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(See page 15)

# The Cowboy Chronicle

The Monthly Journal of the Single Action Shooting Society®

Vol. 25 No. 7

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July 2012

## THE GREAT NOR'EASTER SASS New England July 21 - 24, 2011

**D**xeter, NH – “The Great Nor’easter” 2011 SASS New England Regional ... what can you say?

Well right off, I think everyone would agree the first thing that comes to mind is it was another great event. The second thing would be hot; no, not just hot, but as we say here in New England, it was “wicked pissah hot.” See? It says so right here on my “I Survived the Great Nor’easter 2011” souvenir badge made up by Tazz and Rose of Klassic Laser Works. When I headed to the truck at the end of shooting on Friday the outside temperature was 102 degrees with the humidity near as high. A Nor’easter costume award tradition started a couple of years ago for ‘sweatiest cowboy’ and ‘nearly nekkid cowgirl’ was about a 250-way tie. There were comments from many of the male shooters about possibly getting into the cross dressing cowboy class and wearing

### Regional Championships

By Iron Pony, SASS #36769  
Photos by Iron Pony and  
Dead Head, SASS #29768



*Callous Clyde, SASS #4677, making smoke in the Frontier Cartridge Duelist Category. Mid-summer heat and humidity were in ample evidence as the temps soured to over 100° and the humidity right along with it! Attention to details by match officials ensured (nearly!) everyone stayed well hydrated. By all accounts, the match was well run, had great props, and enjoyed by all!*

on Thursday for side matches, main match stages on Friday and Saturday, and the Top Gun Shoot-off and Awards Ceremony on Sunday. It was yet again four days of shooting fun with friends and family, be they related or just part of the extended cowboy family we adopt in this sport. I am not sure if the number of folks camping at the club was up or down from previous years, but any cowboy or cowgirl wanting to get into the nomadic lifestyle would have been able to peruse the selection and get a real good idea of what was on the market.

To go any further without paraphrasing Winston Churchill’s famous “never have so few done so much for so many” and not recognize the nonstop efforts of Matchlock, SASS #85826, Wilfred Aubrey, SASS #78230, Windjammer, SASS #35984, and Six Shot Steve, SASS #66105, who hauled a small lake of water and ice during the match would be rude, if not criminal. How about “never have so few done so much to hydrate so many” instead? Thanks pards, you were almost assuredly literally life-savers! Added thanks to Hawley McCoy, SASS #59588, Dapper Dan, SASS #40887, and Doc McCoy, SASS #8381, who treated the one  
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#### SASS Cowboy Chronicle

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bloomers if the heat didn’t break.

This event, in its sixth year, saw 244 shooters from as close as next door here in New Hampshire to as far as Australia showing up via

their preferred method of travel to meet, greet, compete, and celebrate with old friends and new. We descended on the host Pelham Fish and Game club once again starting

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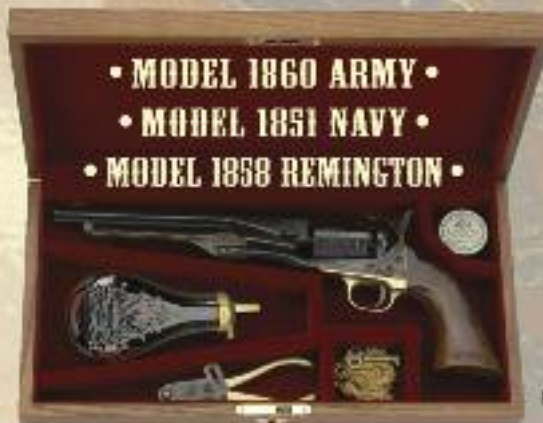


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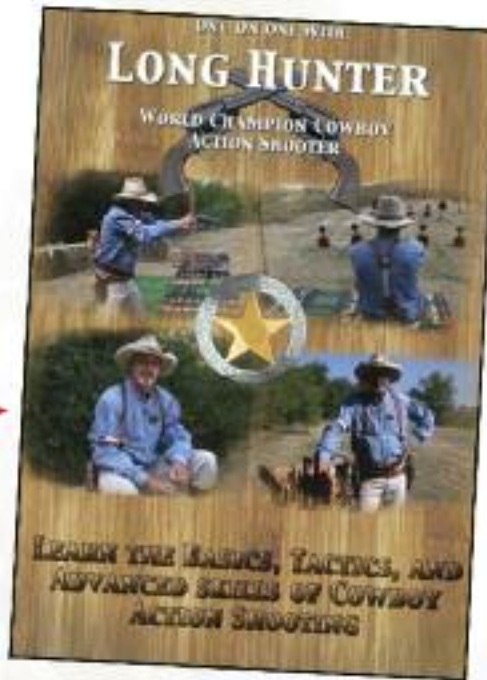
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The first construction phase of the chapel has been completed! Exterior painting, landscaping, and all the interior work have yet to be done. While, hopefully, volunteer labor will do the rest of the work, there are still significant material expenses in the months ahead, including, electrical, fans, pews, interior walls, ceiling, and the like. What we have now is a great start ... and a useable building ... what we need to do now is finish it!

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Tex, SASS #4

# STAGE CONVENTIONS

By Tex, SASS #4

**C**onventions for Cowboy Action Shooting™ have a purpose. They make the job of writing stages so much easier. Have you ever noticed how the same verbiage finds its way into every scenario at a match? With a little forethought, the descriptions for the Action Shooting stages can be simplified, shortened, and still be perfectly clear. It's called "efficient" stage writing.

SASS introduced a standard set of "stage conventions" several years ago ... and they've served us well. These conventions tell us how to stage our firearms, the default position for the shooter, how to discard the firearms after using them, and so on. It has become redundant to put "discard the open and empty rifle with muzzle pointed safely down range" into the stage scenario—the standard stage conventions cover this nicely. Interestingly, many stage writers have opted to simply put into the stage description—"make the rifle safe." Big improvement? No.

What does "make the rifle safe" really mean? It means discard the open and empty rifle with the barrel pointed safely down range (the standard stage convention) *anywhere you want*. Anywhere you want? What is lost if *nothing* is said? For example, "Shoot your rifle in the following sequence, then shoot your shotgun in the following sequence ..." What are you going to do with your rifle? You're going to deposit it, action open and empty, with the muzzle pointed safely downrange ... *anywhere you want!* It's already in the stage conventions ... and the stage designer doesn't have to say a word! Much better.

Of course, if the stage designer really wants the rifle discarded in the wagon ... then,

certainly, "leave the rifle in the wagon" is required verbiage.

While not a convention, per se, one of my pet peeves is telling the shooter to "go grab your rifle and ..." What if the stage description simply said "with the rifle engage the xyz targets in the following pattern ...?" If you're standing in the doorway of the bank and your rifle is staged in the back of the buckboard outside and it's time to shoot your rifle ... do I really need to tell you to "go get your rifle?" Common sense is a wonderful thing!

Efficient stage design consists of describing where the firearms are staged, in which order they are used, and the required shooting pattern/targets for each firearm. All of the gun handling "instructions" are already covered in the stage conventions or by common sense, and need not be repeated in each and every stage description. Once again, if the stage designer wants something done other than what is described in the stage conventions, he *must* include that verbiage.

One of the things this approach to stage writing exposes is nowhere have we talked about shooting positions. Interestingly, even with all the excess verbiage commonly used today, we really haven't, either. For example, "run to the wagon, retrieve the rifle, and shoot the xyz targets in the following sequence ..." doesn't demand the rifle be shot from the wagon. It's really not even "implied." If the stage designer wants the targets shot from behind the wagon, one must say so. OR ... we need a written convention that says we must shoot the firearm from within arms length from wherever it is retrieved (or something similar). Without such a convention, we've had some interesting stages at Founders Ranch where shooters choose to take the few extra steps to achieve a much more attractive shooting position ... and get all their hits!

Another convention that really needs to be documented is what

we mean by the term "repeat." For example, "shoot the rifle in an outside, outside, inside, inside, middle sequence ... and repeat." Do we mean repeat the sequence exactly the way it was shot the first time around ... or are we saying repeat the instructions? For END of TRAIL this year the stage instructions were careful to say "repeat the sequence" or "repeat the instructions" ... depending upon what the stage designer wanted.

Another useful convention would be one that says, "shoot the rifle targets with the rifle, shoot the shotgun targets with the shotgun, and shoot the revolver targets with the revolver." This way it is unnecessary to say "using the rifle engage the rifle targets in the following sequence ..." It would only be necessary to say, "shoot the rifle targets in the following sequence ..."

Of course, if a certain bank of targets were to be engaged using both the rifle and the revolver, then it would be necessary to add the appropriate verbiage. For example, "using the revolver engage the rifle/revolver targets in the following sequence, then with the rifle engage the rifle/revolver targets in the following sequence ..."

Conventions can be a powerful tool for the stage writer ... but there is one caveat ... the conventions *must* be written down and understood by all. Informal conventions don't cut it. SASS has documented the "standard" conventions. END of TRAIL added a couple of additional conventions in its Shooters Program to clarify how to read and understand its stage descriptions.

