Some of the visiting Oregon Shooters were not as brave as Butch and I, and they decided to shoot the same stages as the



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Vaders, but with smokeless powder, not the dark stuff. Their decision was okay with us—regardless of what powder they used, they had to breathe in the same acrid air as all of us, and they would not receive any blackpowder shoot recognition—so be it.

Butch and I were surprised to be treated as well as we were—the Vaders were polite and offered to help when necessary, so the day turned out to be a pleasant surprise, although cleaning up one's firearms after the shoot was a job and a half. Now I understood why some of our visiting shooters opted to remain with smokeless! Hey, no problem, this is Cowboy Action Shooting™ at its best, and we love every aspect of it!

There was something unusual about this shoot, and it took Butch and me a few minutes to figure it out. The first clue was the Match Director wore a skirt, and her hair was long and blonde. She spoke with an authoritative voice causing Butch and I to pay close attention and not to mess around with the obvious authority. The lady Match Director turned out to be none other than Pine Mountain Posse's Cascades Annie, SASS #70533. We knew she had joined



the dark side some years ago, but we had no idea she took it upon herself to coordinate with SASS Headquarters for permission to host the very first SASS approved Oregon State Blackpowder Championship shoot. At that very moment Butch and I realized lady Cowboy Action Shooters™ can manage shoots as well as men can—we resolved then and there to hunker down and follow the commands. It was comforting in a way to realize you were not in charge and the lady in question had complete control. "Okay Pards, let's listen up and follow directions," someone said. The next command (direction) was to shut up and get to shootin'—this we did.

The Shoot was a one-day

match consisting of five stages, all of which seemed to be downwind from the shooter. Frequent coughing was the norm, and one lady (see accompanying photo) wore a strange apparatus over her face to help with her breathing. We discovered latter (when she removed her face mask) the lady was Powder River Rose, SASS #77227, whose Cowboy outfit is colored in pink, to remind us of the ongoing fight to eliminate breast cancer. This lady not only campaigns well, but shoots even better—she is now the Oregon State Blackpowder Ladies' B-Western Champion. I bet she repeats next year!

THE STAGES: No traps were set. The scenarios for the five stages were straightforward and clearly understandable. The targets were set-up close so missing was an embarrassment with which one had to live, and there were some, like me, who were embarrassed. We have a "Hell Town" on the range that seems to invite knockdown shotgun targets in between buildings. Over the years an "authentic" look has developed on the buildings caused by a few errant shotgun rounds. There are also some larger holes caused by the aforementioned large caliber rifles. For some reason, left to conjecture, the saloon seems to



draw lead like a magnet!

Blackpowder shooters are a special breed—reminiscent in a way of what we know about Pioneer Mountain Men. They are set in their ways and by golly no smart aleck wimp loading smokeless runt is going to tell them different. Understanding this is very important, especially during a state championship shoot, so Butch and I kept as low a profile as possible—we called these blackpowder shooters "Vaders," but only when they were out of ear-shot, and only in a whisper.

The Vaders invited Butch and me to shoot black stuff after dark in an event they were calling "Thunder and Lightning Shoot," but since we were both wheezing and breathing with some difficulty, we decided to go to Butch's motor home and drink a beer instead. Those that lit up Central Oregon that evening reported it




was the most fun they have had since hitting steel buffalos at 1,000 yards. See what I mean? Everything they talk about is related to the dark stuff—leading me to believe they truly believe the Force is with them!

EPILOGUE: Registration fee for this shoot was a mere \$25, and that included lunch! Cascades Annie said she will make every ef-

fort to keep the price down for next year. Be looking for next year's Oregon State Blackpowder Championship Shoot, and other shoot announcements on the Pine Mountain Posse Website at:

www.pinemountainposse.com.

You're a Daisy if ya do! 

Winners	
Overall	
Lady	Cascades Annie, SASS #70533
Man	Stonewood Kid, SASS #62875
Category Champions	
L F Cartridge	Tuffy Tumbleweed, SASS #68204
F Cartridge	Stonewood Kid
Cowgirl	Sweet Shots, SASS #92782
L B-Western	Powder River Rose, SASS #77277
L 49'er	Cascades Annie
E Statesman	Palaver Pete, SASS #4375
S. Senior	Juniper Butch Cassidy, SASS #20209
Senior	Tex Dover, SASS #46312
Frontiersman	
E Statesman	Sam the Snake, SASS #86974
Senior	Barbarosa Mike, SASS #16837
C Cowboy	Brownie Nash, SASS #3656
F C C Cowboy	Silver Sage Outlaw, SASS #70532
S. Duelist	Will Sackett, SASS #59872
F C Duelis	Tetherow Tex LaRue, SASS #90999
49'er	Gunfight Hite, SASS #68203
Frontiersman	I'm Grumpy, SASS #40135
Gunfighter	Dynamite Capps, SASS #63270
F C Buckaroo	Kid Curly, SASS #92409
F C Y Gun	Huckleberry Hickok, SASS #88886
Smokeless Winners	
Top Man	Hoss Reese, SASS #88815
Top Lady	Pepper G, SASS #89336
Category Winners	
Wrangler	Hoss Reese
Gunfighter	Gawd Awful, SASS #88002
E Statesman	Ballarat Slow Lee, SASS #65231
L Wrangler	Pepper G, SASS #89336
Cowgirl	Awful E. Nice, SASS #92849
Clean and Smooth	
	Barbarosa Mike
	Brownie Nash
	Juniper Butch Cassidy
	Powder River Rose
	Silver Sage Outlaw
	Stonewood Kid
	Tex Dover

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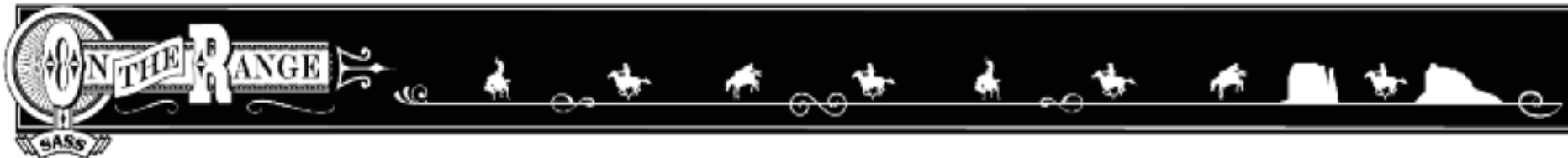


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Smoke on the Ridge I

SASS 2011 Pennsylvania State Blackpowder Championships

July 16, 2011

By Professor Silas Tinker, SASS #83502

Ickesburg, PA – Situated in a rural valley of south central Penn's Woods is a site among the ridges and hollows special to SASS cowboys and cowgirls. The Perry County Regulators call that gathering spot Regulator Ridge, and to that bit of a rise came forty-seven Lords and Ladies of Soot to try their hand at the 2011 Pennsylvania State Blackpowder Championships.

The Ridge has seven bays, all with props hinting at places of western tales and highlighted by a new, ground-up restoration of the hotel/saloon/jail complex. The Regulators had the waddies, the scenarios, the awards, and the know-how; all that was missing was the smoke. Well, the followers of the Holy Black certainly provided that! The result was Smoke on the Ridge I.

The six scenarios were based on the movie *Open Range* starring Robert Duvall and Kevin Costner. Penned by Letort Lawman, SASS #12300, four involved movement. With all he was doing in the week's prior the match, Letort didn't know whether he found a rope or lost his horse, but like all the Regulator volunteers, it was taken in stride.

Any sulphur and brimstone cowboy knows you contend with smoke, and with three of the bays facing north and the other three opening westward, a breeze should give relief some of the time. That is if any zephyr swept down the valley. Milton wrote, "... above the smoke and stir of this dim spot ..." but smoke so thick a bat couldn't fly though it was



Group picture of shooters and waddies at Smoke on the Ridge.

the norm as a visit by Zephyrus was not to be for much of the day.

Stage 1 had Boss (Robert Duvall) and Charlie (Kevin Costner) facing Baxter and his men in the street. Boss works his way to the feed store and retrieving a stashed shotgun blasts one of the Baxter gang through the wall. Shooters finished off this stage by shooting two rounds through a cardboard "wall." I retrieved the sections after the shoot and can tell you they were as full of holes as a cabbage leaf after a hailstorm.

Charlie's "bootin'" of one of the bad guys was the theme of Stage 2. With nothing to shoot at but the miscreant's foot, Charlie takes the shot and scores. Likewise the competitors had their chance at a bonus if the first round of their rifle segment hit the boot on the hill. I scored for Posse 1 and was pleased to be able to record a five second bonus for everyone.

The corral was the site of Stage 3. After the gunplay has died down, Charlie hears shooting in the

town's thugs. This stage is my favorite on the Ridge as it involves what I label "the skateboarding scallywag." Shooting the tripper (usually with rifle as done today) starts a cowboy sidlin' his way down a gentle incline. You have about seven seconds to get off your final four rounds!

A break for lunch and the posse heads for TK's chuck wagon. Now the heat begins to send most "shadin," as it got so hot you had to prime yourself to spit with the vegetation welcoming such kindness as it hadn't rained since Noah.

Stage 4 finds us at the outhouse which will double for the feed store tool shed where Baxter's men think they have Charlie cornered. They empty their guns into it, but are surprised to find all they were doin' was imitating lead termites—there's no one inside. Charlie drops down from above, kills one, and kicks out the shed's side to gun down the other. This was a challenge and a half for the shooters of Posse 1, as all shots were delivered from the outhouse doorway, and the smoke just hung in



Ozark Bob makes smoke at the Cut and Shoot Corral.



Jingles Jerr takes on the skateboarding scallywag.



Coroner received the Spirit of the Game award for his part in Smoke on the Ridge.

front of the shooter in a fog of battle so thick you couldn't hit the ground with your hat in three tries.

Smoke was far less a problem in the hotel where a fan worked full time for Stage 5. Blowing the length of the building, (it really is a building as many of the shooters used it to change clothes after the awards



Deputy Duran works through the smoke on Main Street.

and prior to heading home), it aired it out in fine fashion. This replicated the scene where Baxter is holed up and Boss and Charlie decide to put an end to the cattle baron's ways. Even with some movement from saloon bar to hotel table, fast times were recorded here with big rifle targets taken in a Nevada sweep, four clays with the shotgun, and another double tap Nevada sweep with pistols.

Stage 6 recounts Boss and Charlie's run on Baxter, Marshal Pool, and his deputies as they threaten to kill Button. Again, no air at all in a western facing bay where the rifle is first. Shooters were left facing a wall of smoke that snakes would have to climb a tree to oversee. Those who made the most smoke had to duck, lean, stretch, and wait the longest before moving down the range to engage the first pistol targets; then grabbing shotgun to move further down range for four knockdowns, and finally taking on the final five pistol targets, just like the chase down the street in the movie. All that's left is for Charlie to seek out Sue and declare his feelings ... and for Sue to deliver the greatest line in the movie, "Charlie, do you know how old I am?"

Time to head to the pavilion for some jawin' and cake—seems it was Saddle Silks', SASS #83503, birthday and her hubby thought it might be best to reward her waddie duties in the first aid area.

As the shooters found their way to shade and friends to recount shots made and those missed, the vagaries of wind and heat, and any other explanation of hits and misses, a few launched into tellin' a windy 'bout things of a humorous nature. One such tale involved a straw-hatted cowboy who so took a liking to the three huge rifle targets of Stage 1 he forgot the 2-6-2 order and dumped eight shots on the sec-

The renovated new hotel, saloon, and jail on stage 5.



ond plate. The teller then recounted he kept leverin' the gun while trying to wish two more beans in the tube. It was not to be.

Elder Statesman Newt had slowly, but methodically, cleaned each stage as we worked toward the posse's last, Stage 6. The RO reported what the spotters all agreed upon—one miss. As Newt signed his scorecard for the stage, he shook his head and then smiled with the grace I see him exhibit at every match. He had had "fun" and that was what the match and friends awarded him. A great show of the Cowboy Spirit.

Five cowboys did tack lead on every target and were recognized for clean matches: Pinelands Kid, SASS #53311, Church Key, SASS #33713, Jingles Jerr, SASS #555463, Slowpoke John, SASS #45304, and Biloxi Bob, SASS #22644.

The work of our waddies and volunteers made this championship as smooth as the fur on a pup's ear, so a big thanks goes out to the trail bosses.

Coroner was registered to shoot in the match, but a trip to the hospital to have surgery changed those plans. However, he still attended to harass, I mean support, his fellow shooters and help as score keeper, spotter, or anything else he could do. That is the meaning of Cowboy Spirit, and he was presented with a "Spirit of the Game" award to honor his dedication.

Thanks also to our sponsors and a special tip of the Stetson to the River Junction Shootist Society for hosting the previous four Blackpowder Championships. The folks on Regulator Ridge hope you'll join us next year for Smoke on the Ridge II. Perry County will be awaiting you. 🤠

Winners			
Frontier Cartridge		Gunfighter	Jug Browning, SASS #22356
Buckaroo	Lead Slinging Nick, SASS #82660	L 49'er	Deputy Duran, SASS #66296
49'er	Slick Jim, SASS #72679	L Senior	Copper Starr, SASS #81888
49'er Duelist	Dirt Slider, SASS #65857	S Duelist	Ozark Bob, SASS #40028
B-Western	Jingles Jerr, SASS #5463	Senior	Dirt Rider, SASS #46537
Cowboy	Slowpoke John, SASS #45304	S Senior	Artic Fox, SASS #39883
C Cowboy	Letort Lawman, SASS #12300	S S Duelist	Frontier Bob, SASS #45758
C Duelist	Smoky Hill Thompson, SASS #7923	Wrangler	Biloxi Bob, SASS #22644
C Cowgirl	Black Hills Barb, SASS #34171	Frontiersman	
E Statesman	Newt Don, SASS #39713	W Duelist	Cemetery, SASS #72287
E S Duelist	Church Key, SASS #33713	49'er Duelist	Trooper Cole, SASS #92194
		Senior	Old Pathfinder, SASS #22525

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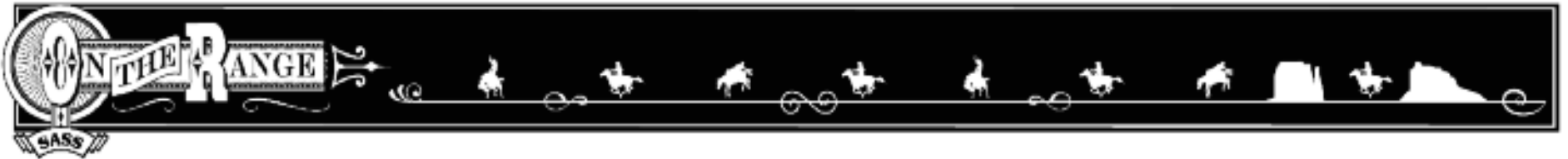
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THUNDER VALLEY DAYS

The SASS Maryland State Championship



By Chuckaroo, SASS Life / Regulator #13080, TG

June 23-25, 2011

Damascus, MD – Thunder Valley Days number 12 was another early sell out and as usual, ran like a Swiss watch. With participants from 11 different states, there were plenty of new and old friendships made and renewed. We are not the biggest match (160), but we do offer a down home friendly atmosphere and one on one attention. One of our main goals, after making sure everyone has fun, is to run on time and eliminate any problems before they start. From the comments received, we were very successful, again!

Situated just north of Interstate 495, the Capitol Beltway, we have limitless opportunities for sight seeing. The range is within an hour of



Buckaroo Lead Slinging Nick won numerous side match awards.

Gettysburg, Antietam, Washington DC, the NRA's National Firearms Museum, Baltimore's Inner Harbor, the Appalachian Trail, and a host of other great places to visit.

We are advocates for big and close. Like it or not, it generates a lot more fun. There are times when you look down at the targets and they beckon you ... "Come on big boy, let'er rip!"

Because the Delaware State match lost their range, this year's Thunder Valley Days was also the Delaware State match. As most of us shoot together anyway, it was an easy addition, and we welcome our Delaware partners.

Our format is a little different than many shoots. We have side



Delaware State Champions – Side Saddle Sue, SASS #73023, and Hand Cannon, SASS #60485. Good shootin'!

Winners		Long Range		Pistol		Rifle	
Maryland State Champions		Lever Action Rifle		Lady Appaloosa Amy, SASS #63949		Lady Appaloosa Amy, SASS #63949	
Lady	Kiddo Caldwell, SASS #55504 (7th Year in a Row)	Pistol Caliber		Man	Quaker Hill Bill, SASS #61021	Man	Quaker Hill Bill, SASS #61021
Man	River Banks, SASS #55949 (3rd Year in a Row)	Man	Jug Browning, SASS #22356	Young Gun	Two Gun Tuco, SASS #78297	Young Gun	3.21 Two Gun Tuco, SASS #78297
Delaware State Champions		Buckarette	Rimfire Randi, SASS #87690	Buckarette	Rimfire Randi, SASS #87690	L Young Gun	Snazzy McGee, SASS #66689
Lady	Side Saddle Sue, SASS #73023	Buckaroo	Lead Slinging Nick, SASS #82660	Pocket Pistol		Buckaroo	Lead Slinging Nick, SASS #82660
Man	Hand Cannon, SASS #60485	Lever Action Rifle		Lady	Side Saddle Sue, SASS #73023	Buckarette	Rimfire Randi, SASS #87690
Overall Match Winners		Man	Long Gun Greg, SASS #42768	Man	Jug Browning, SASS #22356	Posse Shoot "Timber"	
Man	Walker Colt, SASS #3035	Lady	Kiddo Caldwell, SASS #55504	Shotgun '97		Won By Posses 5 & 6	
Lady	Appaloosa Amy, SASS #63949	Buckaroo	Lead Slinging Nick, SASS #82660	Lady	Appaloosa Amy, SASS #63949	Special Awards	
Side Match Results		Single Shot Rifle Caliber		Man	Quaker Hill Bill, SASS #61021	Atlantic Guns	
Three Stage Blast		Man	Damascus Steel, SASS #52807	Buckarette	Rimfire Randi, SASS #87690	For generously being our Main Match sponsor for the 12th consecutive year.	
Lady	Appaloosa Amy, SASS #63949	Lady	Tomahawk Teri, SASS #52807	Buckaroo	Lead Slinging Nick, SASS #82660	Spirit Of The Game	
Man	Lead Slinging Nick (A BUCKAROO!), SASS #82660	Speed Derringer		Shotgun SXS		Plug, SASS 10668	
		Lady	Kiddo Caldwell, SASS #55504	Lady	Hazel Pepper, SASS #49962	Top Hand	
		Man	Chance Calico, SASS #54214	Man - 4.69	Dutch Coroner, SASS #82128	No-One, SASS 52804	
				Young Gun	Two Gun Tuco, SASS #78297	Best Dressed	
						Cowgirl Couple	Les Went's Honey Humphrey Hook, SASS #22993 & Southern Lil, SASS #27207
						Cowboy	Peacemaker Reb, SASS 36806



**Thunder Valley Days
Top Hand Award –
No One, SASS #52804**



**Maryland State Champions –
Kiddo Caldwell, SASS #55504,
and River Banks, SASS #55949.
This was Kiddo Caldwell's 7th win in a
row and River Banks 3rd win in a row.
Congratulations!**



matches on Thursday, and the main match stages are shot on Friday and Saturday, capped off with a BBQ on Friday and an awards dinner banquet at the host hotel on Saturday. This gives folks a full Sunday for church, travel, and to relax before the next work week returns.

In 2011 the stages were prepared by River Banks, SASS #55949, and the theme was "A Gathering of Ghosts." Each stage paid homage to Old West characters from the past, like John Wesley Hardin, Butch Cassidy, Belle Starr, Billy The Kid, and others. Story lines were inner woven around escapades of our historic heroes and villains.

Although the summer heat was in full bloom, and as it turns out, the beginning of a record summer heat, we stayed dry and coped well with an Old West temperature scale for realism.

In addition to a great match, we were also honored to present two new SASS Regulator badges. The honors went to River Banks and Catoctin, SASS #41395. Both are very deserving and outstanding examples of the Cowboy Way. 🤠



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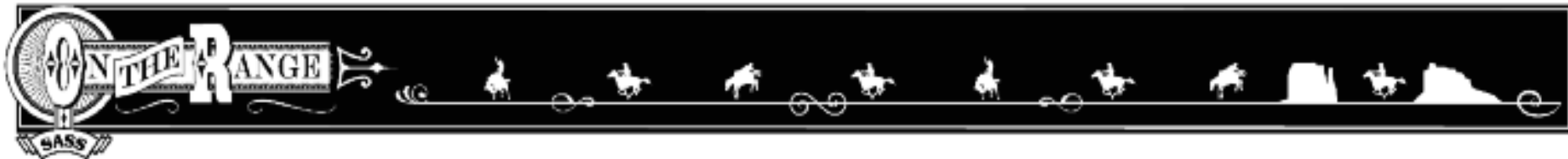
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**Palaver Pete,
SASS Life/Regulator #4375**

ITALY'S END OF TRAIL

A Tribute To Martex!

September 3-4, 2011

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life / Regulator #4375
As related by Mad Dog Biff Tannen, SASS#86924
Photos by Old Bird, SASS #79161

The Italian Leadership is pleased to announce next year's END of TRAIL will be an INTERNATIONAL EVENT held once again near Venice, but it will be held in July instead of September.

Cowboy Action in Italy is only half the fun—eating is the other half! If you are fortunate enough to be there next July, you can look forward to a lunch break that consists typically of Spaghetti Bolognese (a recipe from the city and surrounding areas of Bologna), an assortment of grilled meats, such as chicken, beef, and pork, and, of course, something to wash it all down with—



**Rino Chiappa:
Owner of Chiappa Arms.
AKA: Master Rino, SASS Life#5745.
Rino is the current President
of Italy's Old West Shooting
Society, and an excellent
Cowboy Action Shooter!**



Greetings from Italy!

something like coffee and water. After dinner and guns are put away, you can expect a more refined variety of pastas and meats (some wine of course), and some pastries accompanied by coffee and liqueurs. After eating dinner, you can expect to play some games, along with live entertainment to spark-up what's left of the evening. Yes, Cowboy Action Shooting™ is taken seriously in Italy, but so are life's enjoyments. Such was the typical fare and events for Italy's END of TRAIL (fine del percorso), September, 2011.

This year's shoot was dedicated to MARTEX, SASS #33700, former president of Italian Cowboy Action Shooting™ who passed away in 2009 (see accompanying poster and photo). MARTEX was an inspirational leader who gained the respect and admiration of all Italian Cowboy Action Shooters. You might say MARTEX is to Italian Cowboy Action Shooting™ as the Judge, SASS #1, is to American Cowboy Action. Two impressive YOU TUBE musical

tributes (one from Founders Ranch) have been developed to pay further tribute to this incredible man. Take a moment and visit:
ITALIAN END of TRAIL 2011 THE FINAL - TRIBUTE TO MARTEX - :
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5w13oVeG_4&feature=related
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rVuPvVwfhtE&feature=related>



Italy's End of Trail 2011 was dedicated to MARTEX, SASS #3434, former president of Italian Cowboy Action Shooting who passed away in 2009. MARTEX was an inspirational leader who gained the respect and admiration of all Italian Cowboy Action Shooters.

This year's END of TRAIL was held at the Three Feathers Range in the town of Agna, located 25 miles southwest of Venice. The Range is normally devoted to Skeet shooting, but after witnessing a couple of Cowboy Action Shoots, management agreed their range
(Continued on page 66)



Heading for the range



Bad Penny, SASS #1453

BAR-E RANCH

Annual Match

By Bad Penny, SASS #1453
 Photos by Kitty Katz Arizona, SASS #84606, and Cool Hand Fluke



Fifty-three competitors participated in the Bar E Ranch's Annual Match in beautiful Ontario, Canada.

Ontario, Canada – July 16, 2011 was hot, drier than sarcasm, and the humidity was making life tougher than year-old jerky. However, 53 fearless cowboys and cowgirls had gathered to take home “the Caddy” or the “Golden Pail” at the Bar-E Ranch’s annual Cowboy Action Shooting™ match. In SASS tradition, unlike other competitions, valuable prizes are won by draw not by the best shooters, and every competitor is awarded a door prize at this match. After a bungled stage we often hear, “Oh well, guess I won’t win the Cadillac today.” Aha, you say. At the Bar-E Ranch there is indeed a coveted Caddy awarded the top shooter. This year’s model was a 1:64 scale 1957 Eldorado convertible mounted on a gold cup purchased at a dollar store, and the 2011 winner was Slow Don. The “Golden Pail” is awarded to



Slow Don was the winner of the “Caddy” at the Bar E Ranch Match.

the winner of the Pale Rider category and this year’s winner was The Stranger, who rode in all the way from Quebec.

Trouble was brewing. Several shooters unused to blackpowder would be struggling with clouds of smoke and cap and ball revolvers in the Pale Rider category. In fact, before a shot was fired in competition Stoney Creek strode up to the RO and asked permission to “try out” his blackpowder 12-gauge loads. “Bam, Bam,” went the 1887 lever action shotgun, shooting out about a yard of flaming smoke and there we were up a box canyon with the brush afire. It was not a

big fire. It was as if someone had left a nicely lit cigar in the sparse grass and smoke was curling lazily upward in the still, hot air. Stubbled jaws were thoughtfully scratched and discussions broke out on how big the fire could get and did we need a “down range” to extinguish it? “Have you ever seen a grass fire go up a hill?” asked Lady Smith and what is a berm but a grassy hill?

That was enough for Posse leader Long John Shubenacadie, whose sombrero is so big it only needs an eaves trough and a downspout to be zoned a condominium. Loading his Greener with two smokeless loads, another “bam, bam” rang out and there was no more smoke. Moreover, it was not the only blackpowder fire doused that day!

“Back in the day,” we often joke. “We had to cook bacon and eggs on the clock.” It was never that bad, but now targets are big and close, as they would have been in a saloon, in a bank or jailbreak, or a confrontation across a branding fire or a shallow nugget-laden stream. Moreover, the problem is straightforward and has to be solved quickly, as it would have been. Some of the old timers have a bit of a jeer at the “new” big tar-



Long John Shubenacadie and Lefty Dutchman await their turn to shoot.

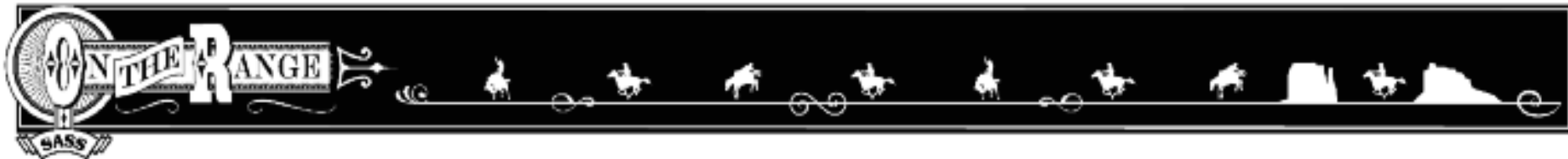
gets. It’s all too straightforward and simple. So easy it’s dull, they say. Hardly.

There is not a match better or more up-to-date than the annual shindig at the Bar-E Ranch put on by Crow and his better half, Lady
(Continued on page 66)



First Place Pale Rider category was The Stranger

Winners	
Top Ten Finalists	
Wrangler	Slow Don, SASS #66977
49'er	Chance Arizona, SASS #80609
49'er	Laredo, SASS #39142
L Wrangler	Victoria Secret, SASS #48722
Gunfighter	The Boy
Duelist	Wildcat O'Shea
49'er	Duplicate Alias
Gunfighter	Mickey O'Rye, SASS #86989
Senior	Noah Rush, SASS #89894
S Senior	Legendary Lawman, SASS #73160



Italy's END of TRAIL . . .



Lady Winners (l-r)
Angy Moon, SASS #79187, 2nd place,
Wonder Bibi, SASS #81882, 1st place,
and Virginia West, SASS #73458,
3rd place.

(Continued from page 64)

was worthy of our sport. In addition to shooting facilities, the range also has a Trattoria (think Bistro), and a swimming pool. This is one of Italy's premiere ranges and can be viewed on the Internet at: <http://www.letrepiume.it/> be patient, and watch for the revolving photos of the range facilities—you will be impressed. The weather for this two-day championship shoot was great, with temperatures in the 80s, and some humidity, but who cares about a bit of humidity when over 70 of your friends from as far away as Naples and Rome, and from all over northern Italy are there having not only a great time, but a great feast as mentioned above.

The shoot consisted of 10 Action Stages (five each day), four Stages of Wild Bunch, and Speed Side Matches for Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun. Italy's chief RO Instructor, Stefano Gardi (Moebius), SASS Life/Regulator #64522, was there along with Marshals Steve Gardiner and Bill Masterson, a full cadre of safety and range operations personnel, if you will—all having a great time as well as observing compliance with all safety

and shooting rules. The Action Shooting Stages were similar to those shot at the American END of TRAIL. Fixed as well as mobile targets were used, and one stage included a hanging figure with metal fixture to "save" the hanging man (hitting the hanging man brought a penalty.) Many of Italy's leading SASS figures have attended the American END of TRAIL, so they learned rather rapidly how to organize and operate a shoot of this magnitude.

This year's END of TRAIL was sponsored by both Chiappa Firearms and Fronti s.r.l. a construction company specializing in metal structures and metal roofing. Fronti is owned by Alberto Fronti, AKA: Bill Masterson, one of Italy's premier RO Instructors and official Italian Ambassador of Cowboy Action Shooting™. Bill Masterson is also President of the Wild West Rebels, an Italian SASS Club within the Italian Old West Shooting Society. Chiappa is a household word in the U.S. as well as Italy. Rino Chiappa, AKA: Master Rino, SASS Life #5745, is a strong supporter of SASS America as well as SASS Italy. He is also the designer of the Rhino Revolver and current President of Italy's Old West Shooting Society.

The Italian Leadership was also pleased to announce next year's END of TRAIL will be an *INTERNATIONAL EVENT* held once again near Venice, but it will be held in July instead of September. If you have ever wanted to visit Italy, especially the Venice area, now is your chance, so mark next July and look for exact dates on either the Italian SASS Website at: <http://sass.italy.forumfree.it/>, or through *The Cowboy Chronicle*.



Men Winners.
1st, Bill Masterson, SASS Life #71434
(center), Pat McRyan, SASS #74108, 2nd,
and 3rd, Lucky Doc at right.

Photos are worth a thousand words, and as the reader views the accompanying photos, you will realize that our Italian friends know how to play Cowboy, and they do so with much gusto and frivolity (safe frivolity). There are no losers at Italy's "fine del percorso," (END of TRAIL). They are all winners, and they are saying in one voice, "Come join us next July in Venice." You're a Daisy if Ya do! 🐾

Bar-E Ranch Annual Match . . .



(Continued from page 65)

Smith, and their great crew at the Barrie Gun Club, but here are the shocking statistics. Fifty-three shooters shot five stages, and only two shot the match clean, proving no targets are too big or too close to miss. And I swear the line "shooter starts with hand on first pistol, blindfolded" never appeared once on any of the stage instructions. Which proved once again that no matter how straightforward and simple the instructions are, even seasoned competitors can still manage to complicate matters and earn a procedural!

So was the shooting appallingly bad? No, it was brilliant. You have to go down to the first ten shooters before anyone took more than an average of 30 seconds to shoot

their stages. I defy any shooters from other disciplines to get even close to these top shooters.

The last stage was in a berm of its own, so moving down range was safe, and a first for this shoot. It was a great beginning, and we will be looking forward to more such innovations.

I heard cap and ball pistols called some terrible names, although Lefty Dutchman who used his pair of Ruger Old Armies was one of the two shooters who shot clean.

Over an excellent lunch, everyone agreed it had been a hot, but very entertaining, match. And the folks at the Bar-E Ranch are looking forward to hosting the First SASS Central Canadian Championship in July 2012. 🐾



Shootout in the Sahara

... Or ...

Welcome to the OREGON DUNES

By Rico Kid, SASS #13942

Florence, OR – The whole shoot happened by accident; at least for us—us being Navajo Annie and Rico Kid. We had planned a little visit with our daughter in Portland, Oregon and had a few extra days, so we decided to cruise up the Oregon Coast pulling our cowboy coach. Grabbing *The Catboy Chronicle* we looked for any SASS groups along the way, and lo and behold there was a club tucked away in Florence, Oregon, the Suislaw River Rangers. A quick look-see on the SASS Wire and I found the name of the main honcho in charge up there, Johnny Jingos, SASS #8494.



“Hello, I’m looking for a Johnny Jingos.”
 “This is Johnny,” came a quick reply. “Are you calling to inquire about the big 4th of July “Duke” Spectacular Shootout on the River?”



“Huh? What are you talking about? I just wanted to know if outsiders are welcome at your Sunday monthly shoot.”

He responded with exactly what I wanted to hear.

“It just so happens we are holding a two day shoot this 4th of July weekend, and we have two spaces available.”

“Sign us up, and we’ll be there on Saturday with guns ready to be ablazin’.”

And so it was we came upon a wonderful small annual, their 3rd so far, and one of the best kept secrets in the whole Northern California, Oregon area. Well, I’m here to tell you the secret is out (with the club’s permission), and I’m here to tell you about it.

Folks started rolling their RV’s in about midday Friday, and it wasn’t long before I started seeing some familiar faces: Long Jim Hancock and Antety, Mountain Rider, Pale Wolf Brunelle, and the whole Bend crew led by The Legend. By Friday evening there were about twenty-five covered wagons circled and set up.

Saturday, the local Rangers had three events scheduled for the day. First on the list was the Wild Bunch

shoot, where 20 of Teddy’s Rough Riders, some dressed to the nines in military garb, shot it out on five stages designed to tax both guns and minds. Next came the Plainsman shootout with nine participants making the air smoky (and stinky!).

Later that afternoon a Cowboy Clays was set up by club president, Jerry Harpoole, and a fine job he did.

(Continued on page 69)

Winners			
Overall		E Statesman	Bart Star, SASS #5885
Man	Whisperin Wade, SASS #36209	Senior	Will Shootem, SASS #29812
Lady	Miss Annie Odem, SASS #9786	L Senior	Bullseye Miss, SASS #56827
Categories:		Silver Senior	Mountain Rider, SASS #11919
49er	Johnny Jingos, SASS #8494	L Silver Sr	Gallop Gertie, SASS #55249
L 49er	Brassy Shell, SASS #16096	Gunfighter	Rico Kid, SASS #13942
B Western	Long Jim Hancock, SASS #47369	Young Gun	Renegade Riley, SASS #79445
LB Western	Sunset Glory, SASS #64919	L Young Gun	Lulu Sure Shot, SASS #66230
Cowboy	Buffalo Wings, SASS #56856	Wild Bunch :	
Cowgirl	Sweet Amanda, SASS #81562	Man	Will Shootem
C Cowboy	Holy Rider, SASS #53115	Lady	Connivin’ Katie Jones, SASS #58535
Wrangler	Hoss Reese, SASS #88815	Plainsman:	
L Wrangler	Lady Jade, SASS #27915	Man	Boxcar, SASS #65664
Duelist	Big Boy Brown, SASS #78613	Lady	Meadow Patty, SASS #72250
L Duelist	Antety, SASS #43598	Cowboy Clays:	
Sr Duelist	Buckshot Pete, SASS #12668	Man	Driftwood Dan, SASS #63738
F Cartridge	Barrelhouse Bob, SASS #22663	Lady	Pepper G, SASS #89336
FC Duelist	The Man with No Name, SASS #8285	Junior	Renegade Riley



THE PROFESSIONALS

From the Movie of the Same Name

A Grey Fox & Cecil deLucky Bill Production

By Grey Fox, SASS Life / Regulator #223



**Grey Fox,
SASS Life Regulator #223,
& Miss Mary Spencer,
SASS Life #55147**

the Grey Fox and Lucky Bill's over active imaginations.