When a club adopts a convention ("it's the way we've always done it"), and it's not documented

(for the benefit of both the local members AND for visiting cowboys) it does nothing but create confusion and unhappiness. For example, if a club decides, "we always shoot our sweeps left to right," they have an obligation to document that ... and even reaffirm that fact at the safety briefing. It's always a good thing to cover any special rules (size of shotgun shot, round over the berm, etc.), conventions (direction of sweeps, no Comstock rule in effect, etc.), or considerations (no smoking or alcohol on the range) that might exist at a particular range at the safety briefing to ensure everyone is on the same page. Don't penalize your guests for doing something that is not a SASS rule and is not documented. And, don't make an announcement halfway through the match that a non-documented "convention" will henceforth be enforced for the balance of the match!

Incidentally, some conventions are solutions looking for a problem! For example, "all sweeps are from the left ..." Why? What is to be gained? "Modern" stage writing norms are to provide as few positional and directional instructions as possible. If sweeping left to right or right to left makes no difference, let the shooter do whatever he/she wants to do! If the stage is ambidextrous and lends itself to being shot "from the left to the right side of the stage" OR "from the right to the left side of the stage," then allow it. It's a rookie mistake to "over" choreograph a stage.

Plan your match, document the rules, and follow them. If the rules need to be "fixed," make a note and do it at the next match! 🐾

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# Civil War Heritage Preservation

The North-South Skirmish Association held its 125th National Competition May 18-20, 2012 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 110th Ohio Volunteer Infantry won the musket match with a time of 407.7 seconds for the five event program, besting the second place 8th Virginia Infantry by a mere 2.2 seconds! A total of 210 eight-member teams participated in this

N-SSA signature competition. In the carbine team matches, the 17th Virginia Infantry bested 160 other companies and won the gold for the second consecutive national. In an impressive display of depth the 17th Virginia Infantry also won gold in the revolver competition in all three classes. The 8th Virginia Infantry won the smoothbore musket match; the breech loading rifle match was won by the 2nd Maryland Artillery (CSA) and the single shot rifle match by the 17th Virginia Infantry. In the artillery competitions, 48 guns participated in the cannon matches. The winners included Hardaway's Alabama Battery #1 in the smooth-



## Correction

### Long Swede Is Top Gun At Last Stand at Chimney Rock

On Page 30 of the June Cowboy Chronicle, the photo caption incorrectly identified the Top Gun at the Last Stand at Chimney Rock as Swifty Swede. The 2011 Top Gun at the Last Stand at Chimney Rock was Long Swede, SASS #22129. Congratulations to Long Swede for his Top Gun honors!



*Long Swede and Crazy Little Woman, Top Guns at the 2011 SASS Western Regional, Last Stand at Chimney Rock*

bore class; the 23rd NC State Troops, Co. G in the rifled class; the Dixie Artillery in the howitzer class; and the 15th Independent Battery, Ohio Light Artillery in the rifled howitzer class. Completing the artillery competition was the 3rd Maryland Artillery holding off 58 other competitors to win the mortar matches. In the special Civil War Sesquicentennial "Last Man Standing" elimination match, the Western Region's Dan Christiansen of the 29th Wisconsin Infantry outlasted the best shots from each of the other 12 N-SSA regions'

teams to win the All-Star event. 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 126th National Competition is scheduled for October 5-7, 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](mailto:spartan70@sbcglobal.net) or visit our web site at [www.n-ssa.org](http://www.n-ssa.org).

## Correction

"The Ambush of the Butterfield Trail" article in the May 2012 issue of The Cowboy Chronicle reported an incomplete list of winners for the SASS New Mexico State Championship in Las Cruces, NM. The Lady Sil-

ver Senior category was not reported. Lawless Lill, SASS #80605, won the category and is the 2012 New Mexico Lady Silver Senior Champion. Congratulations, and our apologies for the omission!

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The anti-gun lobby is doing it again and as usual the lap-dog media is pushing their agenda. Laws have been passed whereas the gun lobby is restricted from political ads before elections, but the anti-gun lobby is not. We raise millions of dollars for pro ads and spend every cent. The antis get free ads by having the news agencies report on crimes using firearms. We finance and defend pro gun legislation and court cases and the antis get pro-bono or low cost legal support. The entertainment industry, which uses firearms liberally in their action films, decry the public having the right to use or own any. The entertainment industry and its leading actors brainwash our young by showing any and all disputes, real or imagined, are best settled by the use of firearms, yet cry out and call for more control of the public access to firearms.

Our educational institutions teach and indoctrinate our young that the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment is obsolete and was never intended for the citizenry to have ownership without prior government approval.

Where did this all come from? Try looking back to the late nineteen fifties and early sixties. That's when it really took hold. But we all know that. Article after article has been published in firearms magazines and books. We're preaching to the choir. We're telling the same story over and over and using the same old arguments over and over. Why are we losing?

Let's look in the mirror. We are doing it to ourselves. Go to any pristine part of the country and see where target shooters have been. They look like private dump sites of unwanted household items that have been discarded and used for target practice and left for others to see and clean up. The antis see this and use this as an excuse to restrict our use for our own enjoyment of our sport.

## WE ARE OUR OWN WORST ENEMY

By Caribou Bob, SASS #40197

My son and I used to go out to the high desert in Southern California to do some plinking. We would bring our paper targets and clay pigeons. When we were done we would police after ourselves and bring back what we used in plastic trash bags. The contents of which included any cans we took for beverages, paper targets, wood, PVC piping or metal frames for hanging them and shell casings, including .22's. When we got home, the casings went into the tumbler and were reloaded. The spent shot shells went into a bin to be reloaded as well. The trash went into the trash bin to be picked up on trash day. Inevitably the general shooter found our spots and would leave shot up refrigerators, old cars, car parts, computers, shattered glass containers, punctured plastic jugs, television sets and even old sofas and chairs. We even found kitchen tables that had been used to tape targets to and then left all shot up. More often than not we would find propane containers that had been used for targets as well. Much of our casing collection was augmented by the ones left behind after having been used once. We stopped going to those areas, as we did not want to be associated with what can only be called 'slobs'.

We found, quite by accident, a new spot that was clean and beautiful. When we left we did our house cleaning and left it as close to as we found it as we could. This area was next to a wildlife preserve and had a terrific bullet stopping back drop. We took a friend and his son with us one time to introduce them to our sport and share the wonderful times my son and I had. Much to my chagrin we found an old abandoned car that had been

torched and used for target practice then left, tires and all. As we looked about, we decided to set up our targets and do what we could to enjoy ourselves. As we set out our equipment and small arsenal and began to show our friends what and how to safely enjoy the experience, a van pulled in with a group and drove across our line of fire and proceeded to unload cases of beer and discarded household items to use for targets. To make matters worse, they had already had a few beers and were loud and obnoxious. To add insult to injury they began to shoot at our targets. We put all of our arms and supplies away and awaited the inevitable ... the arrival of the local police. It seems the hillside wasn't quite good enough for them so they began shooting at wildlife in the area. The police arrived in force and arrested the group, confiscated their weapons, drinks, and vehicle. We were interrogated and released, as we had not fired any weapons. We were informed the area was then closed for shooting of any sort. Our friends had been anti gun, but decided to at least try it to see if there was any truth to what they had been told about shooter in general.

What message did they take away from that experience? You guessed it. We were all a bunch of yahoos who needed some serious regulating. They brought back their reinforced opinions and told others of what they observed. What my son and I tried to relate to them no longer mattered. The perception they got was what they saw transpire by those 'clods'. The antis won and never spent a dime.

How can we combat this type of publicity? There are steps we can take. The first one is for the

firearms industry and publications such as *Shooting Times*, *Guns and Ammo* and *Field and Stream*, to name but a few, to step up and write articles about being responsible shooters and to clean up after ourselves. The second is to teach our young to be civilized and to safeguard our sport by being intelligent and to use common sense. It is not all about them and their rights and to heck with the rights of others. What may feel good at the moment may not be the right thing after all. There are consequences for our actions. The next step is to show our elected officials and the media we are not the evil-doers we are being portrayed as. This step is perhaps the hardest. The next is to stop being and acting as fools. This part is through education. We can break this habit.

My wife was a devout anti gunner and a strong proponent of the Brady crowd. We took her out and showed her the correct way to act in the presence of firearms and the safe way to handle them: one gun loaded at a time; one shooter on the line at any given time, all others behind the shooter; muzzle control; safety lectures and comments as appropriate; never use or allow a weapon to be used that is too much for a person to handle; ears and eye protection at all times; clean up after ourselves; and most importantly, no alcohol of any type when the firearms are out. In no time at all we won her over to our side. She now 'owns' several of my weapons. I can keep them in the safe, but they are hers. She now recognizes our right to own and use firearms for our sport and for defense. She still refuses to go where there are other shooters because of all the trash they bring and leave behind but at least she now understands and sees our point of view.