The event was to pay homage to a true movie classic from 1966, *The Professionals*. The scenarios were scripted ala the movie, The Riders in the Desert, Bill Dolworth, about to lose his head, the escape from Raza's fortress, and The Gun Fight in the Desert. To adapt the stages to a SASS event, a couple of slight deviations were necessary to adhere to the movie. More or Less. First, there was the addition of a 1911 class. Participants could use a 1911 and two magazines with 5 rounds each as per SASS rules or



The intrepid little band of shootists about to reprise "The Professionals."

Cody, WY – Your intermittent correspondents, Grey Fox and Lucky Bill have a new motto, "If you are not having any fun, it is self inflicted."

The following exposé concerns the October 2011 FUN Championship Match of the Big Horn Basin.

The evening before the strictly for fun event, a select group of Colter's Hell Justice Committee Members convened for dinner in the Governor's Room of the Historic Irma Hotel in the Old West town of Cody, Wyoming for a private screening of the movie. The next morning the fun began based on a figment of



Some of the select group of Colter's Hell Justice Committee members at dinner in the Governor's Room of the Historic Irma Hotel.



Yakima Red being a manly man and shooting the BAR— all 24 pounds of it— off hand while Muggins Taylor and Grey Fox look on in awe.



Camp Cookie, the creator of the ore car prop looks on as Yakima Red RO's while Joe Cross continues his run to Top Gun.

their regular match single actions.

And second, the Escape from Raza's Fortress was not accompanied by a Lewis Gun (we did not have one). However Lucky Bill's son, Sam a non-commissioned Officer in the U.S. Army, allowed the use of his semi-auto Ohio Ordinance BAR to kick off stage three. Anyone who chose to could fire two rounds from the BAR before the clock started on stage three, The Escape from Raza's Fortress. Only one of the lady shootists, Buckskin Lily, SASS #51707, elected to do so. You have to watch the movie to make any sense of any of this. Camp Cookie, SASS #19773, built the ore car prop.

Fun was certainly the end re-



Noah Regrets RO'd by Joe Cross on Stage #1, the Riders in the Desert.

sult, as when the smoke cleared a consensus among the competitors was just that. FUN. Many commented there should be more events done as fun matches.

The winners were:

Joe Cross, SASS #13848, with his regular competition single actions prevailed as Top Gun.

Top Lady Shootist was Buckskin Lily, SASS #51707—second overall.

Noah Regrets, SASS #51706, was the best 1911 competitor. Noah was third overall. Goes to show you the single action rules!

Yakima Red, SASS #13539, President of the Colter's Hell Justice Committee, vetted the stage
(Continued on next page)



The Professionals . . .

(Continued from previous page)
copy and procedures and then gave his official Yakima Red, The Magnificent, blessing.

Many of the Colter's Hell Justice Committee members are Fun Seekers, so they were very receptive to the foregoing silliness. Kari Lynn, SASS #13849, was the very efficient scorekeeper.

The fun and silliness continues!!



Buckskin Lilly showing the men how it's done shooting the BAR like a seasoned trooper. She also finished second overall with her competition single actions.



Lucky Bill on stage three with BAR in hand behind the ore car escaping from Raza's Fortress.



The Grey Fox in full fun action mode with '97 reload. You will note the hull in the air as the Grey Fox is about to select the next round from his belt. Not bad agility for an old geezer shootist.

Shootout in the Sahara . . .



(Continued from page 67)

Since the club is so close to the famous Oregon dunes, we trudged through the sand to twelve stages to shoot clay birds flying every which way; some passing left, some passing right, and some coming straight at you. A total of 50 birds, including a couple of rabbits that seemed to hop, skip or jump just as you pull the trigger, were included in the round of clays. All 41 shooters seemed to have a blast plying their trade at the difficult course.

Sunday dawned clear and crisp as 64 cowboys/girls headed to the assigned stages for the cowboy part of the shoot. Anticipation was high, the flag salute was said with a whole lot of feeling, it being the 4th of July weekend, and the safety rules read. It was time to start shooting, and shoot we did. The Rangers had put a lot of thought into making the stages fun, interesting, challenging without having "P" traps built in, and targets

were close enough you had the feeling you could go fast without missing ... yeah, sure!!! By 1:00 pm a total of five stages were shot, and we rounded up and headed to the clubhouse for a barbecue rib-eye steak feast with all the trimmings; these folks sure know how to feed a hungry bunch. Awards were handed out to all of the winners as well as prizes, but as is the case with most SASS sanctioned shoots, everyone who had the pleasure of attending felt like a winner.

Annie and I were lucky to have "accidentally" ended up at this shoot, but next year it won't be by accident. We will be putting this shoot on our "must attend" list. We had a great time shooting four very different events, eating some great food, and in our book the most important part ... seeing old pards and making a whole bunch of new ones. For more information contact, Johnny Jingos or Will Shootem.

See ya' down the trail...

The Dixie Desperados presents Ruckus at Red Rock 2012

April 19th thru 21st in St. George, Utah

Come join us for: 12 Main stages, Side matches, Warm up match, Plainsman, Long Range & Shotgun Challenge
New this year Quick Draw Charity Event

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, April 19	Friday, April 20	Saturday, April 21
8:00 a.m. Registration 8:30 a.m. Shooters meeting 8:45 a.m./Noon Side Matches Lunch break 1:00 p.m. Warm up Match 6:00 p.m. Plainsman	8:00 a.m. - Registration 8:45 a.m. - Shooters Meeting 6 main stages (lunch included in entry fee) Side match awards given out during lunch 1:00 p.m. - Long Range Event (single shot 300 yds & 500 yds & Lever gun 200 yds)	8:45 a.m. Meeting 9:00 a.m. 6 main stages 6 person Team Shoot Top Gun Shoot Out 5:30 p.m. Social 6:00 p.m. Entertainment 6:30 p.m. Awards Banquet

Free RV parking and camping!

Registration Deadline April 13, 2012

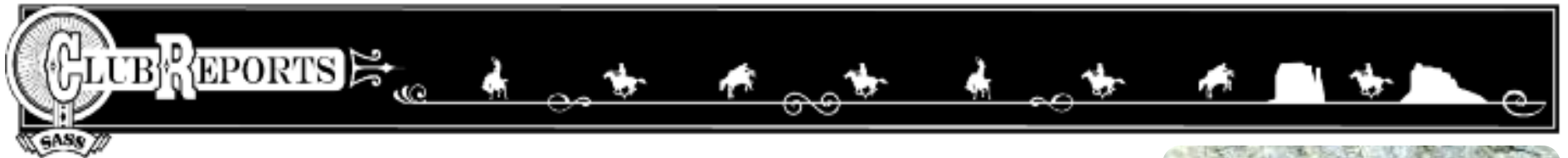
Registration Form is on our website <http://www.dixiedesperados.com>

HUNTSMAN WORLD SENIOR GAMES

Coming up in October 2012

Dixie Desperados will also host the Huntsman World Senior Games Match, Oct. 2012. Come enjoy a truly unique shooting event in sunny St. George! Check it all out at: www.seniorgames.net

For further information, (Dixie Desperados sponsors other shoots), see our website at <http://www.dixiedesperados.com>



Shooting Halloween Italian Style

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375
As related by Biff Tannen, SASS #86924

Malegno, North Italy, October 30, 2011 – Some Folklorists and Historians attribute the origin of Halloween to the Roman feast of Pomona, the goddess of fruits and seeds or in the festival of the dead called Parentalia.¹ Whatever the correct historical name is, it only seems logical Italian Cowboy Action Shooters, descendants of these very same Romans, should take a special interest and enjoyment in celebrating this ancient

home grown festival. Not to let tradition slip by, Bill Masterson, SASS Life #71434, club president of Italy's Wild West Rebels thought his club should pay their respects to history by shooting a Halloween Match in full regalia. Club members, being good troopers and listening carefully to their "Capo," dressed the part and shot five SASS stages that were, according to Reporter Biff Tannen, "very scary."

All five stages were themed in Halloween style as can be seen in



Al Long with recently sharpened teeth, looks for something to chew on.



Wonder Bibi looks bewitching as she moves to the unloading table.



Saint Maria Church located on the Oglio River in Malengo, Province of Brescia, Lombardy, Italy. Our Italian Cowboys know how to pick beautiful sites (and sights) for their shoots.



Single Sister awaits being called to the firing line.



The Halloween Posse

the accompanying photos. A rather gruesome stage featured a severed hand that belonged to a thief attempting to "borrow" someone's firearms. A bloody knife found later on the scene supported that allegation. You don't fool around with Italian Shooters—they work hard to earn the money to buy expensive firearms. Call it "range justice" if you must.

Action Shooting is winding down for the year in Italy—this Halloween shoot being one of the last ones for 2011. As winter approaches, shooters work on their firearms, plan spring and summer shoots, and generally just kick-back and await the coming of spring and summer. One of the shoots planned for July, 2012

is a celebration of the American 4th of July—they are actually calling it The Independence Day Shoot. Yes, you heard correctly, the Italians, as well as most of our European friends and fellow shooters, have a great deal of respect for our independence and how we fought to gain that independence. Their respect is a tribute to our freedom, especially our Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms as well as every other constitutional freedom we enjoy. This is especially relevant during these hard times when the entire free world faces economic hardships—Italy, part of the European Union (EU), is no exception.

The entire Italian shooting com-
(Continued on next page)

RoundUp 2012

SASS Texas State Championship

May 3rd, 4th, 5th
Sponsored by

Taylor's & Co. Inc.

Lone Star Frontier Shooting Club & Comanche Valley Vigilantes

*Limited to first 400 entries
*Entries postmarked on or before March 16th
*will be entered in drawing
*Ten Stages – 5 Friday-5 Saturday
*Side Matches (including Wild Bunch and Plainsman)

*Shooter's Row
*SASS rules apply
*Hotel & camping information on request
*Contestants must be SASS members
*2 lunch tickets, & Saturday night banquet
*Awards for categories with 3 or more shooters

SHOOTER FEE: \$130.00 SPOUSE/JUNIOR SHOOTER: \$100.00 FAMILY OF 3-4: \$300.00

Alias: _____ SASS#: _____
Name: _____ Phone#: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____
Posse with _____

Male Female

Cowboy (All Ages) Wrangler (36+) Duellist Senior Duellist
 Frontiersman Frontier Cartridge Frontier Cartridge Duellist Gunfighter
 Classic Cowboy Junior (12-16) 49er (49+) Senior (60+) Buckaroo
 Silver Senior (65+) Elder Statesman/Grand Dame (70+) "B" Western
 Senior Gunfighter Range Boss (75+) Outlaw
 Wild Bunch Match (First 45 Shooters) Modern Traditional

Dry RV Camping (\$20 for event) Tent camping (Free)
 ___ Extra Lunches (\$5 each) ___ Extra Banquet Tickets (\$15 each)
 Full refund for cancellations up to April 6th. \$25 admin fee for refunds from April 7th–April 27th. No refunds after April 28th, 2012.

Send entry with check payable to:
"LSFSC" c/o
Buddy Chapman Match contact: LongRanger Rick, rickymarsh@charter.net
P.O. Box 217 www.lsfsc.com . Vendors contact Chula Kat,
Kopperl, Tx. 76652 kathymarsh@charter.net (817)980-7768 or (817)386-0772



A Tribute to the SANDOVAL ROUGH RIDERS

By *Deadman Walking*, SASS #42086

Sandoval, IL – I look forward to the fourth Saturday of each month when I load up my converted golf cart covered in red wood, gun racks, and wooden storage boxes full of revolvers, Winchester rifles and shotguns, ammunition and strange odds, ends, talismans, lucky pieces, and prayers to head off to Sandoval, Illinois.

It's not a fancy range. Air conditioning was finally installed in the clubhouse, but it never did cool it down too much in our 100-degree swampy Southern Illinois summers. You still have to jiggle the handle of the toilet nine years after occupying the old trap and skeet club. There's no bar and grill, just a coffee can you put your money into for a candy bar, cold soda, or water.

I'm usually one of the first shooters there with my shooting pard and friend, Bushy Cap. Nine years ago I would help set the stages, but God didn't grant me the

ability to continue that practice. So I offer moral support, gossip, and generally get in the way. Over the nine years since Cowboy Action Shooting™ came to Sandoval, it has been the same six people who write the stages, construct the props and targets, lead the posses, and tally the scores. When they began, they were called the Marion County Renegades, but they are more aptly titled the Sandoval Rough Riders. Shooting at Sandoval is always a rough ride.

From the beginning God took a dislike to all of us that showed up to shoot at Sandoval. One of the first shoots started out cold, gray, and blustery. By the time we got to the first stage, it was raining. Before we left that stage it was snowing ... sideways. On the trek to the second stage, it started raining ice that covered your safety glasses, gun butts, and barrels while shooting.

The second stage that day was Cowboy Trap with clay pigeons—

contour flying—up, down, right, left—and they weren't orange. Nope, they were white. You scraped your glasses, hollered "PULL!" and missed the first clay, and didn't even see the second one. "That's two misses" was heard five times for almost every shooter that day on that stage. Nuthin' like 10 misses to create esprit de corps and jack up the ole' Spirit of the Game. Strangely enough I think we finished all five stages that day, but my pards know I have a very selective memory.

This shoot was just one of the many along the same lines, where God sat back laughing at us as we struggled through tornadoes, thunderstorms, avalanches, earthquakes, rioting Zombies, and herds of Mad Rabid Rabbits. Don't stand or look too close at the berms and hay bales ... they might bite you!

And through it all the same

folks made the fourth Saturday shoot at Sandoval one of the best in the region with shooters from four states attending whenever they could. The people who did all this are: Shell Stuffer, Sgt. Eli, Railroad Bill, Miss Ellie Oakley, Les Hitts, and Russel-n-LongHorns. These folks are not only top ten shooters, state and Regional champion shooters, and Territorial Governors, they are the heart and soul of a sport that has filled my life and many others with the joy of friendship and camaraderie that is Cowboy Action Shooting™. They announced the October 2011 shoot will be the last at Sandoval. You can be sure Deadman Walking will be there with the Sandoval Rough Riders for that last buck, whoop, and holler with tears in my eyes.

I speak for hundreds of Cowboy Action Shooters, "Thank you, Renegades for the rough ride!" 🤠

Shooting Halloween Italian Style ...



Posse Leader Bill Masterson (Uncle Fester) adjusts his make-up before shooting the next spooky stage.



Pat MacRyan engages the stage while Wonder Bibi ROs.

(Continued from previous page) munity has asked this writer, through this article and future notices, to let our SASS World know of this coming event during the period 4 through 8 July, 2012. If you ever wanted to participate in a western shoot in Europe, this is your opportunity. What could be better than

an American Independence Day Shoot near Venice, Italy during the beautiful Italian summer? For more information, keep abreast of update postings in the Italian SASS Website located at:

<http://sass.italy.forumfree.it/> and postings in *The Cowboy Chronicle*. You're a Daisy if ya do. 🤠

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Rio Drifter, SASS #49244 and Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245

SHOOTIN' ACROSS THE POSSUM TROT USA

By Rio Drifter, SASS #49244 and Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245

with a centerpiece of wooden swings and benches around a fire pit with a big ole barn make up main street Possum Trot.

Maybe it's the competition. Iron Maiden, Ringer, Tall Drink of Water, Copperhead Joe, Whiskey Creek Johnson, Tennessee Critter, and Tennessee Triple B, are all resident champions who shoot there. Just naming a few of the good ones.

Maybe it's the stages. Most of them are covered, so it's a rain, shine, or snow shoot usually on both Saturday and Sunday. The train station and the corral are the only two stages not connected by a wall to main street. All stages are level with easy walking and dragging your cart to stages.



Rio Drifter, SASS Life #49244, and Daybreaker, SASS #36821.

Tennessee – Maybe it's the scenery. Driving down a winding dirt road until it opens up into a wedge of a valley where the Old West lives. A jail, a saloon with rooms overhead, a kitchen and showers, a mercantile, a church, a school, and 21 cabins strewn in



Maybe knowing Friday evening will find a bunch of us gathered in the saloon playing a game of "Love Your Neighbor," a fast and fun card game that is perfect for us cowboys who require nothing more than like minded folks to have a good time.

Maybe knowing Saturday morning Miss Julia, aka Miss Jewels, will be telling everyone to come and get her biscuits, gravy, sausage, and coffee at the saloon. Miss Jewels is Ringer's wife, not a shooter, but a valuable regular at Possum Trot. Tenderfoot, Marshall Too Sweet, Lick Creek, Rowdy Bates, and Just Little Joe are all Possum Trot "regulars" who don't

do much shootin' but are wonderful additions to the gang of Highland Regulators. Bringing the wife, (as in Imis Twohofon), bringing the kids, bringing the girlfriend, and bringing in new shooters is just expected when you visit Possum Trot.

When it's done, it's the scenery, it's the competition, it's the food and the fun, but it's coming home and finding Blackwater Desperado, Cumberland Mountain John, Miss BO, Bitterroot Jake, Long Gulch, Ringer, Iron Maiden, and all the cowboys and cowgirls who walk the streets of Possum Trot still living Smokin' Joe-Joe Anderson's dream. Let's keep the dream alive shootin' our way across the USA! 🤠

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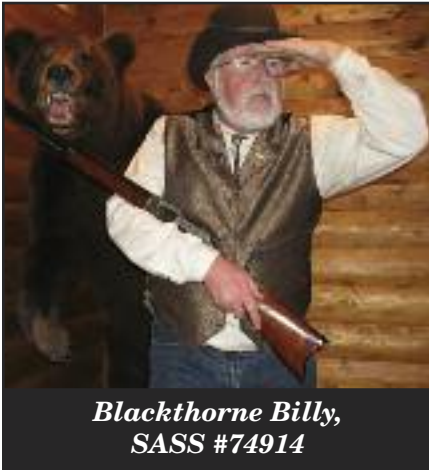
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We just need you to email your Microsoft Word Document with jpg Photos to sasschron@sassnet.com and we will take care of the rest! (It typically takes 2-6 months to be printed.)

The Cowboy Chronicle is boring without you!



Blackthorne Billy,
SASS #74914

HIDDEN VALLEY COWBOY RANGE HISTORY

By Blackthorne Billy, SASS #74914

In 2001, the St. Joseph County Conservation & Sportsman Club, Inc. of Sturgis, Michigan added another new shooting range dedicated to Cowboy Action Shooting™ on their 75-year-old 142 acre property. Steel targets were purchased from a club that had closed and an excavator was hired to form six shooting bays. Facade buildings were constructed in various forms and “stage scenarios” were written for each to instruct the “Cowboys” (AND Cowgirls) in shooting sequences. Announcements were sent to other Cowboy Action clubs in West-Central lower Michigan and the local news media were given press releases with the projected start-up date for the first match.

In addition to the stage building facades, a “Score Shack” was built to house supplies, tools, sign-up forms, and the like. A few years back a standby generator was purchased, and a computer/printer set up in the Score Shack. This enabled tallying

scores during lunch, so the Match Director could hand out certificates to category winners before leaving. Lunch is offered at a minimal \$3 added to the \$15 range fee. The lunch area is covered by an expansive canopy with steel roof and includes eight large picnic tables.

“Hidden Valley” is exactly that: A valley 1/2 mile into the deep forest and down a gradual slope to the shooting range below. The six shooting bays are well shaded by the surrounding forest of deciduous trees, making Mid-Summer competitions much more comfortable for participants. A 7th bay is under construction currently. Competitions run from April through October, as once November snows begin, it is nearly impossible to drive even 4X4 vehicles back up the winding slope. Our newly made parking area can easily accommodate 80+ vehicles. The orig-

inal lot can hold 100 more vehicles.

Attendance has reached as high as 72 shooters when the economy was strong and gas prices decent, but in the last two years of political strife and rampant inflation, we have varied between 30 and 50 shooters. Our attendees come from as far away as Grand Rapids and Holland Michigan, to Michigan City, Goshen, and Warsaw, Indiana. Hidden Valley is affiliated with SASS as well as Michigan Wolverine Rangers.

In March 2012, we are sponsoring a first-ever Midwest Cowboy Action Shooting™ Expo just across the Indiana border at The Shpshewana Town Center. This will not be a typical gun show, but a strictly Cowboy Action Shooting™ Expo. We expect representatives from major Cowboy vendors with booths, as well as SASS and our own club booth, within the 15,000 square feet we’re renting.

This event will be used to inform and attract new shooters to Cowboy Action Shooting™ competitions as well as introduction to SASS. Free parking is expansive, and there are numerous hotels and motels in the nearby area. The dates for this All-Cowboy Expo are March 10th and 11th, 2012.

Shpshewana is located off the Indiana Toll Road at exit 107 in Amish Country. Town Center is located at 7605 S. Van Buren St. (IN Hwy 5)

For more details on Hidden Valley or The Cowboy Expo, feel free to contact:

“Sauk Valley Stubby” at cas-stubby@hotmail.com, (SASS #85070) 269-651-5197 (Michigan)

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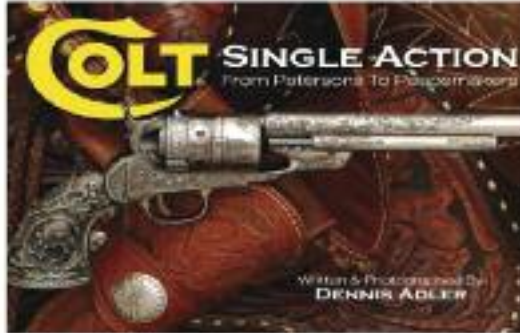
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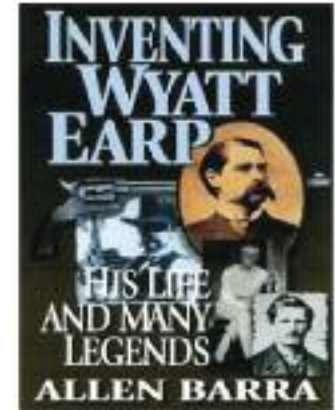
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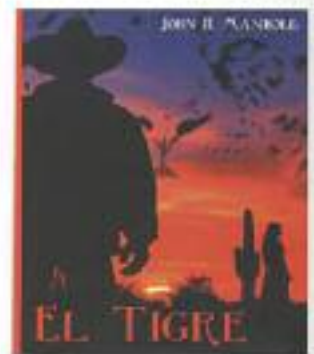
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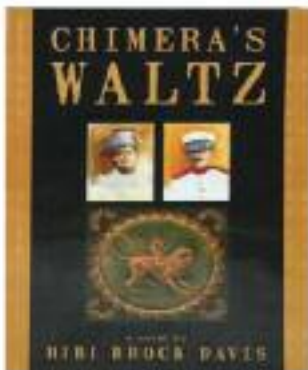
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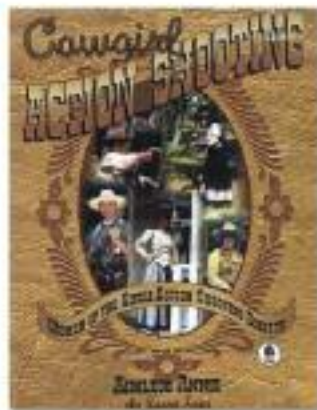
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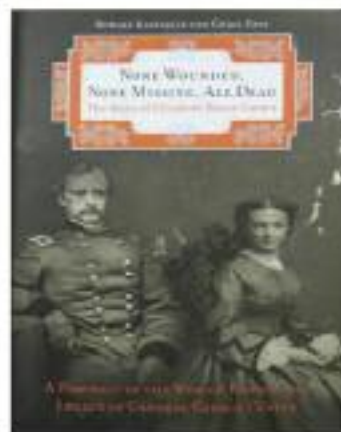
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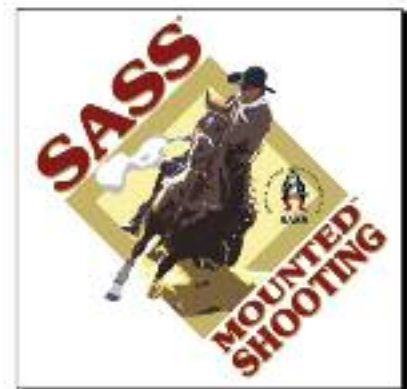


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*Aberdeen and Panhandle Cowgirl—
top shooters*

Palo Duro Canyon, TX, 10/29/11 – A few months ago, our fellow shooter and friend, Brad Finch, who is the son of Longhunter, SASS Life #20389, was severely injured in an accident. Blacksmith Jim, SASS Life #68489, and Cayenne, SASS #70398, two good folks with a passion for people and Cowboy Action Shootin', got the notion to have a benefit shoot for Brad. Eli Blue, SASS #53766, at the Gruesome Gulch Gang and Armed to the Teeth, SASS #72801, of the Purgatory Ridge Rough Riders were eager to help with this worthy event. After several weeks of planning and preparation, Blacksmith Jim and Cayenne were ready to put on a first rate benefit shoot.

On October 29th, 2011, just down the trail a piece from Palo Duro Canyon, the Gruesome Gulch

Gang was the site of the Brad Finch Benefit Shoot. The morning air was cold with a crisp wind, and a thin layer of ice covered the wagon. As we all know, cowboys and cowgirls are good folks, but SASS cowboys and cowgirls are the BEST folks. Early arrivers stepped up and helped get the day started. A silent auction with more than twenty items was prepared—it tempted shooters as the day passed. A prayer was offered by Dead R Alive, SASS #22983, for our safety, blessings, and a special sentiment for our troops. Afterwards, the six-stage event started out when a shooter bellowed, "This saloon is TOO small!" Lead didn't stop flyin' (Continued on page 82)

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The SASS Pennsylvania State Championship
May 25-26-27, 2012
Hosted by: El Paso Grande
North Mountain Sportsmen's Association
Muncy Valley, PA
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10 Main Stages (8 on Saturday, 4 on Sunday) - Side Matches Friday
SASS Rules Apply - SASS Membership Required

SINGLE ACTION SHOOTING SOCIETY
SASS

AIM _____ SASS # _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-Mail _____
Shooting Part * _____ # in Party _____

* Posse requests are getting more and more difficult to grant. First consideration will be given to keep families and those sharing equipment together.

SHOOTER CATEGORIES

Male Female (please check one and signify shooter category below)

Buckaroos/tilts (13 & under) Senior (60 & over) Gunfighter Frost Cart Quefighter
 Young Guns (14-16) Silver Serier (65 & over) Classic Cowboy Frontiersman
 Cowboy (17 & over) Elder States/G Darns (70+) B Western
 Wrangler (26 & over) Duelist Frontier Cartridge
 Forty-Niner (48 & over) Senior Duelist (60 & over) Front Cart Duelist

RO I Certified RO II Certified I will be camping on site (Free)
 I am interested in being an RO/Posse Leader I will RO a Side Match for 1 hour
 -- 2 stage Wild Bunch Match and 2 stage Mtn-Match included in all day rode match fee --

Please use one registration form per shooter * Copy for additional shooters * Total fees on first page

1st Shooter _____ X \$18.00 = _____
 Spouse or Significant Other _____ X \$18.00 = _____
 Young Guns & Buckaroos _____ X \$18.00 = _____
 Side Matches (save by paying w/e) _____ X \$18.00 = _____
 Add'l Diner Ticket (adult) _____ X \$15.00 = _____
 Add'l Diner Ticket (child) _____ X \$ 7.50 = _____

I will _____ will not _____ attend the dinner. Total Enclosed \$ _____

* Registration fee includes 11 stages of shooting Saturday - Sunday and the Saturday night banquet. Other meals will be available on site.
 * Friday side matches \$2.00/over or \$15.00/all day. Payable at match. (\$18 if paid with registration)
 * Advance registration is required. SASS Shooter call off. Registrations must be received by April 15, 2012.

Make checks payable to: North Mountain Sportsmen's Association
 Mail registration to: Barb Snyder (aka Black Hills Barb), 17030 US Route 16, Allenwood, PA 17810
 Your registration will be confirmed by E-Mail or Pony Express



THE SINGLE ACTION SHOOTING SOCIETY

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SASS EUROPEAN REGIONAL

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BANQUET - FREE CAMPING - THE MATCH WILL BE HELD AT
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EVENT DATE: MAY 31st - JUNE 2nd, 2012



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The German Territory Regulators e.V.

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Gruesome Gulch/Purgatory Ridge Benefit Shoot . . .

(Continued from page 80)

until the bad guys were dispatched and lunch was ready.

As the sun rose and warmed the air and hot home-cookin' filled our bellies, so too did our bonds of fellowship and compassion for our pards as we gathered for the

awards ceremony. Putting on a strong shootin' demonstration, Aberdeen and Panhandle Cowgirl took home Top Man and Top Woman honors respectively—they are mighty fine examples of the SASS spirit. Special thanks went to Brad Finch, who is both a living testa-



Lone Dog—a happy shooter

ment to resiliency, and one who lives the cowboy way. Between an

open entry fee and a silent auction, the shoot was a huge success. Thankfully, Brad is back at work full-time with his dad, Longhunter, and providing the needed gun work to keep us all in the game. We extend our hand and offer our thanks to the shooters attending the event, the vendors who donated generously, and to those who worked so hard to plan this charitable day—we hope to ride with each and every one of you again soon. 🤠

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Overall		Gunfighter	Doc Clint, SASS #61722	TX
Overall Man	Aberdeen, SASS #42517	Duelist	John Henry Ledbetter, SASS #52049	TX
Lady	Panhandle Cowgirl, SASS #77924	S Duelist	LX Rosinjaw, SASS #6846	TX
Category				
Junior	Comanche Tom, SASS #77924	49'er	Aberdeen, SASS #42517	TX
L Junior	Wild Child	L49'er	Yankee Texan, SASS #56796	TX
E Statesman	Prairie Dog Walker, SASS #74411	Wrangler	Armed to the Teeth, SASS #72801	TX
S Senior	Colecreek, SASS #48820	L Wrangler	Panhandle Cowgirl, SASS #77924	TX
L S Senior	Flossie, SASS #48821	Cowboy	Boot Strap Jason, SASS #68755	TX
Senior	Pecos Cahill, SASS #75623	Cowgirl	Cattle Kate, SASS #90330	TX
B-Western	Masked Rider, SASS #90653L			

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SASS members who have placed 1st through 5th place in their category in any SASS Sanctioned State, Regional, Territorial, National or World Championship match can now purchase an official SASS Sanctioned Winners Belt Buckle through the SASS Mercantile. Eligible members must show proof of placement by providing the official results report from the qualified SASS Sanctioned Match which can include a letter from the producing club, event newsletter, web site result listing or Cowboy Chronicle article.

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To order your SASS Sanctioned Winners Belt Buckle, simply fill out the form and return it to the SASS office with payment and proof of placement as described above. Buckles can also be ordered from the SASS Web Mercantile however proof of placement must be provided by mail, fax or e-mail.

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SASS SANCTIONED BELT BUCKLE ORDER FORM

Alias: _____ SASS #: _____
 Name: _____
 Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____
 E-mail: _____

Buckle Information:
 SASS Sanctioned Match: _____
 State Championship Regional Championship National Championship
 World Championship Territorial Shoot Out State Shoot Out
 Date & Year: _____ Location: _____
 Shooting Category: _____ Place of Finish: _____
 Proof of Placement: _____
 Club Contact: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Method of Payment (U.S. funds): \$99.95 (Includes \$9.00 shipping)
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TOTAL: \$ _____

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 Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____
 Signature: _____



SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
AK				
Alaska 49ers	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Tripod	907-373-0140	Birchwood
Golden Heart Shootist Society	2nd Sat & Last Sun	Col. Reed	907-488-3903	Chatanika
Juneau Gold Miners Posse	3rd Sun	Five Card Tanna	907-789-7498	Juneau
AL				
North Alabama Regulators	1st Sun	Drake Robey	256-313-0421	Woodville
Alabama Rangers	2nd Sun	RC Moon	205-410-5707	Brierfield
Vulcan Long Rifles	3rd Sat	Havana Jim	205-979-2931	Hoover
Gallant Gunfighters	3rd Sun	Buck D. Law	256-504-4366	Hoover
Old York Shootists	4th Sun	Derringer Di	205-647-6925	Hoover
Russell County Regulators	5th Sat	Will Killigan	706-568-0869	Phenix City
AR				
White River Gang	1st & 4th Sat	Loco Toro	870-435-2768	Mountain Home
Critter Creek Citizens Vigilance	1st Sun	Evil Bob	903-701-3970	Fourke
Mountain Valley Vigilantes Outlaw Camp	1st Wkd 2nd & 5th Sat	Christmas Kid Ozark Outlaw	501-625-3554 501-362-2963	Hot Springs Heber Springs Garfield
Arkansas Lead Slingers	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Dirty Dan Paladin	479-633-2107	Garfield
South Fork River Regulators	3rd Sat	Arkansas Harper	870-994-7227	Salem
Judge Parker's Marshals	3rd Sat & Sun	Reno Sparks	918-647-9704	Fort Smith
True Grit SASS	4th Sun	Sister Sundance	479-970-7042	Belleville
AZ				
White Mountain Old West Shootists	1st & 3rd Sat	Mustang Lady Sue	928-243-3457	Snowflake
Rio Salado Cowboy Action Shooting Society	1st Sat	A. J. Bob	480-982-7336	Mesa
Old Pueblo Shootist Association	1st Sun	Gilly Boy	520-249-2831	Tombstone
Cowtown Cowboy Shooters	1st Sun & 3rd Sat	Barbwire	480-488-3064	Phoenix
Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association	2nd Sat	Deputy Curly	602-487-9728	Phoenix
Tombstone Ghost Rider Outlaws	2nd Sat	Lola Jane	520-730-3178	Tombstone
Whiskey Row Gunslingers	2nd Sun	Turquoise Bill	928-925-7323	Prescott
Colorado River Regulators	2nd Sun & 4th Sat	Crowheart	928-505-2200	Lake Havasu Kingman
Mohave Marshals	3rd & 5th Sun	Just Plain Jim	928-757-1661	Kingman
Lake Powell Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Bare Fist Jack	928-660-2104	Page
Los Vaqueros	3rd Sat	Buckeye Pete	520-548-8298	Tucson
Tonto Rim Marauders	3rd Sun	Silverado Cid	928-595-1230	Payson
Altar Valley Pistoleros	3rd Sun & 5th Sun	Mean Raylean	520-235-0394	Tucson
Arizona Yavapai Rangers	4th Sat	Whisperin Meadows	928-567-9227	Camp Verde
Dusty Bunch Old Western Shooters	4th Sat	Squibber	520-568-2852	Casa Grande
Tombstone Buscaderos	4th Sat	Diamond Pak	520-780-4852	Tombstone
Colorado River Shootists	4th Sun	ClueLass	928-726-7727	Yuma
CA				
Sunnyvale Regulators	1st & 3rd Mon night	Shaniko Jack	650-464-3764	Cupertino
West End Outlaws	1st & 3rd Sat	Rob Banks	714-206-6893	Lytle Creek
Silver Queen Mine Regulators	1st & 3rd Sun	T. E. Kidd	562-598-7771	Azusa
Escondido Bandidos	1st Sat	Devil Jack	760-741-3229	Escondido
The Outlaws	1st Sat	Terrell Sackett	916-363-1648	Sacramento
Lassen Regulators	1st Sat	Chief Wages	530-257-3402	Susanville
Two Rivers Posse	1st Sat & 4th Sun	Dragon	209-836-4042	Manteca
River City Regulators	1st Sun	Point of Orgin	530-304-5616	Davis
Mother Lode Shootist Society	1st Sun	Sioux City Kid	209-795-4175	Jamestown
Hole In The Wall Gang	1st Sun	Frito Bandito	661-406-6001	Piru
5 Dogs Creek	1st Wkd	Mad Dog Draper	805-497-2857	Bakersfield
Cajon Cowboys	2nd & 4th Sat	Pasture Patti	760-956-8852	Devore
Chorro Valley Regulators	2nd & 5th Sun	Filthy Lucre	805-927-4409	San Luis Obispo
Shasta Regulators Of Hat Creek	2nd Sat	Cayenne Pepper	530-275-3158	Burney
Coyote Valley Cowboys	2nd Sat	Bad Eye Bobolu	408-722-0583	Morgan Hill
Guns in the Sun	2nd Sat	Johnny 2moons	760-346-0972	Palm Springs
Buffalo Runners	2nd Sat	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Rail Road Flat
Dulzura Desperados	2nd Sat	Hashknife Willie	619-271-1481	San Diego
California Rangers	2nd Sat	Paniolo Lady	916-483-9198	Sloughhouse
Double R Bar Regulators	2nd Sun	Five Jacks	760-949-3198	Lucerne Valley
High Sierra Drifters	2nd Sun	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Railroad Flat