We have lost many great shooting areas because of the lack of discipline among ourselves and our

(Continued on page 11)

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# Old Gun Memories & Adventures

By Texas Man, SASS #74638

**M**y best friend and I always looked forward to going with his mom to visit his uncle and aunt, who lived on the old family ranch between Llano, Texas, and San Saba, Texas. It had once belonged to his grandfather and before that, his great grandfather. The old ranch had a main house built in the 1940s after the original house burned down. Behind the house was a cedar fence corral, and further down the way from the house was an old barn with an upper floor to store hay, a small room under it, and a larger room to the side.

It was a great time in my life as *Gunsmoke* had just come on television, and my interest in guns was well underway. I had worked all summer a few years before to buy my first .45 Colt for \$90 from the

old City Tire Store in Fredericksburg, Texas. It was serial number 256887, and the old Colt had a history with it, including the blood etching on the frame from a shootout with the Texas Rangers. This event took place in the river bed of the Rio Grande where its owner killed a Ranger and another lawman before he fell himself. The next day, the undertaker picked up the bodies and the gun was under the gunman's head, and blood had etched the frame. Under the Pearl grips was a faded yellow paper on which the undertaker had written the names and date and what had happened. Of course, as soon as I pulled the Pearl grips off and found the note, I did as any kid back then would do, which was say, "WHY would I need this?" Into the trash can it went and I wish I had kept

the old letter now (by the way, this gun was later stolen from me and I am still hoping to find it). My friend had a new .45 Colt 1909 and we both reloaded our own ammo at the time.

Back to my story. As soon as his mom parked and we had said hello to his aunt, he and I had the trunk open and were buckling our gun belts on, ready to find something to get into or shoot at. Jack rabbits and cotton tails were everywhere as well as anything else around. We had gone down a cow trail and soon the hunt was on. After shooting a few rabbits, we decided it was time to go back to the house and get a drink from the windmill, as it was well over a hundred degrees that day, as I remember. We stood next to the windmill drinking the cold water as it was pumped up when we noticed the old wooden barn.

Wondering what we may find inside, we went in to discover it had not been touched in many years and dust was over everything. I found a pile of old saddles and saddle blankets, and soon we were digging at the pile with great excitement. As we neared the bottom of the stack, there was a saddle and under it was a wool saddle blanket. Lifting it up, we both jumped back when a six-foot rattlesnake rattled and struck the blanket next to my hand. Our excitement increased at least ten fold as, with guns drawn, we let loose as the snake tried to get away. .45 bullets hit the dirt under him and one blew him in half. We found a pitchfork and threw him outside and wondered if there were others around.

Going back to the pile of stuff, we pulled out a couple more saddles and blankets. Then we spotted a big brass buckle on a wide belt, and on the belt were cartridge loops with .44-40 rounds still in the loops, as well as a couple of very large rimfire rounds with no markings on them. We wondered where the gun was that used them. As we stood looking at the old gun belt, we found it had a secret compartment in it. It was a gun belt money belt! With excited young hands we opened the flap up to find a number of old money bills still in the belt. As I recall, \$60 was in there,

and they were large bills and funny looking to us.

Then we saw a neatly folded paper, and as we unfolded the paper, we were shocked to find it was a WANTED POSTER, and on the poster was a picture of his GRANDFATHER and a reward of \$300 for his capture for cattle rustling! We took off to show our find to his mother and aunt in the house. We showed them the poster and they wanted to know where in the hell we had found it, and we watched as his mom tore the old poster up and told us never to tell anyone about it. He and I were already aware his family was well known for being on the other side of the law more than once.


Our interest now turned to the large rimfire rounds and we wanted to find the rifle to which they belonged. Doing our best detective work, we checked around where the original old house had stood, and near the remains of the back door area, we started to find large fired rimfire cases in the dirt. We both knew in ranch country many times one will stand at the door to shoot pests or hawks from the doorway. The cases were of a large caliber, and they seemed to be more copper than brass, but had no caliber marking on them at all. We decided to go back to the barn and look further. We moved everything in the large room on the bottom level and found nothing. The only place left was the small room and it had a lock on it.


After several more trips to the old homestead, we decided we had to see what was behind that door. I stood watch as Dan pried the lock plate off the door and, pushing it open, we stood looking inside as if we had opened a tomb. Sunlight had not shown in the room for many years and it had a strange smell like rats had lived there. Slowly looking around, we entered to find not much of anything. We pulled a door open on a shelf and found a row of bottles with something in them, and after getting the lid off of one, we found it was full of moonshine. We had to try some. The taste was terrible, and I spit it out.

Above our heads we noticed a shelf and two very old yellow-looking boxes of rifle cartridges, big  
(Continued on next page)

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## Old Gun Memories and Adventures . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*

rimfire like we had found outside near the back door. On the box was a picture of a rifle and the words, "Spencer .56-50." We knew now what the big cartridges were, and finding the gun they fit was next on our list. We carefully moved everything in the room without finding the rifle and at last, we decided it must have been lost in the fire many years ago. We walked outside with long faces, knowing how close we had come to finding the old gun, and later on the way home, we felt we had just been 75 years late.

On the third trip back, things took a different turn. My friend and I had hunted most of the day, and he had a terrible pain in his head after a wasp stung him and said he was going to lay down a while. His sister was a year younger than I, and she wanted me to show her the old barn. We went in and looked all around, and she asked to see the large room where we found the gun belt. As we were about to leave, she spotted the small room and asked what was in it. I said, "Nothing," and she said, "Well, let's check it out." I pushed the door back and made sure nothing was inside, like a snake or coon, and as she stepped inside the room, things became interesting. I stood with my back to the door as she pushed it shut behind me telling me we were hidden and no one could see us. Half an hour later, I stood up and helped her up, and as I turned to open the door... there it WAS - behind the door.

Standing with muzzle down, as old timers always stood their guns, was a patina-covered Spencer rifle. My excitement of a short time ago was now beyond words. I decided not to touch the old Spencer, but wanted to let Dan see it as it was. I was so excited about finding the gun that his sister became very

upset with me, thinking a gun was more important than she was (it took me three long months before she got over it).

I ran to the house and told Dan to get up and follow me, as I had something to show him. When he saw where his great grandfather's old rifle had been for so long, he started to tear up. I told him I wanted him to be the first to pick it up after so many years. I shall never forget the look on his face as he handled his great grandfather's old Spencer.

Of course, as with all young adventurous boys, the next thing was to fire it. I told him we'd better check the barrel, and it's a good thing we did, as a dirt-dauber wasp had built a nest in the barrel. After cleaning it out, we placed a coffee can on the fence, and I watched as Dan took aim and cocked the hammer while looking at me for approval. Taking aim, he touched the old Spencer off. With a cloud of white smoke, the can flew up, and I wish I had a camera to show Dan's face. I think the Spencer had seven rounds in it and we fired them all with great excitement. All the way home, an hour and a half ride, Dan and I talked about the old Spencer with his sister sitting in the front seat next to his mom and giving me dirty looks the whole time. That was a day I will always remember. I may add I was reminded about it for a long time afterward, and not about the gun, either.

I think we have all had an experience when we were younger that returns to us later in life. I have always been one to make things happen and never one to sit on my can and let the world pass me by. Whether that is good or bad, I guess it's all up to oneself. As a collector, many times when I hold an old gun in my hands, many experiences come to mind of long ago days, and a few of more recent times. 🐾

## We Are Our Own Worst Enemy . . .

*(Continued from page 9)*

slovenly behavior and general disrespect of others and the environment around us. I'm no saint and have been guilty of some of the same deeds as described above. Seeing how others acted opened my eyes, and I now act like I'm supposed to when firearms are introduced to the scene.

Lets be vigilant and behave like the civilized being we're supposed to be and we can change the percep-

tions out there of our lot. It can be done and it will take time, but it can be done.

The above includes professionals like on and off duty policemen. I have shot with them and found the same habits being exhibited by some of them.