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
CA (continued)				
Richmond Roughriders	2nd Sun	Buffy	650-994-9412	Richmond
The Over The Hill Gang	2nd Sun	Kooskia Kid	818-566-7900	Sylmar
Bridgeport Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Bee Blest	760-932-1139	Bridgeport
Burro Canyon Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Don Trader	714-827-7360	Meyers Canyon
Nevada City Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Marlin Schofield	530-265-9213	Nevada City
North County Shootist Assoc.	3rd Sat	Graybeard	760-727-9160	Pala
Shasta Regulators	3rd Sat	Modoc	530-365-1839	Redding
Robbers Roost Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Nasty Newt	760-375-7618	Ridgecrest
Gold Country Wild Bunch	3rd Sat	Sutter Lawman	530-713-4194	Sloughhouse
High Desert Cowboys	3rd Sun	Doc Silverhawks	661-948-2543	Acton
Kings River Regulators	3rd Sun	Slick Rock	559-299-8669	Clovis
South Coast Rangers	3rd Sun	Rooster Swifty Schofield	805-886-3360	Santa Barbara
Murieta Posse	3rd Sun	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Sloughhouse
Panorama Northfield Raiders	3rd Sun	Desperado	818-341-7255	Sylmar
Ukiah Gun Club	3rd Sun	Will Bonner	707-462-1466	Ukiah
Mad River Rangers	4th Sat	Kid Kneestone	707-445-1981	Blue Lake
Deadwood Drifters	4th Sat	Lusty Lil	323-353-3898	Piru
Coyote Valley Sharpshooters	4th Sat	Wif	408-448-3256	San Jose
Pozo River Vigilance Committee	4th Sat	Dirty Sally	805-438-4817	Santa Margarita
California Shady Ladies	4th Sat	Lady Gambler	916-447-2040	Sloughhouse
Hawkinsville Claim Jumpers	4th Sat & 5th Sat	Lethal Les L'Amour	530-842-4506	Yreka
FaultLine Shootist Society	4th Sun	Querida	831-635-9147	Gonzales
The Range	4th Sun	Grass V. Federally	530-273-4440	Grass Valley
The Cowboys	4th Sun	Captain Jake	714-318-6948	Norco
Sloughhouse Irregulars	5th Sat & Sun	Badlands Bud	530-677-0368	Sloughhouse
CO				
Colorado Cowboys	1st Sat	El Gato Gordo	719-683-6713	Lake George
Colorado Shaketails	1st Sun	Midnite Slim	719-660-2742	Fontain
San Juan Rangers	1st Sun	Kodiak Kid	970-252-1841	Montrose
Windygap Regulators	1st Wkd	Piedra Kidd	970-565-9228	Cortez
Four Corners Rifle and Pistol Club	2nd Sun	Capt. W. K. Kelso	970-565-3840	Cortez
Montrose Marshals	2nd Sun	Big Hat	970-249-7701	Montrose
Ben Lomond High Plains Drifters	2nd Sun	Sand River Slim	303-771-1920	Ramah
Castle Peak Wildshots	2nd Wkd	Old Squinteye	970-524-9348	Gypsum
Rockvale Bunch	3rd Sat	Mister	719-784-1342	Rockvale
Pawnee Station	3rd Sat	Red River Wrangler	970-225-0545	Wellington
Four Corners Gunslingers	3rd Sun	Cereza Slim	970-247-0745	Durango
Thunder Mountain Shootists	3rd Wkd	Pinto Being	970-464-7118	Grand Junction
Briggsdale County Shootist	4th Sat	Kid Bucklin	970-493-1813	Briggsdale
Northwest Colorado Rangers	4th Sat	Sagebrush Burns	970-824-8407	Craig
Sand Creek Raiders	4th Sun	Sweet Water Bill	303-366-8827	Byers
Black Canyon Ghost Riders	4th Sun	Double Bit	970-874-8745	Hotchkiss
CT				
Ledyard Sidewinders	1st Sat	Yosemite Gene	860-536-0887	Ledyard
CT Valley Bushwackers	2nd Sun	Milo Sierra	860-508-2686	East Granby
DE				
Padens Posse	3rd Sun	Hazel Pepper	302-422-6534	Seaford
FL				
Gold Coast Gunslingers	1st Sat	L. Topay	305-233-5756	Fort Lauderdale
Howey In the Hills Cowboys	1st Sat	OI Glor E	352-455-6508	Howey in the Hills
Ghost Town Gunslingers	1st Sat	Copenhagen	904-808-8559	St. Augustine
Hernando County Regulators	1st Sun	Shady Brady	352-686-1055	Brooksville
Miakka Misfits	1st Sun	Deadlee Headlee	941-650-8920	Myakka City
Fort White Cowboy Cavalry	2nd Sat	Deadly Sharpshoot	352-317-6284	Fort White
Okeechobee Marshals	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Amaduelist	561-371-5507	Okeechobee
Okeechobee Outlaws	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Dead Waite	863-357-3006	Okeechobee
Tater Hill Gunfighters	2nd Sun	Judge JD Justice	941-629-4440	Arcadia
Weewahootee Vigilance Committee	2nd Sun	Conway Kid	407-273-9763	Orlando
Panhandle Cowboys	2nd Sun	High Card	850-492-5162	Pensacola
Southwest Florida Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Jed Lewis	239-455-4788	Punta Gorda
Big Bend Bushwackers	3rd Sat	Sixpence Kid	850-459-1107	Tallahassee
Lake County Pistoleros	3rd Sat	Deadwood Woody	352-357-3065	Tavares

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

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
FL (continued)					IN				
Cowford Regulators	4th Sat	J Bird Blue	904-778-4184	Jacksonville	Daleville Desperados	1st Sat	Flat Water Bob	765-284-0405	Daleville
Indian River Regulators	4th Sat	Belligerent Orney Bob	321-403-2940	Palm Bay	Cutter's Raiders	1st Sat	Midnite Desperado	574-893-7214	Warsaw
Panhandle Cattle Company	4th Sat	Desperado Dale	850-832-2837	Port St. Joe	Atlanta Cattle Company	2nd Sat	Bear Creek Reverend	765-652-1525	Atlanta
Five County Regulators	4th Sun	Jed Lewis	239-455-4788	Punta Gorda	Pleasant Valley Renegades	2nd Sat	Nomore Slim	812-839-3052	Canaan
Doodle Hill Regulators	4th Sun	Dave Smith	813-645-3828	Ruskin	Schuster's Rangers	2nd Sun	Coal Car Kid	219-759-3498	Chesterton
Antelope Junction Rangers	Fri nite & 2nd Sat	Mayeye Rider	727-736-3977	Pineallas Park	Pine Ridge Regulators	3rd Sat	Mountain Preacher	765-795-3016	Cloverdale
GA					KS				
River Bend Rough Riders	1st Sat	Done Gone	770-361-6966	Dawsonville	Wolf's Rowdy Rangers	3rd Sat	Justice D. Spencer	574-264-2012	Bristol
American Old West Cowboys	1st Sat	Josey Buckhorn	423-236-5281	Flintstone	Circle R Cowboys	3rd Sat	Mustang Bill	219-279-2781	Brookston
Valdosta Vigilance Committee	1st Sat	Big Boyd	229-244-3161	Valdosta	Wabash Rangers	4th Sat	Henry Remington	217-267-2820	Cayuga
Lonesome Valley Regulators	1st Sun	Wishbone Hooper	478-922-9384	Warner Robins	Starke County Desert	4th Sat	Whip Mccord	219-942-5859	Knox
Doc Holliday's Immortals	2nd Sat	Easy Rider	770-954-9696	Griffin	Big Rock SASS	4th Sat	Southpaw Too	812-866-2406	Lexington
Camden County Cowboys	2nd Sat	Christian Mortician	912-227-5683	Kingsland	Red Brush Raiders	4th Sat	Doc Goodluck	812-721-1188	Newburgh
Pale Riders	2nd Sat	Will Killigan	706-568-0869	Mauk	Deer Creek Regulators	4th Sun	Doc Molar	765-506-0344	Jonesboro
South River Shootists	3rd Sat	Man From Little River	678-428-4240	Covington	Wildwood Wranglers	4th Sun	Voodooman	219-872-2721	Michigan City
Tennessee Mountain Marauders	3rd Sat	Trail Bones	423-842-6116	Ringgold	Westside Sportsman's Club	As Sch	Buckeye Butch	812-985-3223	Evansville
Cherokee Cowboys	4th Sat	Bad Lands Bob	706-654-0828	Gainesville	Indiana Black Powder Guild	As Sch	C. C. Top	574-354-7186	Etna Green
HI					LA				
Maui Marshals	1st & 3rd Sat	Bad Burt	808-875-9085	Maui	Butterfield Gulch Gang	1st Sun	Kanasa Flatlander	785-493-5682	Chapman
Single Action Shootists of Hawaii	4th Sun	Brandebuck	808-351-9260	Honolulu	Powder Creek Cowboys	2nd & 4th Sat & 4th Wed	El Dorado Wayne	913-686-5314	Lenexa
IA					MI				
Turkeyfoot Cowboys	1st Sat	Ranger Mathias Fischels	319-234-1550	Elk Run Heights	Mill Brook Wranglers	2nd Sun	Buckten Millbrook	785-421-2537	Hill City
Fort Des Moines Rangers	1st Sun	Pit Mule	515-205-0557	Indianola	Free State Rangers	3rd & 5th Sun	Buffalo Phil	913-904-8733	Parker
Zen Shootists	2nd Sat	Renegade Slim	515-987-0721	Nevada	Sand Hill Regulators	3rd Sat	MoundRidge Goat Roper	620-345-3151	Hutchinson
Outlaw's Run	2nd Sun	Capt. Jim Midnight	712-623-5726	Red Oak	Capital City Cowboys	4th Sun	Top	785-313-0894	Topeka
ID					MO				
Gunslingers of Flaming Heart Ranch	1st Sat	Jughandle Jack	208-634-3121	Council	Chisholm Trail Rowdies	4th Sun	Y. S Hardey	620-367-2636	Wichita
Squaw Butte Regulators	1st Sun	Acequia Kidd	208-365-4551	Emmett	Kentucky Regulators	1st Sat	Derby	270-489-2089	Boaz
Border Marauders	1st Sun & 4th Sat	Mud Marine	208-627-8377	Bonnars Ferry	Hooten Old Town Regulators	1st Sat	Bullfork Shotgun	606-782-0239	Mckee
El Buscaderos	2nd & 4th Sun	Oddman	208-437-0496	Spirit Lake	Knob Creek Gunfighters Guild	1st Sun	Cumberland Drifter	502-548-3860	West Point
Northwest Shadow Riders	2nd Sat	Silverado Belle	208-743-5765	Lewiston	Green River Gunslingers	2nd Sat	Yak	270-792-9001	Bowling Green
Southern Idaho Rangers	2nd Sat	Gordo Perro	208-234-7121	Pocatello	Ohio River Rangers	3rd Sat	George Rogers	270-554-1501	Paducah
Oregon Trail Rough Riders	2nd Sun & 3rd Sat	John Bear	208-562-1914	Boise	Rockcastle Rangers	4th Sat	Bitter Creek Jack	270-749-4101	Park City
Hells Canyon Ghost Riders	3rd Sat	J.P. Sloe	208-798-0826	Moscow	Levisa Fork Lead Slingers	4th Sun	Escopeta Jake	606-631-4613	Pikeville
Twin Butte Bunch	3rd Sat	Idaho Packer	208-589-5941	Rexburg	Fox Bend Peacemakers	4th Sun	Tocala Sam	859-552-9000	Wilmore
Panhandle Regulators	3rd Sun	Halfcocked Otis	509-991-5842	Otis Orchards	MA				
Snake River Western Shooting Society	4th Sat	Missy Mable	208-731-6387	Jerome	Border Vigilantes	1st Sat	Cooper York	504-722-8988	Sorrento
IL					MD				
Shady Creek Shootists	1st & 4th Sun	Dapper Dan Porter	309-734-2324	Little York	Up The Creek Gang	2nd & 4th Sat	Hardly Able	337-474-5058	Lake Charles
Lakewood Marshal's Rangeless Riders	1st Sat	Pine Ridge Jack	618-838-9410	Cisne	Bayou Bounty Hunters	2nd Sat	Soiled Dove	985-796-9698	Amite
Kishwaukee Valley Regulators	1st Sat	The Inspector	618-345-5048	Highland	Cypress Creek Cowboys	2nd Sat	Smokey Shane	318-805-4840	Downsville
Free Grazers	2nd Sat	Grasshopper BCI	815-758-1946	Sycamore	Cajun Cowboy Shooters Society	2nd Sun	Durango Dan	225-752-2288	Baton Rouge
Tri County Cowboys	2nd Sat	Sierra Hombre	815-967-6333	Hazelhurst	Guns of Sabine Pass	3rd Sat	Hobbel-A-Long	337-463-5690	Hineston
Kaskaskia Cowboys	2nd Sat	Beaucoup Joe	618-521-3619	Sparta	Grand Ecore Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Ouachita Kid	318-932-6637	Natchitoches
Illinois River City Regulators	2nd Sun	Granville Stuart	309-243-7236	Chillicothe	Deadwood Marshals	3rd Sat	Doc Spudley	504-467-6062	Sorrento
Vermilion River Long Riders	2nd Sun	Lead Poison Lar	815-875-3674	Leonore	Jackson Hole Regulators	4th Sat	Slick McClade	318-395-2224	Quitman
Nason Mining Company Regulators	3rd & 5th Sat	Diggins Dave	618-927-0594	Benton	ME				
McLean County Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Marshall RD	309-379-4331	Bloomington	Big Pine Bounty Hunters	As Sch	Ripley Scrounger	207-876-3541	Willmantic
Litchfield Sportsman's Club	3rd Sat	Ross Haney	618-667-9819	Litchfield	Capitol City Vigilance Committee	As Sch	Mark Lake	207-622-9400	Augusta
Illowa Irregulars	3rd Sun	Shamrock Sis	309-798-2635	Milan	Beaver Creek Desperados	As Sch	Jimmy Reb	207-698-4436	Berwick
Fort Beggs Defenders	3rd Sun	Torandado	815-302-8305	Plainfield	Hurricane Valley Rangers	As Sch	Leo	207-829-3092	Falmouth
Long Nine Cowboys	4th & 5th Sun	Lemon Drop Kid	217-787-4877	Loami	MI				
Marion County Renegades	4th Sat	Shell Stuffer	618-267-6952	Sandoval	Rockford Regulators	1st Sat	No Cattle	616-363-2827	Rockford
Good Guys Posse	4th Sun	Dangerous Denny	815-245-7264	Rockford	River Bend Rangers	2nd Sat	Pitmaster	574-276-8805	Niles
Salt River Renegades	As Sch	Lily Mae	217-985-4915	Barry	Double Barrel Gang	2nd Sat	Dakota Fats	269-721-8190	Hastings
					Butcher Butte Bunch	2nd Sun	Grubby Hardrock	810-750-0655	Fenton
					Sucker Creek Saddle & Gun Club	3rd Sat	Kid Al Fred	989-832-8426	Breckenridge
					Chippewa Regulators	3rd Sat	No Name Justice	906-632-1254	Sault Ste. Marie

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
MI (continued)					NE				
Hidden Valley Cowboys	3rd Sun	Saulk Valley Stubby	269-651-5197	Sturgis	Platte Valley Gunslingers	1st Sun	Firewater	308-226-2255	Grand Island
Eagleville Cowboys	4th Sat	One Son of A Gun	231-676-0922	Central Lake	Alliance Cowboy Club	2nd Sun	Panhandle Slim Miles	308-760-0568	Alliance
Johnson Creek Regulators	4th Sat	Gabby Glenn	248-474-0590	Plymouth	Eastern Nebraska Gun Club	2nd Sun	Flint Valdez	712-323-8996	Louisville
Mason County Marshals	4th Sat	Two Gun Troll	231-343-2580	Scottsville	Flat Water Shootists of the Grand Island Rifle Club	3rd Sun	Fortyfour Maggie	308-383-4605	Grand Island
Wolverine Rangers	As Sch	R.J. Law	248-828-7714	Port Huron	NH				
Rocky River Regulators	As Sch	Terrebonne Bud	248-709-5254	Utica	The Dalton Gang Shooting Club of NH	3rd Wkd	Littleton S. Dalton	603-444-6876	Dalton
Saginaw Field & Stream Club	As Sch	Bad River Marty	989-585-3292	Saginaw	Pemi Valley Peacemakers	As Sch	Laconia	603-661-8522	Holderness
Lapeer County Sportsmans Club Wranglers	Sun	Flat Water Johnny	314-378-5689	Attica	White Mountain Regulators	As Sch	Dead Head	603-772-2358	Candia
MN					Merrimack Valley Marauders	As Sch	Sheriff R. P. Bucket	603-345-6876	Pelham
Cedar Valley Vigilantes	1st & 3rd Sat	D M Yankee	612-701-9719	Morristown	NJ				
Crow River Rangers	1st Sun	Cantankerous Jeb	763-682-3710	Howard Lake	Thumbusters	2nd Sun	Ol' Sea Dog	732-892-7272	Monmouth
Granite City Gunslingers	2nd & 5th Sat	Amen Straight	612-723-2313	Saint Cloud	Jackson Hole Gang	4th Sun	Papa Grey	732-961-6834	Jackson
Lone Rock Rangers	2nd Sat	Red Dutchman	651-402-0368	Rosemount	NM				
Lookout Mountain Gunsmoke Society	2nd Sat	Wagonmaster	218-744-4694	Virginia	Magdalena Trail Drivers	1st & 3rd Sat	Grizzly Adams	575-854-2488	Magdalena
Fort Belmont Regulators	2nd Sun	Mule Town Jack	507-840-0883	Jackson	Rio Rancho Regulators	1st & 4th Sat	Sam Brannan	505-400-2468	Rio Rancho
East Grand Forks Rod & Gun Club	3rd Sun	BB Gunner	218-779-8555	East Grand Forks	Otero Practical Shooting Association	1st Sat	Saguaro Sam	505-437-3663	La Luz
Ike's Clantons	4th Sun	Dawgnapper	320-275-2052	New Ulm	Buffalo Range Riders	1st Sun	Shanley Shooter	505-252-0589	Founders Ranch
MO					Chisum Cowboy Gun Club	1st Sun	Two Bit Tammy	575-626-9201	Roswell
The Ozark Posse	1st Sat	Tightwad Swede	417-846-5142	Cassville	Bighorn Vigilantes	2nd Sat	Lawdog Bob	505-883-8829	Edgewood
Rocky Branch Rangers	1st Sun	Iza Littleoff	816-524-1462	Higginsville	High Desert Drifters	2nd Sat	Shakey Shooter	505-294-3233	Edgewood
West Plains Waddies	2nd & 5th Sat	Buckshot Baby	417-284-1432	Tecumseh	Lincoln County Regulators	2nd Sat	Frank Coe	575-808-1329	Ruidoso
Moniteau Creek River Raiders	2nd Sun	Doolin Riggs	573-687-3103	Fayette	Rio Vaqueros	2nd Sat, 3rd Sun	Anna Sassin	575-744-5793	Truth or Consequences
Gateway Shootist Society	3rd Sun	Bounty Seeker	314-740-4665	St. Louis	Buffalo Range Riders Wild Bunch	2nd Sun	Tijeras Pete	505-227-1449	Founders Ranch
Central Ozarks Western Shooters	3rd Sun	X S Chance	573-765-5483	St. Robert	Rio Grande Renegades	2nd Wed, 3rd Sat, 4th Sun, 5th Sat/ Sun	English Lyn	505-550-9230	Albuquerque
Southern Missouri Rangers	4th Wkd	Smokie	417-759-9114	Willard	Gila Rangers	2nd Wkd	Chico Cheech	575-388-2531	Silver City
MS					Monticello Range Riders Butte	3rd & 5th Sun	J. W. Brockey	575-744-4484	Elephant
Natchez Sixgunners	1st Sat	Winchester	601-445-5223	Natchez	Seven Rivers Regulators	3rd Sat	Stink Creek Jones	575-885-9879	Carlsbad
Mississippi Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Squinter	601-825-8640	Mendenhall	Monument Springs Bushwhackers	4th Sat	Val Darrant	575-396-5303	Hobbs
Mississippi River Rangers	4th & 5th Sat	Easy Lee	901-413-5615	Byhalia	Picacho Posse	4th Sat	Fast Hammer	575-647-3434	Las Cruces
MT					Tres Rios Bandidos	4th Sun	Largo Casey	505-330-2489	Farmington
Honorable Road Agents Shooting Society	1st Sat	Diamond Red	406-685-3618	Ennis	NV				
Sun River Rangers Shooting Society	1st Sun & 4th Sat	Jeb Stuart	406-727-7625	Simms	Fort Halleck Volunteers	1st & 3rd Sat	Green Springs Thomsen	775-753-8203	Elko
Gallatin Valley Regulators	2nd Sat	Gooch Hill Drifter	406-763-4268	Logan	High Plains Drifters	1st Sun	Irish Ike	775-424-2336	Fernley
Rocky Mountain Rangers	2nd Wkd	Jocko	406-847-0745	Noxon	Eldorado Cowboys	1st Wkd	Charming	702-565-3736	Boulder City
Bigfork Buscaderos	3rd Sat	Bodie Camp	406-883-6797	Bigfork	Lone Wolf Shooters	2nd & 5th Sun	Penny Pepperbox	775-727-4600	Pahrump
Last Chance Handgunners	3rd Sat	Bocephus Bandito	406-439-4476	Boulder	Nevada Rangers Cowboy Action Shooting Society	2nd Sun	M T Fargo	702-506-7023	Las Vegas
Custer County Stranglers	3rd Sat	Hartshot	406-232-0727	Miles City	Roop County Cowboy Shooters Assn.	2nd Sun	Russ T. Chambers	775-747-1426	Sparks
Montana Territory Peacemakers	4th Sat	Backstrap Bill	406-652-6158	Billings	Silver State Shootists	3rd Sun	Shotgun Marshall	775-265-0261	Carson City
Lincoln County Regulators	4th Sat	Lady Belle	406-889-3658	Eureka	Desert Desperados	3rd Sun	Buffalo Sam	702-459-6454	Las Vegas
NC					Silver City Shooters Society	4th Sun	Iona Vequero	775-764-0257	Indian Springs
Neuse River Regulators	1st & 3rd Sat	Paddi MacGarrett	910-938-3682	New Bern	Alabama Gunslingers	1st Sat	Bum Thumb	585-343-3906	Alabama
Old Hickory Regulators	1st Sat	Wendover Kid	252-908-0098	Rocky Mount	Tioga County Cowboys	1st Sat	Dusty Drifter	607-659-3819	Owego
Walnut Grove Rangers	1st Sat	Hiem	828-245-5563	Rutherfordton	Boot Hill Regulators	1st Sun	Judge Zaney Grey	845-352-7921	Chester
Old North State Posse	1st Sat	Tracker Mike	336-595-8853	Salisbury	Pathfinder Pistoleros	1st Sun	Sonny	315-695-7032	Fulton
Carolina Rough Riders	1st Sun	Pecos Pete	704-394-1859	Charlotte	Crumhorn Mountain Cowboys	1st Sun	Lefty Cooper	607-547-6008	Maryland
Carolina Single Action Shooting Society	2nd & 5th Sun	Carolina's Longarm	919-383-7567	Eden	Salt Port Vigilance Committee	2nd Sat	Twelve Bore	585-613-8046	Holley
High Country Cowboys	2nd Sat	Wild Otter	828-423-7796	Asheville	Bar-20 Inc.	2nd Sat	Badlands Buck	315-637-3492	West Eaton
Carolina Cattlemen's Shooting and Social Society	2nd Sat	Wicked Wanda	919-266-1678	Creedmore	Border Rangers	2nd Sun	Dammit Dick	607-724-6216	Greene
Buccaneer Range Regulators	2nd Sat	Jefro	910-327-2197	Wilmington	Hole In The Wall Gang	3rd Sat	El Fusilero	631-864-1035	Calverton
Bostic Vigilantes	2th Sat	Bostic Kid	704-434-2174	Bostic	Diamond Four	3rd Sat	Kayutah Kid	607-796-0573	Odessa
Gunpowder Creek Regulators	3rd Sat	Fannie Kikinshoot	828-754-1884	Lenoir	Circle K Regulators	3rd Sun	Smokehouse Dan	518-885-3758	Ballston Spa
Cross Creek Cowboys	3rd Sat	Huckleberry Mike	910-980-0572	Wagram	D Bar D Wranglers	4th Sat	Captain M.A.F	845-226-8611	Wappingers
Piedmont Gunslingers	3rd Sun	A. R. Stoner	336-922-1900	Churchland	Fall Sackets Harbor Vigilantes	4th Sun	Ranger Clayton Conagher	315-465-6543	Sackets Harbor
Flat Branch Ranch	4th Sat	Twelve Mile Bluff	910-432-9609	Fayetteville	The Long Riders	4th Sun	Loco Poco Lobo	585-467-4429	Shortsville
Iredell Regulators	4th Sat	Charlotte	704-902-1796	Statesville	Mythical Rough Riders	5th Sun	Rev Dave Clayton	716-838-4286	Hamburg
ND					The Shadow Riders	As Sch	Dusty Levis	646-284-4010	Westhampton Beach
Badlands Bandits	3rd Sat	Roughrider Ray	701-260-0347	Belfield	East End Regulators	Last Sun	Diamond Rio	631-585-1936	Westhampton
Trestle Valley Rangers	As Sch	Doc Hell	701-852-1697	Minot	OH				
Dakota Rough Riders	As Sch	RoughRider Jim Bob	701-673-3122	Moffit	Middletown Sportsmans Club	1st Sat	Deadwood Stan	513-894-3500	Middletown
Sheyenne Valley Peacekeepers	Last Sat	Wild River Rose	701-588-4331	Kindred	Big Irons	1st Sat	Deadwood Stan	513-894-3500	Middletown

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
OH (continued)					SC				
Tusco Long Riders	1st Sat	Split Rail	330-364-6185	Midvale	Palmetto Posse	1st Sat	Dun Gamblin	803-422-5587	Columbia
Greene County Cowboys	1st Sun	Ruger Ray	937-352-6420	Xenia	Piedmont Regulators	2nd Sat	Chase Randall	864-637-8873	Anderson
Firelands Peacemakers	1st Wed, 3rd Sat & 5th Sun	Angry Angus	440-647-5909	Rochester	Hurricane Riders	3rd Sat	Saloon Keeper	843-361-2277	Aynor
Sandusky County Regulators	2nd Sat	Curtis Clay	419-836-8760	Gibsonburg	Savannah River Rangers	3rd Sun	Surly Dave	803-892-2812	Gaston
Shenango River Rats	2nd Sat & Last Thurs	Shenango Joe	330-782-0958	Yankee Lake	Geechee Gunfighters	4th Sat	Doc Kemm	843-737-3501	Ridgeville
Miami Valley Cowboys	2nd Sun	Buckshot Jones	937-418-7816	Piqua	Greenville Gunfighters	4th Sun	Cowboy Junky	864-414-5578	Greenville
Granger Hill Regulators	2nd Sun	Barbwire Pete	740-450-8650	Zanesville	SD				
Scioto Territory Desperados	3rd & 5th Sun	Pickaway Tracker	740-477-1881	Chillicothe	Cottonwood Cowboy Association	2nd Sun	Dakota Nailbender	605-520-5212	Clark
Wilmington Rough Riders	3rd Sat	Paragon Pete	740-626-7667	Wilmington	Black Hills Shootist Association	3rd Sun	Hawkbill Smith	605-342-8946	Pringle
AuGlaize Rough Riders	3rd Sun	Deputy Diamond Desperado	419-722-6345	Defiance	Bald Mountain Renegades	As Sch	Hilltop Kid	605-392-2319	Faulkton
Ohio Valley Vigilantes	4th Sat	Old Saddlebags	614-323-4500	Mt. Vernon	TN				
Central Ohio Cowboys	4th Sun	Stagecoach Hannah	614-868-9821	Circleville	Bitter Creek Rangers	1st Sat	John B. "Kid" Latham	931-456-4897	Crossville
Stonelick Regulators	As Sch	Carson	513-753-6462	Milford	Greene County Regulators	1st Sat	Mort Dooley	423-335-0847	Rogersville
OK					Wartrace Regulators	1st Sat & 3rd Sat	Will Reily	615-948-4143	Wartrace
Cherokee Strip Shootists	1st Sat	Paladenton	405-547-2533	Stillwater	Memphis Gunslingers	2nd Sat	Dooly Sworn	901-351-6195	Arlington
Shortgrass Rangers	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Captain Allyn Capron	580-357-5870	Grandfield	ORSA Cowboys	2nd Sat	Hombre Sin Nombre	865-257-7747	Oak Ridge
Tulsey Town Cattlemens Association	2nd & 4th Sat 3rd Sun	Curly Thom Mabry	918-376-4376	Tulsa	Tennessee Mountain Marauders	3rd Sat	Double Barrel	423-593-3767	Chattanooga
Indian Territory Single Action Shooting Society	2nd & 5th Sun, 3rd Sat, 4th Wed	Burly Bill	918-830-2936	Sand Springs	North West Tennessee Longriders	3rd Sat	Can't Shoot Dillion	731-885-8102	Union City
Rattlesnake Mountain Rangers	2nd Sat	Black River Jack	918-908-0016	Checotah	Highland Regulators	3rd Wkd	Iron Maiden	423-628-2715	Winfield
Oklahoma City Gun Club - Territorial Marshals	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Flat Top Okie	405-373-1472	Oklahoma City	Ocoee Rangers	4th Sat	Ocoee Red	423-476-5303	Cleveland
Tater Hill Regulators	3rd Sun	Taos Willie	918-355-2849	Tulsa	Smoky Mountain Shootist Society	As Sch	Jim Mayo	865-300-4666	Lenoir City
OR					Smokey Mountain Shootist Society	As Sch	Tennessee Tombstone	865-986-5054	Varies
Horse Ridge Pistoleros	1st & 3rd Sun	Big Casino	541-389-2342	Bend	TX				
Molalla River Rangers	1st Sat	Gold Dust Bill	503-705-1211	Canby	Texas Troublemakers	1st Sat	Lefty Tex Larue	903-539-7234	Brownsboro
Merlin Marauders	1st Sat	Molly B. Dam	541-479-2928	Merlin	Alamo Area Moderators	1st Sat	Tombstone Mary	210-493-9320	San Antonio
Dry Gulch Desperados	1st Sat	Runamuck	509-520-3241	Milton	South Texas Pistoleros	1st Sat	Cibolo Sam	210-213-7746	San Antonio
Siuslaw River Rangers	1st Sun	Johnny Jingos	541-997-6313	Florence	Texas Peacemakers	1st Sat	Deadeye Greg	903-593-8215	Tyler
Table Rock Rangers	1st Sun & 2nd Sat	Jed I. Knight	541-944-2281	White City	Orange County Regulators	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Texas Gator	409-243-3477	Orange
Pine Mountain Posse	2nd Sat & Sun	Juniper Butch Cassidy	541-416-0361	Bend	Buck Creek Bandoleros	1st Sat & 3rd Wkd	Hoofprint Prine	254-897-7328	Nemo
Jefferson State Regulators	3rd Sat	Jed I. Knight	541-944-2281	Ashland	Comanche Trail Shootists	1st Sat & 5th Sat	Dee Home	432-557-6598	Midland
Oregon Trail Regulators	3rd Sat	Willie Killem	541-443-6591	La Grande	Plum Creek Carriage & Shooting Society	1st Sat Sun	Delta Raider	512-376-2602	Lockhart
Orygun Cowboys	3rd Sat	Kansan	503-539-6335	Sherwood	El Vaqueros	1st Sun	Tom Burden	254-559-7240	Breckenridge
Oregon Old West Shooting Society	3rd Sun & 4th Sat	Deaf Eagle	541-990-7816	Albany	Thunder River Renegades	1st Wkd	Two Spurs	936-273-1851	Magnolia
Umpqua Regulators	4th Sun	Big Lou	541-484-5900	Roseburg	Concho Valley Shooters	2nd Sat	Roamin Shields	325-656-1281	San Angelo
Lewis River Rangers	As Sch	Johnny Colt	503-289-1280	St. Helens	Texas Riviera Pistoleros	2nd Sat	Longstar	361-334-1978	George West
Columbia County Cowboys	As Sch	Kitty Colt	503-642-4120	St. Helens	Bounty Hunters	2nd Sat	Cable Lockhart	806-299-1192	Levelland
PA					Travis County Regulators	2nd Sat	Cherokee Granny	979-561-6202	Smithville
Perry County Regulators	1st Sat	Tuscarora Slim	717-789-3004	Ickesburg	Lone Star Frontier Shooting Club	2nd Wkd	Long Range Rick	817-980-7206	Cleburne
Dry Gulch Rangers	1st Sat	Pep C. Holic	724-263-1461	Midway	Texican Rangers	2nd Wkd	Red Scott	210-316-0199	Fredericksburg
Factoryville Freebooters	1st Sun	Tad Sloe	570-489-0652	Factoryville	Oakwood Outlaws	2nd Wkd	Texas Aline	903-545-2252	Oakwood
Chimney Rocks Regulators	1st Sun	Hattie Hubbs	814-696-5669	Holidaysburg	Canadian River Regulators	2nd, 3rd & 5th Sat	Adobe Walls Shooter	806-679-5824	Clarendon
Conestoga Wagoneers	1st Sun	No Change	215-431-2302	Southampton	Old Fort Parker Patriots	3rd Wkd	Slowaz Molasses	254-412-0904	Groesbeck
Boot Hill Gang of Tipton	1st Sun	Lester Moore	610-704-6792	Topton	Big Thicket Outlaws	3rd Sat	Shyne Graves	409-860-5526	Beaumont
Whispering Pines Cowboy Committee	1st Sun	Mac Traven	570-723-8885	Wellsboro	Tejas Caballeros	3rd Sat	Judge Munday Coming	512-964-9955	Dripping Springs
Logans Ferry Regulators	2nd Sat	Mariah Kid	412-607-5313	Plum-Borough	Gruesome Gulch Gang	3rd Sat	Eli Blue	806-293-2909	Plainview
Heidelberg Lost Dutchmen	2nd Sat	Ivory Rose	717-627-0694	Schaeffers-town	San Antonio Rough Riders	3rd Sat	Tombstone Mary	210-493-9320	San Antonio
Westshore Posse	2nd Sun	Hud McCoy	717-683-2632	New Cumberland	Cottonwood Creek Cowboys	3rd Sat	Pecos Cahill	325-575-5039	Snyder
Dakota Badlanders (The)	2nd Sun	Timberland Renegade	610-434-1923	Orefield	Willow Hole Cowboys	3rd Sat & Sun	Baba Looey	979-571-5614	North Zulch
River Junction Shootist Society	3rd Sat	Deputy Keck	724-423-6255	Donegal	Texas Historical Shootist Society	3rd Sun	Charles Goodnight	281-342-1210	Columbus
Jefferson Outlaws	3rd Sat	Oracle Jones	410-239-6795	Jefferson	Trinity Valley Regulators	3rd Sun	Grumpy Grandpa	972-206-2624	Mansfield
Blue Mountain Rangers	3rd Sun	Cathy Fisher	610-488-0619	Hamburg	Red River Regulators	3rd Sun	El Rio Rojo Ray	903-838-0964	Texarkana
Matamoras Mavericks	3rd Sun	Hammerin Steel	570-296-5853	Milford	Badlands Bar 3	3rd Wkd	T-Bone Dooley	903-272-9283	Clarksville
Silver Lake Bounty Hunters	3rd Sun	Marshal T. J. Buckshot	570-663-3045	Montrose	Butterfield Trail Regulators	4th Sat	Texas Slim	325-668-4884	Abilene
Purgatory Regulators	3rd Wkd	Dry Gulch Geezer	814-827-2120	Titusville	Huaco Rangers	4th Sat	Blueeyed Bear	254-715-0746	China Spring
Elstonville Hombres	4th Sun	Basket Lady	717-949-3970	Manheim	Green Mountain Regulators	4th Sat	Singin' Zeke	830-693-4215	Marble Falls
El Posse Grande	4th Sun	Black Hills Barb	570-538-9163	Muncy Valley	Purgatory Ridge Rough Riders	4th Sat	Armed to the Teeth	806-777-6182	Slaton
Stewart's Regulators	4th Sun	Sodbuster Burt	724-479-8838	Shelocta	Tejas Pistoleros	4th Sat & Sun	Texas Paladin	713-690-5313	Eagle Lake
RI					Tin Star Texans	4th Sat.	Mickey	830-685-3464	Fredericksburg
Lincoln County Lawmen	4th Sun	Wyoming Blink	401-385-9907	Foster	Magnolia Misfits	4th Sun	Attoyac Kid	281-448-8127	Magnolia
					Comanche Valley Vigilantes	4th Wkd	Billy Bob Evans	972-393-2882	Cleburne
					Texas Tenhorns Shooting Club	Last Wkd	Mustang Sherry	903-815-8162	Greenville
					UT				
					Three Peaks Rangers	1st & 3rd Sat	Curly Jim Whiskus	435-590-9873	Cedar City