We have lost ground and continue to do so but we can recoup if we are vigilant and educate the weekend warriors. We can all win if we try. 🐾

## FACTOID

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# COWBOY CHURCH

By Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907



Cree Vicar Dave,  
SASS Life, #49907

For the last three winters, God has blessed the Vicar's Wife and me by letting us spend the cold months in a warmer climate. We spent part of that time last year in a RV park in Blanco, Texas. After setting up camp, we always check out the churches in the area. To our amazement, there are



*Pastor Darrell Ayres.  
You don't want to be a dozin' off  
when he is a preachin', 'cause  
Pastor Darrell is also the  
Constable of Precinct 3  
of Hays County, Texas.*




*Arnella Calhoun is the founder  
of Blanco Cowboy Church.  
She also does Bible teaching.*

several Cowboy Churches in Texas. Some of them have denominational ties, while others do not. One of these is Blanco Cowboy Church located a couple miles south of Blanco. We decided to check it out



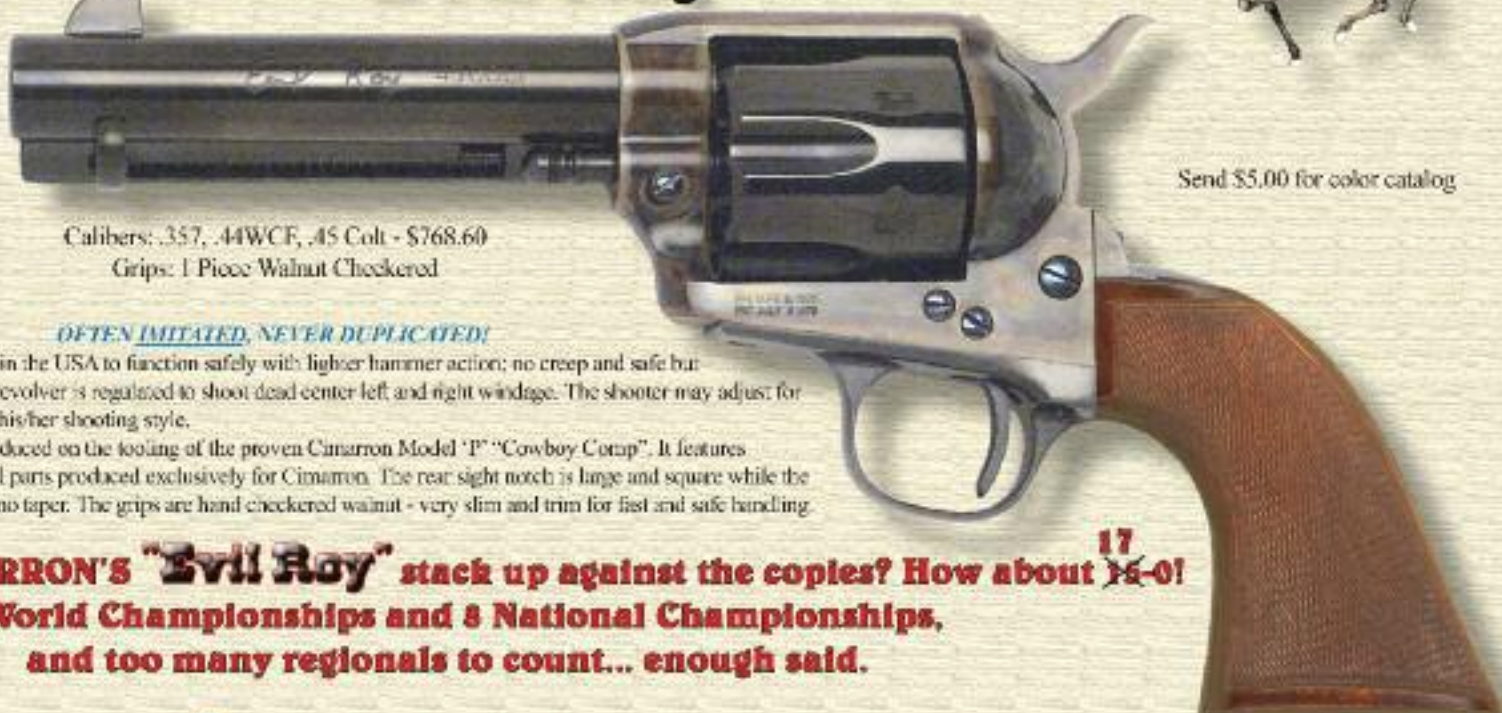
*The Vicar's Wife and Cree Vicar  
Dave leading music at Thursday  
night Cowboy Church service.*



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**ARTICLES**



*After Thursday night's service the arena lights are turned on and the riding begins. Here (R to L) are Dan McCarthy, Daniela McCarthy, horse "Hank," Riley Rust, Jennifer Rust, Glen Rust, and Shane Rust unloading the horses.*



*Buford the mechanical calf helps sharpen lassoing skills. Holding Buford still for the camera are: front row - Shane Rust, back row - identical twins Court and Cash Krause.*



*Sunday Morning Worship Service. They sing a lot of Gospel and Country Hymns.*



*Sunday Morning Music team: Ryon and Rene Krause and their son, Hesston, playing guitars with their son, Wyatt, on the drums. Hesston is in his 3rd year of college studying music. Both Hesston and Wyatt participate in rodeo events.*



*Blanco Cowboy Children's Church. Donna Kramer is their teacher.*



*They usually ride for a couple hours after the service. Taking a break from the action to pose for the camera are (L to R): Alley Penschorn, Dan McCarthy, Daniela McCarthy, Shane Rust, Drew DeLaCruz, and little Riley Rust.*

and were not disappointed.

Blanco Cowboy Church was founded by Arnella and James Calhoun in February 2000, along with prayer partners Billy and Patsy Gloor of Abilene, Texas, preacher Mike and Debra Marrs of Cowboy Church on the Move, and praise minister Ike and Joy Whitson of Carbon, Texas. Following Preacher Marrs' death on September 15, 2000, the Blanco Cowboy Church was incorporated in the State of Texas and became a 501(c)3 Church, under the leadership of the Calhoun family assisted by the R. W. Copenhaver family. The Church has managed to pay off 20 acres of land in seven years and celebrated their 12th anniversary in February of 2012.

The Church ministers to the cowboy culture in the community. There is Sunday school and morning worship on the first day of the week. Mid-week service is on Thursday evening. There is cowboy style singin' at both the Sunday morning and mid-week services. It

says in Psalm 33:2-3, The Amplified Bible, "Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; sing praises to Him with the harp of ten strings. Sing to Him a new song; play skillfully [on the strings] with a loud and joyful sound." There are a lot of stringed instruments at Cowboy Church. Some of them even have Bluegrass music in their service.

Besides ministering to the soul, the Church also mentors rodeo skills. Alongside the Church building is a large riding arena. Following Sunday morning and Thursday evening services, the arena is opened to allow worshippers an opportunity to hone their equine skills. There are such things as "Roping for Jesus" for the Children's Church Buckaroos, "Team Roping" and "Mutton Busting," and an "Invitational Roping" for the youth. There are various opportunities for all ages to do some arena riding. Some of these competitions offer very nice prizes like two-horse trailers, saddles, buckles, tack, and the like.

Their members have gone on to participate in local ranch rodeos, Amateur, and Pro Rodeo events.

Summer months offer special clinics following Thursday Bible Study, such as Beginners Horsemanship, Advanced Horsemanship, Archery, Youth Calf Roping, and Barrel Racing. For these activities, the Church offers a free Cowboy Supper prior to the evening service and also provides a practice powered animated mechanical calf, "Buford," to help sharpen roping skills. In the spring, steers are purchased to provide live action for the summer. The entry fee for all these events is simply attendance at Worship Service or Bible Study.

If you find yourself in the area, stop in and check 'em out. Hope to see ya on the trail (maybe at Cowboy Church).

**Morning Worship**

- Sunday school - 9:00 AM
- Sunday Worship - 10:00 AM
- Thursday Evening Bible Study - 6:00 PM
- Thursday Evening Worship - 7:00 PM

**Blanco Cowboy Church**

245 Blanco Cowboy Church Trail  
Blanco, Texas 78606  
(Around 2 miles south of Blanco on Hwy 281)  
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[www.blancocowboychurch.com](http://www.blancocowboychurch.com)

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Photos by: Cree Vicar Dave, The Vicar's Wife & Arnella Calhoun

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Cat Ballou, SASS #55

# A CALL TO THE LADIES OF SASS

By Cat Ballou, SASS #55

**A**s you all know, when SASS began over 30 years ago, the unique aspect of making this a “costumed” sport was added and embraced with enthusiasm. Since that time, I have been impressed time and again with the variety, quality, and creativity of the outfits I see on the range, at the dressy dinners and awards banquets, and in the costume contests. I know each shooter’s wardrobe is impacted by their budget, experience with a sewing machine, or friendship with a willing seamstress, and their personal level of interest. It has remained my personal pleasure to see the attention to detail and historic accuracy of the outfits improving year after year.

Of particular pleasure to me has been the consistency of the men’s outfits. No matter what match or event you attend, whether here in the States or abroad, nine out of ten of the men will be attired in something that reminds you of what you might have seen had you stepped back in time to the American Old West. Some of their costumes are whimsical, many are basic, and a special

few truly look like they stepped from Grandma’s photo album. Granted, we all know the average man’s outfit can be easily and cheaply obtained from a hundred different sources, but kudos to those men shooters who spend as much time, money, research, and energy on their meticulous outfits as they do on their guns. Cowboys, you are an inspiration!

The level of costuming for the ladies has risen over the years, as well. I remember at the beginning of SASS when we “low-number” members would show up proudly at a match in our pieced-together Goodwill castoffs that now would look like they belong in a no-budget Western movie made by junior high school students. But through the efforts of certain SASS ladies who diligently researched the authentic outfits of the Victorian/Cowgirl eras, and were willing to write about their knowledge, give lectures, host online forums, and most of all, dress in these beautiful, historic, and impressive outfits, the bar was raised, and all of SASS benefitted.