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
UT (continued)				
Big Hollow Bandits	1st Sat	P.J. McCarthy	435-671-1929	Heber
North Rim Regulators	1st Sat	Autum Rose	435-644-5053	Kanab
Copenhagen Valley Regulators	1st Sat	Lead Culpepper	801-791-5697	Mantua
Utah Territory Gunslingers	1st Sat	Lefty Pete	801-554-9436	Salt Lake City
Crow Seeps Cattle Company L.L.C.	1st Sat	Buffalo Juan	435-528-7432	Mayfield
Dixie Desperados	2nd & 4th Sat	Clark Poulton	435-688-1699	St. George
Rio Verde Rangers	2nd Sat	Doc Nelson	435-564-8210	Green River
Deseret Historical Shootist Society	2nd Sat	Pronghorn Pete	801-498-7654	Kaysville
Hobble Creek Wranglers	2nd Sat	Hobble Creek Marshall	801-489-7681	Springville
Cache Valley Vaqueros	2nd Sat	Logan Law	435-787-8131	Logan
Wasatch Summit Regulators	2nd Sun	Old Fashioned	435-224-2321	Park City
Utah War	3rd & 5th Sat	Jubal O. Sackett	801-944-3444	Sandy
Mesa Marauders Gun Club	3rd Sat	Copper Queen	435-979-4665	Lake Powell
Diamond Mountain Rustlers	3rd Sat	Cinch	435-724-2575	Vernal
Wahsatch Desperados	4th Sat	Indiana Kid	801-299-1094	Fruit Heights
Castle Gate Posse	4th Sat	Rowdy Hand	435-637-8209	Price
VA				
Pungo Posse Cowboy Action Club	1st Sat	Missouri Marshal	757-471-3396	Waverly
Liberty Long Riders	1st Sun	Thunder Colt	540-296-0772	Bedford
Cavalier Cowboys County	1st Sun	Kuba Kid	804-270-9054	Hanover
Virginia City Marshals	1st Tues	Humphrey Hook	703-801-3507	Fairfax
Blue Ridge Regulators	2nd Sun	Bad Company	540-886-3374	Lexington
K.C.'s Corral	3rd Sat	Virginia Rifleman	804-550-2242	Mechanicsville
Mattaponi Sundowners	3rd Sun & 4th Sat	Missouri Marshal	757-471-3396	West Point
Pepper Mill Creek Gang	4th Sun	Slip Hammer Spiv	540-775-4561	King George
Bend of Trail	4th Sun	Rowe - A - Noc	540-890-6375	Roanoke
Rivanna Ranger Company	As Sch	Virginia Ranger	434-973-8759	Charlottesville
Stovall Creek Regulators	As Sch	Brizco-Z	434-929-1063	Lynchburg
VT				
Verdant Mountain Vigilantes	2nd Sun	Doc McCoy	802-363-7162	St. Johnsbury
WA				
Northeast Washington Regulators	1st Wkd	A. T. McGee	509-684-2325	Colville
Mica Peak Marshals	1st & 3rd Sat	Tensleep Kid	509-284-2461	Mica
Olympic Peninsula Strait Shooters	1st Sun	Doc Neeley	360-417-0230	Port Angeles
Renton United Cowboy Action Shooters	1st Wkd	Jess Ducky	425-271-9286	Renton
Windy Plains Drifters	2nd & 4th Sat	Hopalong Hoot	509-299-6296	Medical Lake

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
WA (continued)				
Wolverton Mountain Peace Keepers	2nd Sat	Hellfire	360-513-9081	Ariel
Pataha Rustlers	2nd Sat	Pinto Annie	509-520-2789	Dayton
Mima Marauders	2nd Sat	Okie Sawbones	360-705-3601	Olympia
Smokey Point Desperados	2nd Sun	Mudflat Mike	425-335-5176	Arlington
Colville Guns and Roses	2nd Sun	Cheyence Sadie	509-684-3632	Colville
Apple Valley Marshals	3rd Sat	Silent Sam	509-884-3875	East We-natchee
Panhandle Regulators	3rd Sun	Halfcocked Otis	509-991-5842	Otis Orchards
Black River Regulators	4th Sat	Wil Sackett	360-786-0199	Littlerock
Custer Renegades	4th Sun	Joe Cannuck	360-676-2587	Custer
Poulsbo Pistoleros	4th Sun	Sourdough George	360-830-0100	Poulsbo
Rattlesnake Gulch Rangers	Last Sat	Ricochet Robbie	509-628-0889	Benton City
Beazley Gulch Rangers	Last Sun	An E. Di	509-787-1782	Quincy
WI				
Rock River Regulators	1st & 3rd Sat	Stoney Mike	608-868-5167	Beloit
Western Wisconsin Wild Bunch	2nd Sat	Sierra Jack Cassidy	608-792-1494	Holmen
Bristol Plains Pistoleros	2nd Sun	Huckleberry	815-675-2566	Bristol
Crystal River Gunslingers	2nd Sun	James Rosewood	920-722-4105	Waupaca
Wisconsin Old West Shootist	2nd Sun & 4th Sat	Blackjack Martin	715-949-1621	Boyceville
Liberty Prairie Regulators	3rd Sat	Dirty Deeds	920-229-5833	Ripon
Hodag County Cowboys	3rd Sun	Hodag Bob	715-550-8337	Rhineland
Oconomowoc Cattlemen's Association	4th Sat	Marvin the Moyle	414-254-5592	Concord
WV				
Dawn Ghost Riders	1st Sun	Coffee Bean	304-327-9884	Hinton
Frontier Regulators	2nd Sat	Captain Tay	304-265-5748	Thorton
The Railtown Rowdys	2nd Sun	Miss Print	304-589-6162	Bluefield
Rocky Holler Regulators	3rd Sun	Jessee Earp	304-425-2023	Princeton
Kanawha Valley Regulators	3rd Wkd	Eddie Rebel	304-397-6188	Eleanor
Cowboy Action Shooting Sports	4th Sun	Jackson	540-678-0735	Largent
WY				
Cheyenne Regulators	1st Sat	Deputy Cuny	307-634-2449	Cheyenne
Colter's Hell Justice Committee WSAS	1st Sat	Yakima Red	307-254-2090	Various
Bessemer Vigilance Committee	1st Sun & 3rd Sat	Smokewagon Bill	307-472-1926	Casper
High Lonesome Drifters	2nd Sat	Kari Lynn	307-587-2946	Cody
Sybilie Creek Shooters	2nd Sat	Wyoming Roy	307-322-3515	Wheatland
Southfork Vigilance Committee WSAS	2nd Wkd	Wennoff Halfcock	507-332-5035	Lander
Powder River Justice Committee WSAS	3rd Sun	Doc Fehr	307-683-3320	Buffalo
Great Divide Outlaws	4th Sat	Slingn Lead	307-324-6955	Rawlins
Donkey Creek Shootists	4th Sun	Poker Jim	307-660-0221	Gillette
Snake River Rowdies	As Sch	Sheriff J. R. Quigley	307-733-4559	Jackson

International

DOWN UNDER

AUSTRALIA

Gold Coast Gamblers	1st & 3rd Sat	Dagger Jack	61 75 537 5857	Gold Coast	QLD
Adelaide Pistol & Shooting Club	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Lobo Malo	08 284 8459	Korunye	S.A
Flint Hill Prospectors	2nd Sat	Judge Ruger	61 41 838 3299	Glenlogie	VIC
Little River Raiders	3rd Sun	Lazy Dave	61 40 377 7926	Little River	VI
SASA Little River Raiders Single Action Club	3rd Sun	Tiresome	61 25 978 0190	Melbourne	VIC
Cowboy Action Shooters of Australia	3rd Wkd	I.D.	61 29 975 7983	Teralba	NSW
Fort Bridger Shooting Club	4th Sun	Duke York	613 976 941 84	Drouin	VIC
SASA Single Action Shooting-Australia	Sat/Sun	Virgil Earp	61 74 695 2050	Millmerran	QLD

NEW ZEALAND

Trail Blazers Gun Club	1st Sun	Ernie Southpaw	64 37 557 654	Mill Town	
Bullet Spittin Sons O' Thunder	2nd Sat	Billy Deadwood	64 63 564 720	Palmerston N.	
Wairarapa Pistol and Shooting Club	2nd Sun	Doc Hayes	64 63 796 692	Gladstone	
Frontier & Western Shooting Sports Association	2nd Sun	Doc Hayes	646-379-6692	Gladstone	
Tararua Rangers	3rd Sun	J.E.B. Stuart	64 6 379 6436	Carterton	
Western Renegades	4th Sat	Black Bart Bolton	64 27 249 6270	Wanganui	
SASS - Pistol New Zealand	As Sch	Tuscon the Terrible	64 3 204 2089	Varies	

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

Sweetwater Gunslingers	As Sch	Fra Diabolo	43 664 490 8032	Vienna
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CZECH REPUBLIC

Association of Western Shooters	As Sch	Thunderman	42 060 322 2400	Prelouc
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DENMARK

Danish Blackpowder Federation	As Sch	Slim Dane	45 2 065 5887	Copenhagen
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Association of Danish Western Shooters	As Sch	Mrs. Stowaway	45 602 013 65	Greve
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FINLAND

SASS Finland	As Sch	Woodbury Kane	35 850 517 4659	Various
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Classic Old Western Society	As Sch	Woodbury Kane	35 850 517 4659	Loppi
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FRANCE

SASS France - Greenwood Creek	1st Sat	Handy Hook	33 68 809 1360	Bormes les Mimosas
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SASS - France Golden Triggers of Freetown	1st Sun	Cheyenne Little Colibris	33 67 570 3678	Villefranche de Rouergue
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L'Arquebuse d'Antony	2nd Sun	Jeppesen	33 1 4661 1798	Antony
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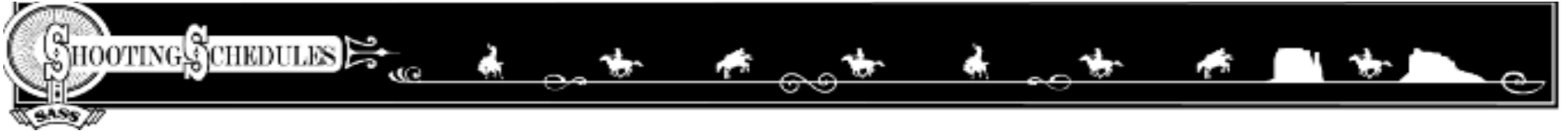
Old Pard's Shooting Society	As Sch	Charles Allan Jeppesen LaSalle	33 1 4661 1798	Anthony
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Association Mazaugaise de Tir	As Sch	Redneck Mike	33 494 280 145	Mazaugues
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SASS - France Alba Serena Tir Club	As Sch	Mashall Tombstone	flo2bastia@gmail.com	Poggio Mezzana
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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	State
International					
FRANCE (continued)					
Club de Tir Beaujolais	As Sch	Jesse Sandwhite	jean-claude.poceblanc@orange.fr	Villefranche sur Saone	
Old West French Shooters BERAC	As Sch	Curly Red Ryder	33 3 8582 0203	Caromb	
	As Sch	Rev. Delano L. Oakley	33 3 8020 3551	Premeaux Priskey	
Club de Tir Brennou	As Sch	French Bob	33 2 4767 5888	Varies	
Reverend Oakley's Cowboy Klan	As Sch	Rev. Delano L. Oakley	33 3 8020 3551	Varies	
Black Rivers	Last Sun	Kid of Neckwhite	33 3 8526 3029	Roanne	
Club de Tir de Bernay	Sat	Chriswood	33 2 3245 5900	Bernay	
SASS France	Sat	Little Shooting Missie	336 7555 8063	ECOT	
Yellow Rock					
Societe de Tir Bedoin Ventoux	Sat-Sun	Sheriff Ch. Southpaw	33 490 351 973	Bedoin	
Tir Olympique Lyonnais	Sun	Barth	33 6 1324 6128	Lyon	
Club de tri de nuits Saint Georges	As Sch	Rev. Delano L. Oakley	33 38 020 3551	Nuits Saint Georges	
Club de Tir Sportif de Touraine	As Sch	Major John Lawson	brisset37@hotmail.fr	Tours	
CAS/SASS France	As Sch	John Peacemaker	33 4 4273 9157	Varies	
GERMANY					
Germany Territory Regulators	As Sch	Westphalian Phil	49 29 216 71814	Varies	
Cowboy Action Shooting – Germany	Last Sat	Marshal Heck	49 345 120 0581	Edderitz	
SASS – Europe	Mon	Niers River Kid	49-2823-98080	Wegberg	
Jail Bird's Company	Mon	Orlando A. Brick Bond	49 21 317 42 3065	Wegberg	
Cowboy Action Shooting – Europe	Wed	Hurricane Irmi	49 28 23 5807	Bocholt	
SASS – Germany	Wed	Rhine River Joe	49 28 235 807	Spork	
HUNGARY					
Westwood Rebels	As Sch	El Heckito	362 0460 1739	Galgamacs	
ITALY					
Old Gunners Shooting Club					
Western Shootist Posse	As Sch	Renato Anese	33 51 24 5391	Toppo di Travesio	
Green Hearts Regulator	1st Sun	Marshal Steven Gardiner	39 338 920 7989	Trevi	
Fratelli Della Costa Onlus	3rd Sat	Oversize	35 05 642 4677	Livorno	
Lassiter Fan Shooting Club	3rd Sun	Ivan Bandito	39 34 7043 0400	Mazzano	
Maremma Bad Land's Riders	As Sch	Alameda Slim	alamedaslim@owss.it	Siena	
Old West Shooting Society	As Sch	Alchimista	39 33 420 68337	Varies	
Canne Roventi	Last Sun	Valdez	39 07 1286 1395	Filottrano	
Honky Tonk Rebels	Last Sun	Kaboom Andy	39 33 5737 8551	Vigevano	
Wild West Rebels	Sun	Bill Masterson	alberto@frontisrl.it	Malegno-BS	
LUXEMBOURG					
SASS - Luxembourg	As Sch	Smiley Miles	35 26 2128 0606	Varies	
NETHERLANDS					
SASS – Netherlands	As Sch	Lightning Anja	31 51 759 2120	Leeuwarden	
NORTHERN IRELAND					
Kells County Regulators	1st Sat	Independence Carroll	28 93 368 004	Varies	
NORWAY					
SASS – Norway	As Sch	Charles Quantrill	47 93 259 669	Loten	
Quantrill Raiders	Sun	Charles Quantrill	47 93 259 669	Loten	
Schedsmoe County Rough Riders	Thurs	Jailbird	47 63 994 279	Lillestrom	
SERBIA					
Union of Western Shooters	As Sch	Hombre des Nudos	63 721 6934	Humska	
SWEDEN					
SASS – Sweden	As Sch	Wild Bull	46 58 612 045	Varies	
SWITZERLAND					
Old West Shooting Society	As Sch	Hondo Janssen	44 271 9947	Zurich	
INTERNATIONAL					
CANADA					
Aurora Desperados	1st Fri	Destry	905-551-0703	Aurora	ON
Robbers Roost Hamilton	1st Sat	Bear Butte	905-891-8627	Ancaster	ON
South Mountain Regulators	1st Sat	Dutch Charlie	902-538-9797	Berwick	NS
Red Mountain Renegades	1st Sun	Preacher Flynn T. Locke	604-820-1564	Mission	BC
Barrie Gun Club	2nd & 4th Sat	Northern Crow	705-435-2807	Barrie	ON
Beau Bassin Range Riders	2nd Sat	Frenchy Cannuck	506-312-0455	Riverview	NB

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	State
CANADA (continued)					
Lambton Sportsman's Club	2nd Sat	Clay Creek	519-542-4644	St. Clair	ON
Wentworth Shooting Sports Club	2nd Sun	Stoney Creek	905-664-3217	Hamilton	ON
Victoria Frontier Shootists	2nd Sun	Black Ashley	250-744-4705	Victoria	BC
Valley Regulators	3rd Sat	Kananaskis Kid	250-923-6358	Courtenay	BC
Prairie Dog Rebels	3rd Sat	Valley Boy	519-673-5648	London	ON
Valley Regulators	3rd Sat & Sun	High Country Amigo	250-334-3479	Courtenay	BC
Otter Valley Rod & Gun	4th Sun	Colt McCloud	519-685-9439	Straffordville	ON
Islington Sportmen's Club	As Sch	Hawk Feathers	905-936-2129	Caledon	ON
Blueridge Sportsmen's Club	As Sch	Rebel Dale	519-599-2558	Clarksburg	ON
Waterloo County Revolver Association	As Sch	Ranger Pappy Cooper	519-536-9184	Kitchener	ON
Mundy's Bay Regulators	As Sch	Indiana Magnum	705-534-2814	Penetanguishene	ON
Nova Scotia Cowboy Action Shooting Club	As Sch	Wounded Belly	902-890-2310	Truro	NS
Palmer's Gulch Cowboys	As Sch	Caribou Lefty	250-372-0416	Heffley Creek	BC
Champ de tir Saint-Jacques-le-Mineur	As Sch	Richelieu Mike	450-658-8130	Napierville	QC
Ottawa Valley Marauders	As Sch	Button	514-792-0063	Ottawa	QC
Alberta Frontier Shootists Society	As Sch	Mustang Heart	780-464-4600	Rocky Mtn House	AB
Long Harbour Lead Slingers	Tues	Preacher Man John	250-537-0083	Salt Spring Island	BC