Sadly, though, it is with regret I was compelled to write this arti-

cle. Over the last few years, as Tex and I travel across the country attending various SASS matches and events, I have been saddened and disappointed at a trend that has become widespread. While the men have continued to maintain their level of costuming authenticity (within SASS reason, of course!), it appears more and more of the ladies are falling away from the roots of the costuming guidelines. The SASS era covers 1870 – 1900, and B-Western, with plenty of Hollywood and “fantasy” Victorian leeway accepted and even encouraged.

However, the intention was always to represent, in general, the ambience and outfits one might expect to find in a Victorian era town in the Old West, whether fact or fiction. This is part of the appeal for the thousands of “tourists” who visit our events each year, and is one of the easy, fun ways we have of educating them on a lost part of our American history.

These days, though, I see women wearing outfits that don’t even count as “fantasy Victorian” anymore. You can call them imaginative, colorful, creative, fanciful, clever—but you can’t say they have any historical basis. While I would never, NEVER, want to give the impression I desire to set up a Costume Police Department, I simply wish to encourage the ladies of SASS to please consider applying your impressive talents and dedication to creating outfits with more authentic flavor. Do a little research – it’s fun! There is so much research material readily available out there. You can learn more online in one hour than we could have found in a week 30 years ago. And here’s my heartfelt THANK YOU to the hundreds of classy ladies who still regularly attend SASS functions wearing beautiful, creative, AND historically-inspired

outfits, of which there are so many fashions from which to pick.

It is entirely possible that, over the last few years, so many new members have joined SASS and the ladies simply don’t know what is authentic and what is Victorian myth anymore. Many times they only know what has been told to them second and third-hand, or from an online “source” or a less-than-accurate book. With this in mind, I plan to offer in future *Cowboy Chronicles* several educational articles on ladies’ historic clothing.

Don’t get me wrong – I personally have no desire or intention to start wearing a tightly-laced corset and high-necked dress on the shooting range, although I know several SASS ladies that shoot attired just like that, and it’s great! A cowgirl outfit or a comfy Mexican peasant blouse with colorful broomstick skirt are fine for me, thank you very much. And there are some charming saloon girls out there who (with enough sunscreen in the appropriate places) give the fellows something pretty and distracting at a stage. New SASS members are encouraged to start their wardrobe collection with inexpensive, “Hollywood-inspired” Goodwill finds, and if you’ve done your research, you can spend a shooting lifetime in light-hearted, easy, comfortable outfits.

It’s time to raise the bar again, ladies. Let’s keep the fun and fantasy in the costuming while bringing back more of the authenticity. It doesn’t have to take more money or time to create an outfit that’s historically-influenced than it does to make one that’s completely make-believe. Let’s get back on track, and for those of you who know what I’m talking about and agree, thank you for your continued efforts of education and inspiration. I tip my Victorian hat to you! 🎩





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# ONE POT CHUCK

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

By Whooper Crane, SASS #52745, and The Missus

It's been a while since we featured a breakfast dish, so today we're going to tell you how to make an incredibly-tasty hot breakfast sandwich that we've named for our good shootin' buddy and fantastic picture clicker, Deadeye Al.

Al is a retired LEO from New Jersey. He moved here to Arizona about ten years ago after retiring and took up Cowboy Action Shooting™ shortly after his arrival.

Guns are like old friends to Al. Not only from his Peace Officer days, but also from his long time hobby as a competitive shooter. He has trophy cases chuck full of awards he's earned at the National Police Matches held annually in Albuquerque ... along with a host of buckles from Cowboy matches.

Today he shoots Cowboy Action Shooting™ (both Main Match and Long Range) and Wild Bunch! He's one of the fastest guys shooting Winny Model '87 shotguns we've seen in a long time! (Even Lassiter worries about Al).

With all this shooting, Al likes to start each day with a good breakfast. So today's meal, which we'll call *Deadeye Al's Smokin' Sausage Sandwich*, is just the



What a great way to start your day!

huckleberry for him and his Arizona shootin' buddies.

### Deadeye Al's Smokin' Sausage Sandwich

#### Ingredients

- 4 Fresh Hamburger Buns
- 1 12 oz. Bottle of Kraft Sandwich Shop Chipotle Mayo
- 1 Large Vidalia Onion
- 1/2 Cup Olive or Vegetable Oil
- 1 Box of Jimmy Dean Fully Cooked Pork Sausage Links (12 ct.)

- 4 Fresh Eggs (Get Jumbo size for best results)

- 4 Slices of Pepperjack Cheese
- Sides: OJ, Chunky Apple Sauce, Coffee

#### Directions

Start off by greasing up a large skillet with your olive or vegetable oil. (Lard is tastier but we should be heart healthy donchano).

Cut your Vidalia Onion into four thick "coins" and lay them carefully in the skillet so they don't lose their "coin" shape. Let them sauté over your coals for about 8-10 minutes.

Meanwhile, slather up the bottom piece of your hamburger buns with a heavy layer of the Chipotle-flavored Sandwich Shop Mayo. (If you can't find this at your store, mix together some regular Mayo and a bit of chipotle hot sauce).

Now, when the onion coins are heated through (don't flip over or they'll come apart), lift each coin with your spatula and place it on top of the Mayo-slathered bun bottom. Set aside.



Whooper and The Missus

Add a bit more oil to your skillet and put in your sausages (Twelve are just right for four sandwiches).

When the sausages start browning, push them to the sides of your skillet and carefully break two eggs (separately) into the skillet. We like our eggs over easy, but you might like yours sunny side up. When your eggs are almost done, place three of the sausages on top of each and place one cheese slice on top of the sausages. Let cook just a little bit longer until the cheese starts to melt.

Now place the top piece of your hamburger bun on top of the cheese and, with your spatula, move the whole stack of egg, sausages, cheese and bun top over onto your onion/bun bottom. (To stabilize this move, better put your offhand on top of the stack as you transfer it).

Now it's all in place, ready for some serious eating! We usually serve it with a couple peach halves or a scoop of applesauce on the side.

If you've done it right, some of the still-liquid yolk will ooze out with your first bite. Go ahead ... that's why the Good Lord gave you a tongue!

This recipe makes four sandwiches, which will put big smiles on four hungry cowboys ... or REALLY BIG smiles on two extremely hungry trail hands! 🐾

*Pictures by Deadeye Al*

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# What Does The Second Amendment Mean To Me?

By *Morning Dove*, SASS #7889

**I**f it weren't for the Second Amendment, I wouldn't be who I am today. I'd be a regular, typical teenager from rural New Mexico who's highly active in high school activities like volleyball, basketball, cross-country, and track. I'd be dedicating my time and efforts in organizations like the Business Professionals of America (BPA), Future Farmers of America (FFA), and the Women's Professional Rodeo Association (WPROA). Now, don't get me wrong, because that's actually not a bad thing. All these organizations are excellent, and I've been involved in some of them. But I have other passions in life I love more, like shooting guns competitively.

Without the Second Amendment, today neither you nor I would be able to do many of the things we love. I wouldn't have had the opportunity to start shooting safely at an early age and begin competing in SASS matches at the age of seven. Nor would I have had the chance to take up Cowboy Mounted Shooting when I was just 10 years old. I wouldn't have met the wonderful people I call my friends or won the SASS Ladies Mounted Shooting World Championship at age 14. I wouldn't have been the SASS Overall Mounted Shooting World Champion at 16 years. But above all, SASS wouldn't exist. Out of all the sports in the world, there are none that could ever replace this greatest family sport. The shooting sports we love so much wouldn't even exist!

The Second Amendment states, "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." Being located in the Bill of Rights, this amendment clearly is meant for individual Americans. If it doesn't apply to individual rights, it would not have been placed in the bill of individual rights! Without the right to "keep and bear Arms," not only wouldn't I be able to shoot guns competitively, but I would have difficulty protecting myself from danger. Life threatening dangers like criminals, terrorists, and even wild animals would suddenly become insurmountable.

However, the big question is, "How are American citizens supposed to protect themselves individually or together, if another country decides to attack us such as when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor?" The answer is in a quote from Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, the Japanese fleet commander of this successful attack on our homeland. His most famous quote was, "I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant." Why did Japan attack "just" Pearl Harbor when they were so close to the mainland and had struck such a deadly blow to our defenses? After the war, in an interview, Admiral Yamamoto replied they didn't want any part of the "hornet's nest." The admiral had spent some time before the war living in America and knew of our love for the hunting and shooting sports. He knew many Americans, and



*Morning Dove,  
SASS #7889,  
Artesia, New Mexico*

knew not only would we be willing to fight, but because of the Second Amendment, we would be capable of fighting effectively. The Second Amendment makes every American part of the last line of defense for this wonderful country's survival.

Then there's another story about how an eleven-year-old girl stayed home alone while her parents went out. She was a competitive shooter and ended up using her father's shotgun to kill two criminals who had broken into their home and were advancing on her. What would have happened if her father didn't have the right to keep and bear Arms? We know for sure she wouldn't have been able to protect herself against two grown men. This country might have lost a good young person with unlimited potential for good in her life, but instead lost two bad ones because of the Second Amendment. If the Second Amendment didn't exist, none of us could ever truly feel safe.

My family's entire lifestyle is based on the Second Amendment, and I am a proud Life member of the NRA. If there were no Second Amendment I wouldn't be involved in the greatest family sport of all. I wouldn't be able to hunt or shoot competitively. I wouldn't have met all the great people I know from all around the world who are now my friends. I honestly don't know what I would do without the Second Amendment. It means my life and freedom. Without it, not only would I not be who I am today, but I wouldn't have the potential to be all I might be. No American would. 🤠

## FACTOID

President Lincoln had a mild form of smallpox (varioid) while he gave the Gettysburg Address. On the train back to Washington he quipped, "Now I have something I can give everybody."

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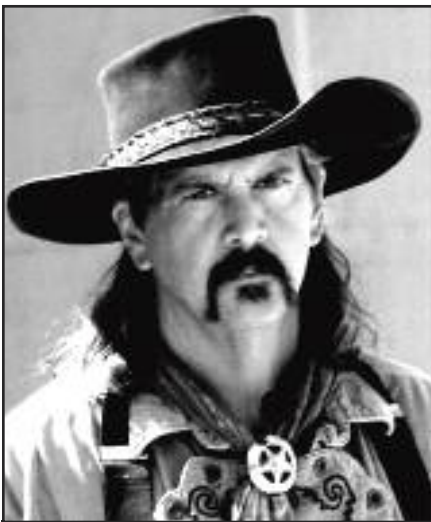
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**Buck Bloodworth,  
SASS #18071**

# “Have Wild West Arts Skills ... Will Travel”

## Wire Dr. Buck

*By Buck Bloodworth, SASS #18071*

**T**hat's right, just like our old TV hero, Paladin, with his Trademark “Knight” symbol, who traveled throughout the West helping folks in need, and whose occupation was referred to as a “Champion-for-Hire,” the performing members of WWPAS, many of them World Champions, are also ... “For Hire.” Sure, there are several

similarities between Paladin and our performers of the Wild West Arts, such as; most of us carry guns ... many of us ride a horse ... several of us have a “one name” moniker ... some of us sport a “not historically accurate” holster rig ... a few of us have a “cheesy” moustache ... and just like the TV created Paladin, we are all Entertainers! Now, some of the differences between us are pretty obvious, such

as, he was on TV, whereas we, on the other hand, generally perform live and in person, both Indoors and Outdoors at Festivals, Fairs, Corporate Events, Wild West Shows, and as this article will elaborate on ... SASS Shooting Events! Let's see, oh yeah, and unlike Richard Boone's cheesy mustache that was applied by the make-up gal before every episode, our cheesy mustaches are real!



**DRBUC@COX.NET**

Okay, let's get to the meat and potatoes part of this WWPAS Cowboy Chronicle Episode and delve into the age-old question, “What can the presence of WWPAS Performers do for my SASS Shooting Event?” Thanks, I'm glad you asked ... first, foremost and most obvious is, entertain, and not only your shooters, but also the general public it attracts! I think we can all agree SASS is, #1, a shooting organization ... #2, always looking to round up new members, and #3, is not particularly what you might call a spectator sport, right? Here's where a lil' Wild West Show “spectator friendly” entertainment comes in. By providing folks with some exciting Trick Roping, Gun Spinning, Knife Throwing, Stunt Shows, or Bullwhip Action, either one or all of the above, you have now given all those folks and their families that live in and around the town where your event is held reason to come out and spend the day! This translates into more exposure to SASS and the possibility of new members and the possibility of more vendor sales, both food and artisans. {Note: if you don't have, or have had a hard time getting vendors, this will indeed be a plus in helping with that problem ... guaranteed!} Also, you will find if you send out Press Releases to your local media stating you are having some family fun, interesting

Wild West entertainment, and not just guys and gals shoot'n at targets, you'll stand a lot better chance at reaching those prospective new SASS members and adding shooters to your club! Additionally, with the “Power of Social Media,” when you post, tweet, blog, chat or cyber this or that about your event and mention you will also be having some Wild West entertainment, it'll perk their lil' Internet ears right up!

You might ask the question, “Hey Dr. Buck, so how much entertainment should I have, and how much will it cost?” First off, I'm not sure who you are that is asking this, and it is actually two questions, not one, but I will answer it anyway. You can have as little as one performer (remember many of the WWPAS performers are multi-talented) or you can go as far as a full-blown Wild West Show! Depending on the size of your event, location, and show space all play into deciding what would be best for you, and of course, you can always contact me if you need advice on coordinating something that best fits your event. Another plus is the fact no matter where your function is located, there are probably a few WWPAS performers close to your neck of the woods, or even passing through.

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Trust me, if you can locate someone nearby, it can help tremendously with the cost, and I can help with getting you connected with those performers. As the producer of Arizona's biggest and now only True West Event, the annual Wild Western Festival held in Glendale, Arizona this year October 19 – 21, and my performer and vendor connections, I can show you how you can take your "shoot" and transform it into a family fun "Wild West Event."

Here's one more thing to sink

you store bought teeth into and chew on for a spell. Not only will having performers at your event during the day be instrumental to drawing in the general public, thus making your vendors very happy and creating exposure for your club and SASS, but additionally, you now have some great entertainment to promote to your shooters for your evening entertainment! Most all of the performers have a promo pack, and those that don't, will always have a bucket full of references, which in my book says

a lot more than a fancy, slick video with a cool music bed, special lighting effects, and a deep resonating narrator's voice! {Hey wait ... I just described my own Video!} I personally can give you references on a plethora of WWPAS performers across the country; all ya gotta do is contact me!

Another great way to see some of these multi-talented Wild West Arts entertainers is to attend a Festival such as mine, or, to plan on going to this year's SASS-WWPAS Convention & World Championship Competition at Old Tucson, slated to be held in mid-November. You will get a chance to see literally the Best in the World from all over the country and internationally in one location! Where else can you go and get in FREE {Old Tucson is a SASS Corporate Sponsor}, watch over 100 Wild West performers, attend Free workshops, experience one of the best Western Theme Parks in the world, enjoy a great, entertainment filled Awards Banquet and ... write it off as a "Business Expense!"

Well, I've damn near expelled most all of my "Chronicle Article Word Count Ammunition," so before I start hit'n on an empty cylinder {don't ya hate when that happens, Tex?}, here's a few places where you can stop by and witness what WWPAS is all about! Mark your

calendars ... July 11 – 14 ~ Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo in Colorado Springs, Colorado with Cowboy Steve Cassat ... July 28 – 29, Shootout on Whiskey Row, Prescott, AZ with Dr. Buck, Amos Carver, Mysterioso, and others! ... August 16 – 18, Western Legends Round-Up, Kanab, Utah with Dr. Buck, Bad Dog Bennett, Gabby, plus a cast of WWPAS Members. Additionally, there are a couple of ongoing events—the El Rancho Wild West Show, Beirut, Lebanon with "Hot-shot" Johnny Tuscadero and Enchanted Springs Ranch, Boerne, TX with Pistol Packin' Paula. Look for yours truly and quite a few SASS-WWPAS Members on the "Not So" Big Screen {your Big Ol' flat screen TV}, in several episodes of "Outrageous Arizona" {working title}, a co-production of PBS and True West Magazine! Gosh, I hope being on TV doesn't add 10 pounds ...

Well as always, my Bunkhouse Door is available for knock'n and my Wireless Telegraph {623 521-3856} is charged just in case ya have any questions, want information on WWPAS, or just want to be added to my "Ever Growing" list of people that receive our special monthly WWPAS Gazette Newsletter ... Adios for now.

*Dr Buck Montgomery ~  
WWPAS Trail Boss*

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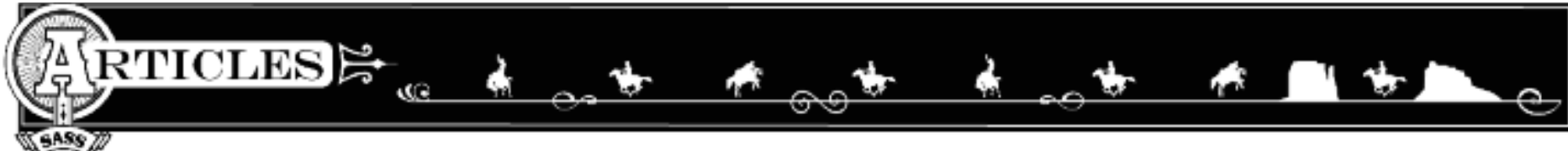
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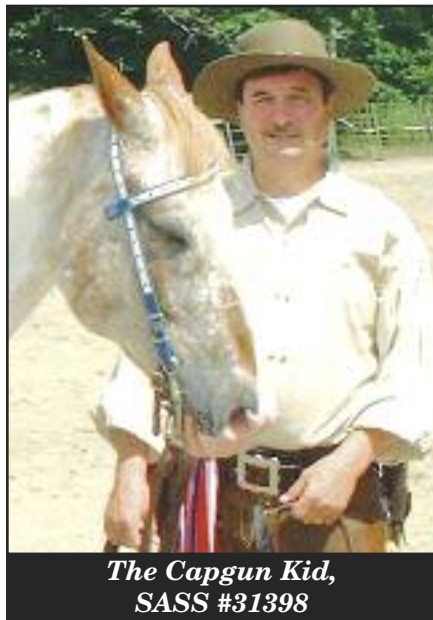
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# THE CAPGUN KID RIDES

## Pursuing a Real B-Western Category

### The Truth Shall One More Time Make Us Free!



The Capgun Kid,  
SASS #31398

**F**or some reason, I cannot remember the voices of my mother's parents, Paolo and Philomena Di Cenzo. You'd think a woman who could cook like my Mother's mother (a.k.a. Nana) would have made an indelible vocal mark, but I can only picture her vividly.