SOUTH AFRICA					
Western Shooters of South Africa	3rd Sat	Richmond P. Hobson	27 21 797 5054	Cape Town	

Monthly Mounted USA					
AZ					
Tombstone Ghost Riders Mounted Club	2nd Sun	Dan Nabbit	520-456-0423	Tombstone	
CA					
Ghost Town Riders	1st Sun	Steely Eyes Earp	951-737-6596	Norco	
California Range Riders	As Sch	Old Buckaroo	408-710-1616	Varies	
CO					
Reveners of Montezuma	1st Sun	Aneeda Huginkiss	970-565-8479	Cortez	
CT					
Connecticut Renegades	As Sch	Cowboy Cobbler	860-558-7484	Granby	
FL					
Florida Outlaws Cowboy Mounted Shooting	1st & 3rd Sat	Two Gun Gina	321-636-5399	Ocala	
Bay Area Bandits	3rd Sat	Shootin Shoer	813-623-6137	Tampa	
ID					
Border Marauders Mounted	As Sch	Bad Buffalo Bob	208-610-8229	Eastport	
IN					
Heartland Peacemakers	As Sch	Rawhidenlace	765-561-2521	Fountaintown	
MD					
Thurmont Mounted Rangers	3rd Sun	Timber Smoke	410-997-9370	Thurmont	
ME					
Maine Cowboy Mounted Shooters	As Sch	Cowboy Bill	207-282-2821	Biddeford	
NM					
Buffalo Range Riders Mounted	3rd Sat	Ice Lady	505-263-5619	Founders Ranch	
NY					
Island Long Riders	As Sch	Mecate Kid	516-610-8166	Farmingdale	
Upstate New York Smokin' Guns	As Ash	Renegade Roper	518-883-5981	Galway	
OK					
Oklahoma Gunslingers	As Sch	Ima Sandy Storm	918-244-8060	Claremore	
WI					
Renegade Rangers	As Sch	Ace Montana	920-960-1714	Ripon	

Monthly Mounted International					
LEBANON					
SASS Lebanon	As Sch	Packin Jesse	96 1138 5982	Varies	
El Rancho Sporting Club					
CANADA					
Quebec Mounted Shooting Association	As Sch	Dirty Owl Bert	819-424-7842	Joliette	QC

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS ANNUAL MATCHES

Match	Dates	Contact	Phone	City	State	Match	Dates	Contact	Phone	City	State
USA 2012						MAY 2012 (continued)					
JANUARY						SASS Mississippi Blackpowder State Championship – Smokin’ Guns at Rabbit Ridge					
New Years Day Shoot	01 - 01	Humphrey Hook	703-801-3507	Fairfax	VA	Shootout at Three Fingers Saloon	24 - 27	Easy Lee	901-413-5615	Byhalia	MS
SASS Florida State Championship Last Stand, Texas Rangers & the Outlaws	05 - 08	Santa Fe River Stan	386-547-0255	St. Augustine	FL	James Gang Rides Again by the Rockcastle Rangers	25 - 27	Dirty Sally	805-438-4817	Santa Margarita Park City	CA KY
Yuma Territorial Prison Breakout	13 - 15	ClueLass	928-726-7727	Yuma	AZ	SASS Pennsylvania State Championship – North Mountain Shootout XI	25 - 27	Shaddai Vaquero	406-231-2329	Muncy Valley	PA
SASS NM State Championship – Ambush at Butterfield Trail	26 - 29	Fast Hammer	505-647-3434	Las Cruces	NM	SASS Vermont State Championship Green Mountain Mayhem	25 - 27	Doc McCoy	802-363-7162	St. Johnsbury	VT
SASS Southwest Wild Bunch Championship – Shootout at Butterfield Trail	26 - 27	Fast Hammer	575-647-3434	Las Cruces	NM	Duel in the Desert	26 - 27	Silverado HD	520-390-2263	Tuscon	AZ
Flat Branch Ranch Annual	28 - 28	Twelve Mile Bluff	910-432-9609	Fayetteville	NC	South River Shootist	26 - 27	Man From Little River	678-428-4240	Covington	GA
FEBRUARY						SASS Iowa State Championship Shootout at Coyote Gulch					
High Noon at the Tombstone Livery	09 - 12	Lola Jane	520-730-3178	Tombstone	AZ	Siege at the Bird Cage Theatre	31 - 03	San Juan	970-249-4227	Montrose	CO
Battle of the Bloody Marsh	11 - 11	Christian Mortician	912-227-5683	Kingsland	GA	SASS Oregon State Championship Battle of Rogue River	31 - 02	Pit Mule	515-205-0557	Indianola	IA
Gold Coast Gunfight Cheyenne Rides Again	18 - 19	L. Topay	305-233-5756	Fort Lauderdale	FL	JUNE					
SASS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Winter Range	20 - 26	Pea Patch	623-465-8683	Phoenix	AZ	SASS MA, CT, and RI State Championship Shootout at Sawyer Flats	01 - 03	Barrister Bill	978-667-2219	Harvard	MA
MARCH						SASS Colorado State Championship – Rocky Mountain Regional Raid					
Rid with Poncho Villa	02 - 04	Delta Rider	512-376-2602	Lockhart	TX	SASS Ohio State Championship Shootout at Hard Times	07 - 10	Sweet Water Bill	303-366-8827	Byers	CO
Gathering of The Poses	09 - 11	Squibber	520-568-2852	Casa Grande	AZ	SASS Wyoming State Championship – Cody’s Wild West Shootout	07 - 10	Buckshot Jones	937-418-7816	Piqua	OH
Cowboy Action Shooting Midwest Expo	10 - 11	Sauk Trail Mike	269-483-2454	Shipshewana	MI	SASS Oregon State Championship Battle of Rogue River	07 - 09	Joe Cross	307-587-2946	Cody	WY
The Ide’s of March	16 - 18	Deadwood Woody	352-357-3065	Tavares	FL	The Reckoning	09 - 10	Timberland Renegade	610-434-1923	Orefield	PA
Comancheria Days	29 - 01	Red Scott	210-316-0199	Fredericksburg Sparta	TX IL	Revenge of Montezuma	15 - 17	Stumble Lenna	970-739-9705	Cortez	CO
Illinois State Wild Bunch Championship	30 - 31	Back 40	618-625-3520	Sparta	IL	SASS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP END of TRAIL	17 - 24	SASS Office	505-843-1320	Founders Ranch	NM
APRIL						Fort Halleck Days					
The Reckoning at Turtle Flats	01 - 01	Deadlee Darlin	941-650-8920	Myakka City	FL	SASS Wisconsin State Blackpowder Shootout Smoke in the Hills	21 - 23	Green Springs Thomsen	775-753-8203	Elko	NV
Stampede	05 - 07	M T Fargo	702-460-6393	Jean	NV	Railhead	24 - 24	Captain Cook	715-248-3727	Station Range	WI
Glory Hole	13 - 15	T. E. Kidd	562-477-2047	Azusa	CA	SASS HIGH PLAINS REGIONAL Hell on Wheels	28 - 01	Sly Puppy	623-925-2559	Williams	AZ
Jail Break	13 - 15	Texas Alline	903-545-2252	Oakwood	TX	Flat Gap Jack Cowboy Shootout	28 - 01	Red River Wrangler	970-225-0545	Cheyenne	WY
Blue Ridge RoundUp	13 - 15	Dig Em Deep	540-377-2714	Lexington	VA	JULY					
SASS FOUR CORNERS REGIONAL Buffalo Stampede	18 - 22	SASS Office	505-843-1320	Edgewood	NM	SASS Alaska Territorial Championship – Shootout Under The Midnight Sun	06 - 08	Four Bucks	907-350-4422	Anchorage	AK
Land Run	19 - 22	Flat Top Okie	405-373-1472	Oklahoma City	OK	SASS Montana State Championship – Shootout On the Sun River	06 - 08	Jeb’s Lady	406-727-7625	Simms	MT
SASS Mississippi State Championship Showdown at Purgatory	20 - 22	Squinter	601-825-8640	Mendenhall	MS	The Final Showdown	13 - 15	Old Saddlebags	419-529-0887	Mt. Vernon	OH
Dry Gulch At Arroyo Cantua	26 - 26	Sutter Lawman	916-354-1027	Sloughhouse	CA	SASS Utah State Championship Castle Gate Robbery	19 - 21	Rowdy Hand	435-637-8209	Price	UT
SASS Texas State Black Powder Championship Resurrection V	27 - 29	Mickey	830-685-3464	Fredericksburg	TX	Annual International Matches					
SASS California State Wild Bunch Championship	28 - 29	Sutter Lawman	916-354-1027	Sloughhouse	CA	CANADA					
SASS State Wild Bunch Championship Wild in Purgatory	28 - 29	Madd Mike	702-465-8055	Pahrump	NV	SASS Central Canadian Championship	Jul 20 - 22	Northern Crow	705-435-2807	Barrie	ON
SASS Washington State Blackpowder Championship – A Dark Day at Rattlesnake Gulch	28 - 29	Ricocchet Robbie	509-628-0889	Benton City	WA	Showdown in the Valley	Jul 21 - 22	High Country Amigo	250-334-3479	Courtenay	BC
MAY						AUSTRALIA					
SASS California State Championship Shootout at 5 Dog Creek	03 - 06	Mad Dog Draper	805-497-2857	Bakersfield	CA	SASS AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Chisholm Trail	Sep 24 - 30	Virgil Earp	61 74 695 2050	Millmerran	QL
SASS Georgia State Championship Round Up at River Bend	03 - 06	Done Gone	770-361-6966	Dawsonville	GA	NEW ZEALAND					
SASS Georgia State Blackpowder Championship	03 - 03	Done Gone	770-3616966	Dawsonville	GA	Trail’s End – The World Frontier & Western Championships	Mar 15 - 18	Doc Hayes	646-379-6692	Gladstone	
SASS Texas State Championship – Roundup	03 - 06	Long Range Rick	817-980-7206	Cleburne	TX	CZECH REPUBLIC					
SASS Delaware State Championship Eas’dern Shore Round-up	04 - 06	Teton Tracy	302-378-7854	Suddersville	MD	Showdown in the Camp	Jul 26 - 29	Fra Diabolo	office@sass-austria.at	Tabor-Oparany	
Fracas at Frisco	11 - 12	Dirty Dan Paladin	479-633-2107	Garfield	AR	EUROPE					
Korruption in Paradise	11 - 13	Korrupt Karl	260-438-1044	Etna Green	IN	SASS German Territory Roundup 4th Retribution	May 31 - June 2	Westphalian Phil	49 170 231 9708		
SASS Virginia Blackpowder Shootout Smoke on the Mattponi IV	12 - 12	Missouri Marshal	757-471-3396	West Point	VA	FRANCE					
SASS California State Blackpowder Shootout Resurrection at Robbers’ Roost	17 - 20	Just George	760-677-9109	Ridgecrest	CA	Old West Shootout	Jun 02 - 03	Vallombreuse	33 023 365 7690	Athis De L’Orne	
SASS Illinois State Championship – Spring Roundup at the Gulch	18 - 20	Beaucoup Joe	618-521-3619	Sparta	IL	Mounted Annual Matches					
Shooting Shindig						April 2012					
Shoot Out on the Pecos	18 - 20	Stink Creek Jones	575-885-9879	Carlsbad	NM	SASS FOUR CORNERS MOUNTED REGIONAL Buffalo Stampede	18 - 22	Icelandy	505-263-5619	Founders Ranch	NM
SASS West Virginia Blackpowder State Championship Smoke Over Buffalo Flats	18 - 20	Eddie Rebel	304-397-6188	Eleanor	WV						
Shootout at Moose Nugget Flats	19 - 19	Marshal Stone	907-232-1080	Birchwood	AK						
SASS Utah State Blackpowder Shootout The Castle Gate Smudge Match	19 - 19	Rowdy Hand	435-637-8209	Price	UT						
Cops VS Cowboys & Swap Meet	19 - 20	Shanley Shooter	505-252-0589	Edgewood	NM						
SASS Alaska State Blackpowder Shootout Smoke in the Greatland	20 - 20	Four Bucks	907-350-4422	Anchorage	AK						

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Colonel Dan,
SASS Life #24025

"Yes, we did produce a near perfect republic, but will they keep it, or will they, in the enjoyment of plenty, lose the memory of freedom?"

~ Thomas Jefferson ~

Americans have been losing freedom at an ever-accelerating pace for years—particularly under the current administration! The more power we give politicians of either party, the more they usurp in the name of national security and the general welfare! Sadly, "We the People" allow it, eventually embrace it, and at times even demand it.

To passionately claim and preserve freedom you must know what freedom is, be dedicated to its fundamental principles, and willing to accept the individual responsibility that comes with it. Simply put, you must first want freedom before you'll fight to keep it. If you don't really want freedom, or even recognize it when you see it, you don't deserve it, and you'll never miss it when it's gone.

Everyday I see indicators that many Americans would rather let "someone" else make the decisions in life and thus willingly surrender liberty in exchange for the illusion of "security." As Ben Franklin warned:

"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

In instance after instance, Americans are seeing more and more government control of their personal lives—from dictating how we can save for our own retirement, to healthcare, airport security and private enterprise, to what we teach in schools and how it's taught.

This attitude of expecting government to take charge of life's problems and provide solutions is not the way we began two centuries ago.

THE DREAM OR THE ILLUSION?

By Colonel Dan, SASS #24025, Life/Regulator

This concept, however, is now actively perpetuated by the government itself and willingly accepted by many of the governed who can't see the inherent dangers that were so clear just a few generations before. This situation tells me many Americans in the year 2012 don't have the same solid bedrock of principle engrained in their souls this country was founded on and so cherished by Americans of prior generations.

At our country's birth, we had a healthy distrust of centralized authority. The Founders knew that whatever government touched, entangling tentacles were attached that jerked the bricks from freedom's foundation.

Just in the last 60 years, many 'victims' of our own success and education have lost that sense of traditional America. My instincts tell me they've become too lethargic in the enjoyment of their plenty as Jefferson said and don't want to be distracted or bothered by anything that doesn't immediately entertain or provide more money and comfort ... *"let government handle that. I can't be bothered with that right now"* and *"Why doesn't the government do something?"* seems to be the prevailing and underlying attitude reflective of many who are so quick to trade liberty for the illusory promise of security.

Another reason many Americans feel this way is they just don't know any better. Education of our history, our rights, our original form of government have been replaced by a curriculum that focuses on perpetuating politically correct illusion over truth and substance. When the three S's of sex, self, and socialism began to replace the traditional 4 R's of readin' 'ritin', 'rithmatic and rights in the education of America's children, we started down a pathway to self-destruction.

In the 1950's, we began to turn over much of our educational system to big government. Disappearing were the little community schools that had an inherent sense of personal responsibility for educating

our children, and in their place came the government subsidized, impersonal, mega-school districts.

Firmly attached to the dollars needed to build those monstrosities were the tentacles of government and the dictates regarding curriculum that went along with the deal. As big government became the money machine for this, they set the rules for what could or should be taught, and that's when America's children began to lose their sense of the restrictions placed on government by our Constitution and Bill of Rights. The government began to portray itself as the father provider of all. *"Government was good and would take care of you and your needs! Teach this, or you'll lose your federal funding!"*

Many Americans of the last 60 years are now very poorly educated in their own culture. They know precious little about such things as both Revolutions and their true causes, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, as well as our concept of "limited government." We no longer teach kids to think, we teach them to feel good. We don't teach history, we teach politically correct revisionism, and we don't teach the real meaning of our own Constitution or Bill of Rights!

The undereducated and ill-informed are always more apt to be dependent than independent by nature, and this is exactly what big government progressives of both parties want—more dependence on them for everything.

America's historical record of success, however, has been great because we started out on a traditional path built upon the principles of self-reliance and freedom. As a nation, we are now enjoying the gifts of our success that originally came to us directly because of those founding principles. Sadly, we're rapidly losing the memory of those principles.

The beneficiaries of the gifts generated by those principles have become exceedingly complacent and are willing to trade traditional values for the easier, "more enlightened

level of existence." In so doing, we've sewn the wind and are reaping a whirlwind that government dependency brings with it and losing the greatest gift of all—our freedom.

The time is quickly coming when we will have lost ALL memory of real freedom, replacing it with the illusion of government-subsidized security. But that course won't last long nor bode well for any long-term future for America. History has shown all too clearly when a country becomes lethargic and wrapped up pursuing only pleasure, losing its moral fiber, and ignorant of its fundamental values, it self-destructs, as did Rome. When that happens, the American row will be a hard one to hoe indeed—slavery always is. My friend Charley Reese put it this way:

"The Smiley Folk in Washington are preparing a future in which the lethargic are going to have a hard time enjoying their lethargy."

As recent as the "Period Correct" era I wrote of last month, American attitudes regarding the role of government in their lives would often have been to tell government to butt out. Until Americans once again want freedom badly enough to sternly tell government to butt out, it will continue to butt-in—with one huge and imposing butt labeled, 'Property of the U.S. Government.'

Truth is, many Americans today have replaced the great American dream with the grand American illusion. If people want the illusion of security in place of the traditional dream of freedom, they can easily have it. All they need do is simply vote this year for the politician promising a Utopian fantasy and then sheepishly accept the government bilge that their grand illusion is, in fact, the great American dream they've always wanted. Sadly, many Americans have already done exactly that. And why doesn't the "establishment GOP" effectively fight this expansive destruction they routinely proclaim to oppose? I'll share the view from my saddle on that next month.

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