Ironically, when I was about four, it was Paolo (a.k.a. Gramps) who introduced me to my first western movie. It was a Sunset Carson flick on a black-and-white six-inch screen he and Nana had in the bedroom they lived in attached to Aunt Rita and Uncle Joe's house. We'd go there regularly and, even as a small kid, you got the sense Aunt Rita

By The Capgun Kid, SASS #31398

and Uncle Joe were wealthy, maybe even rich, which meant you did not dare touch anything in the house. Although Aunt Rita was one of the benevolent capgun queens who would re-arm brother Chris and I every Christmas, nevertheless, showing up at her house could be a nightmare of rules and restrictions imposed upon me by a Dad promising retribution if anything—*anything*—went wrong.

There was, however, one champion, one saving grace, that always made the visit worthwhile. Gramps would always steal me away with the rare combination of wisdom and patience only grandparents have. He would sit me on the thick arm of his big easy chair so we could watch a western together. He really loved westerns and did not take any crap from family members when he shooed me away from the social gathering while all reclined (and gossiped) at table so we could leave the party and go watch one. To this day I am convinced there is something in the Italian gene that attracts so many of them to westerns.

Thus, before I even knew who John Wayne or Roy Rogers were, I would push down a couple of Hershey's Kisses and bite sized Krackles Gramps would magically produce from his coat pocket and sit there on his big chair like I was riding a horse. He even fashioned a little saddle for me and always knew when a movie was about to air amid the dead spaces and screen patterns of the early days of television. I can't even remember the details of the movies or the stars. Rather, I remember most the 1930's and early 40's black-and-white cinematography, sound, and the low budget filming.

Those were B-Westerns. Real B-Westerns—the second flick to play against the main attraction in theaters during the Depression choking America in the 30s. The home of Rex Bell, Bob Steel, some guy named John Wayne, and his horse,



I get a dose of the B-Western Spirit at Capgun Shows where some of my dearest friends help keep it alive. Shown here are Penn Waldron and Don Raker.

Duke. They included protracted, albeit useless, silent sequences of cowboys riding, or canoeing, or performing some task so as to be sucking up footage while the wind blew around them and the scenery of a far more rural America made you wish you were there. There was very little music in these low budget productions. Moreover, it always irked me when the scene came along in which the hero was inevitably and falsely accused and locked up. Yup, those were B-Westerns.

Once I remember seeing a sequence where Johnny Mack Brown was trying to cheer up a despondent boy by showing him how to twirl his six-gun. The boy did not respond, and I thought the kid nuts. I do not remember how the movie went or ended, but I can vividly recall the afternoon when Gramps taught me how to twirl my Hubley Texan capgun years before I saw the flick.

I am truly sorry for those of you born too late to sit under your grammar school desk in a nuclear attack drill, because you did not get your shot at seeing these movies on television. Having lived through this era, when a "Barack Obama" was thought to be a Japanese plant, the air was supposedly sweeter, the

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water purer, and everybody more honest, I can now get a dose of the B-Western Spirit at capgun shows, where some of my dearest friends like Penn Waldron and Don Raker help keep it alive. Check out the site of [www.nicholscapguns.com](http://www.nicholscapguns.com) and you will get the idea.

Anyway, I judge myself well credentialed to pontificate on what the SASS B-Western Category ought to and ought not to be, as if we don't have enough pontificating and commentary on the topic already. Now, mind you, I don't necessarily practice what I preach, but this should not make me judged as a liberal. If I ever really get into B-Western beyond making replicas of John Wayne or Roy Rogers gunbelts or going to capgun shows, I will try to embody the below wind bagging.

**So, here are the top ten criteria I believe ought to be imposed on folks entering the B-Western Category.**

**Number Ten.** You cannot be someone's Mom. They were simply not there in B-Westerns. There were lots of Dads to get shot up by the bad guys, but not a single Mom in sight. I surmise this to be so because Dad was scripted to be such a fuddy dud she probably bailed on the marriage shortly after delivering the baby who grew up to be the heroine of the movie. I base this on the fact all the heroines had a Dad but ... negative Mom.

**Number Nine.** You gotta wear a girdle. No paunches here, and

even Clayton Moore and William Boyd were known to wear them until they got the idea they were responsible for the images they portrayed to children and got physically fit out of their sense of responsibility. This is probably one of the reasons we loved them.

**Number Eight.** Tee-totaling, clean mouthed celibacy. 'Nuff said

**Number Seven.** You can't use a shotgun. Only bad guys used shotguns until Billy Bob Thornton was forced to abandon his in *Tombstone*, and that was way after the demise of the B-Western anyway. Nope, shotguns are not on the radar scope. You gotta shoot the clay poppers with your six-gun, which, by the way, can never run out of ammo.

**Number Six.** You gotta outwardly sponsor a product, and it can't be cigarettes. You can make the argument the product should be breakfast cereal, or cocoa, or a wholesome bread, and you oughta be required to have such for the lunch break. If you elect to sponsor toothpaste, for example, you must be seen brushing your teeth at least once during the match. And you can't sponsor grown up stuff like Fruit of the Loom underwear or yuppie stuff like somebody's caramel latte.

**Number Five.** When facing a cowboy silhouette on a stage, you must shoot to wound ... either in the arm or the leg. Never shoot to kill, and head-shots are an automatic

season DQ. B-Western-friendly clubs and SASS in general should prove their loyalty to the B-Western by providing at least one stage where the targets are silhouettes of hands holding six guns. A real good metal craftsman will have the target's gun break away when hit. We all know why ...

**Number Four.** You can't make any grunting noises nor have a dirty, sweaty face like they have in the Italian Westerns when they do those awful, prolonged close-ups. They're sacrilegious anyway. If you even dream of smoking one of those Italian Cigars, you have to wake up and apologize. For that matter, you should wear lip and eye highlighter the way they did for the camera's sake in the 1930s. You can't scowl when you miss, and you have to be the consummate sportsman, maybe even help the lady shooters clean their guns, smiling and tipping your hat while doing so.

**Number Three.** Your outfit has to be one of three hues—black, white, or gray. That's because all those old movies were filmed in black and white, and there is not enough archived documentation to clearly define what the true colors of the outfits were anyhow. If you are gonna break this one and do a Technicolor 1940s B-Western guy like Roy or Gene, then you gotta be a singing cowboy or take a five second penalty on each stage if you can't carry a tune or hit a note with a B-52 strike.

**Number Two.** You gotta have a CD of theme music that plays when you move along with your gun cart, and you get style points if you have at least one shooter who is your sidekick. Moreover, he has to sign a waiver saying none of his bumbling will

take place while handling firearms. You even get more style points if he is as cool as Gabby, Frog, or Tonto. If you really want to be honored, you will show up in your outfit to picket every time Hollywood comes out with a dumb re-make of *The Lone Ranger* or *Wild Wild West* or some such.

**Number One.** You gotta have a heart. You gotta understand the relevance of God and Country, and always be willing to set a safe example for youth with your firearms handling. You can never compromise the truth with a spreadsheet. You must have a sense of compassion, charity, and respect for the underdog, appreciate the environment, manifest a sense of kindness toward animals, and you absolutely have to respect the men and women defending us.

This is probably why I can see a little bit of B-Western in everybody I have thus far been so privileged to shoot with. Thank you.

Don't shoot yore eye out, kid. 🤠



*I can vividly recall the afternoon when Gramps taught me how to twirl my Hubley Texan Capgun (shown on the left)*

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# Education of a Wandering Drover

By Diamondback Dave, SASS #45589

**M**y journey, far from over, begins at the End, actually END of TRAIL in 2002, to which re-enactor friends from church invited our family. My beautiful wife and I, raising a family in Southern California, knew nothing about Cowboy Action Shooting™ or Action Shooting in general. We had only one gun, purchased during the Long Beach riots and fired maybe 20 times (targets only, no rioters). We attended in minimal costume on a scorching April Saturday at the old Norco site. I will never forget that day, hordes of intricately costumed, heavily armed larger-than-life titans, pushing carts or wagons brimming with gun belts, ammo, and the most fantastic variety of Western firearms I had ever seen all in one place. Everyone was dead serious about their persona and gear, but just as serious about having a good time. The festival atmosphere was huge and good will ruled. Gunfights and shows, trick roping, the pleasantly bewildering variety of suttler tents, free sarsaparilla refills, the Wild West arena show, the exhibitions (Gatling gun always my favorite), the great PA system blaring Western movie quotes and quips ... and in the background the constant firing and (then) unfamiliar counterpoint of CLANGS. I was gradually drawn to the observation berms behind the firing line and saw my

first Cowboy Action Shooting™ stage shot.

The kids wilted in the heat, but stayed game most of the day (unlimited sarsaparilla helped), but while mom was intrigued, I was completely bamboozled. Some unknown bonanza of Cowboy Spirit was tapped and over the next few months, without hesitation, I spent literally thousands of non-existent dollars on guns, leather, clothing, The Cart, ammo, and as we say at home, other *accoutrements*. Somehow I went from having no time for anything outside my small business to travelling two or even three times a month just to shoot, sometimes all weekend.

I cannot thank, enough, the *compañeros* who helped me get started, get better, or just get back on the horse over the years. At first all I saw was the guns, the gear, the shooting, and the escape through time into the Old West. Looking back, the experience was really more about the warmth and selflessness of my fellow cowpunchers, which are the real reason I am still in the game.

Once my boots floated back down to earth after Norco I luckily stumbled into Lee's Gunsmithing in Orange and met White Lightnin', SASS #527. He saw me at once for the blank slate I was and took endless time introducing me to the sport. We didn't just talk guns, he helped me with shooting

pointers, strengths/weaknesses of local clubs, directions thereto, SASS rules, he reloaded my ammo, and even ordered and assembled my gun cart. I am still using that cart and the SAAs and Stoeger double he sold me to this day. His patience and good will, and his hair raising tall tales, were just what I needed. I would drive in heavy traffic from San Pedro to Orange (minimum 60 minutes) and spend hours hanging around Lee's—or sometimes just drive out, pick up guns or ammo, and drive right back, counting myself lucky to have had to make the trip! My only regret is I have shot only about four times with While Lightnin' ... he was usually minding the store while I was at the range!

White Lightnin' suggested the Cajon Cowboys as a good first club for a beginner. Geographically it was a stretch (Devore being about two hours one way), but just what I needed. The late, great Bojack, SASS #5030, rode herd on the club then, and it seemed like a mini END of TRAIL every other week, with great atmosphere, a big crowd, a beautiful secluded location out in the Cajon Pass, and my first real taste of the community we join when we shoot Cowboy Action. It could be hot as hell, including the day we watched the wild fires burning their way down the hills toward us while we shot, or miserably cold, but it was an important event in all our lives, and we tried never to miss it.

Cajon at that time usually fielded at least eight or 10 posses with 12-16 shooters each, often more. The shooting bays were varied, including rifle targets often at 40-60 yards (but huge plates), and it was perfect for honing my new skills. Luke Warmwater, SASS #4542, taught the new shooters that year, and is still my shooting daddy (don't think he knows this). The class was on one of those *hot as hell* days when I literally fired until I could not see straight and learned all about how to avoid heat stroke.

I shot a few matches at Cajon before My First Big Match, the

2002 Gunfight Behind the Jersey Lilly, also at the Norco range. I was still very green, but had read enough *Cowboy Chronicles* to know who China Camp, SASS #649, and Lead Dispenser, SASS #27115, were ... and was vastly intimidated to find them on my posse! The posse also included Lead's dad, Swifty Swede, SASS #33879, who is a very formidable competitor ... guess where Lead gets this? I, of course, shot all over the place trying to keep up with these guys, and am pretty sure I placed dead last. Somehow my new pards managed to overlook my various antics, being very cordial and supportive. China Camp, whom I would shoot with often, was a real gentleman and natural teacher. He helped me through some tough rifle issues, even staying after the match to make sure I was okay. I am very privileged to have spent time with him; his passing was untimely and very lamentable.

Everyone on my posse lived and breathed the Cowboy Way, staying lively, having fun, propping up the new shooter, and savoring the moment. One posse member, Ivory Jack McCloud, SASS #8534, was particularly supportive and sort of took charge of me over the next couple of years. He actually invited me to attend a shoot he ran, like I was a promising young gun, soothing my obviously bruised ego. If there is such a thing as a 6' 2", 280 lb. fully armed puppy dog with roweled spurs, well, that is how I felt around Jack. I became a regular at the Burro Canyon Gunslingers match out in Chino, where I also met D. Trader, Tramp, SASS #8586, Black Raven Bob, SASS #34144, Professor Cubby Bear, SASS #29521, and many others.

I shot at most of the clubs in Southern California over the next year, learning their quirks and personalities. Burro Canyon emerged for me as the warmest and most welcoming, and was the first group where I felt truly invited into the bunkhouse. I have never felt *unwelcome* at any shoot, in any state, at any time, but there is a wide variation in tone. Like



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any other cowboy, I will go out of my way to attend these “real well-comers” whenever possible. Besides the tutelage and encouragement of Ivory Jack, I also cannot say enough about D. Trader. He and Ivory introduced me to Marlins, due to my original cranky ‘92, which I finally replaced with a Marlin ‘94 purchased from D Trader in 2003. It is still my main match rifle. D. Trader tuned it and stayed in touch with me for months afterward to make sure all was well. Once, we were shooting at Burro Canyon together when a firing pin spring issue caused seven or eight unfired rounds. While my back was turned, before the next stage started, D performed surgery on the rifle right there on my cart, unbeknownst ‘til he told me, and it worked like a charm for years afterward!

I also met Pecos Clyde, SASS #48481, at Burro Canyon, approaching him at first for double gun pointers (anyone seen Clyde run a side by side?) He, too, was so polite and supportive I could not help become a big fan. Clyde and Silver Heart, SASS #48482, get around quite a bit, and I ended up leaving California along the way, so I have never spent enough time with them. For me, having Clyde at a match is like shooting with the Lone Ranger or Wyatt Earp (uh, the *real* Wyatt Earp).

In 2005, tracking stolen cattle to St. George, Utah, I found an unclaimed range with good grass and plenty of water, and moved the family there. Once we got the lay of the land, I began to shoot locally in St. George and in neighboring Cedar City, Kanab, and finally the Las Vegas area.

Haffasst Cowboy, SASS #27689, then honcho of the Dixie Desperados in St. George, is also one of the true gentlemen of the sport. I was brand new in town and while everyone was friendly, he was genuinely affable and has a great sly sense of humor. Even though he has stepped down from club leadership (after many years), he remains a good friend and the face of Cowboy Action Shooting™ in St. George. The old Dixie range outside St. George also boasted a small herd of cattle that would occasionally push down their fence and occupy the bays. Heavy firing did not bother them at all. Nary a stampede. We have since moved to an incredible permanent range at the local shooting sports park but

I miss that herd.

I met Charming, SASS #36149, and J. D. Nevada, SASS #36148, at St. George shoots, and they invited me to shoot with the El Dorado Cowboys in Boulder City, outside Las Vegas. They have ramrodded that club for many years, and are the warmest hearted, hardest working, take-that-extra-step-for-you folks anywhere. I shot with them often, despite the long trek (behind/below Vegas if inbound from St. George) over a couple years, sometimes just to hang out with Charmin and J.D. In early 2009 however, after some business and employment setbacks, I was about to retire from shooting. Financial pressures, lack of range time, and personality issues at the local club had all taken a heavy toll. I was actually walking to posse up one Saturday, thinking “this’ll be the last one ...” and there were Charming and J.D., just up for the weekend to shoot with us. I hadn’t seen them for several months, and it was like the sun coming out to shoot with them and enjoy their company. I decided to give Cowboy Action Shooting™ more time and actually now commute regularly to their monthly shoots and annual matches as a club member.

The recurring theme here is familiar: come for the shooting, stay for the people. Before I joined Cowboy Action Shooting™, I was just not a social person. Maybe marriage to The Most Beautiful Woman in the World has kept me too close to home, I don’t know. I was drawn to Cowboy Action Shooting™ originally to walk the walk, live the Old West, shoot, and scoot in my favorite costumes with six-guns blazing and shotgun booming. I find now while all that is part of it, I am attending matches to laugh and moan, fry or freeze, and relax or work myself into a frazzle with my extended family. I wouldn’t miss it for the world. If schedules/pressures keep me away I actually become ... mopey.

Believe it or not, I shot until 2011 without reloading my own ammo. Yes, I could have saved thousands of dollars over the years (new guns/hats/you name it!), but it didn’t happen until this spring. Ace of Hearts, SASS #77697, an El Dorado Cowboy who has become a boon companion, has been endlessly patient with my feeble beginnings. I finally transitioned to full production of both metallic

cartridges and shot shells simply by buying or doing everything exactly as ordered by Ace (and I do mean “as ordered”—thanks, Sarge!). He has sent detailed emails, spent hours, literally, on the phone from Vegas to St. George, and even visited my primitive loading corral to make sure all was well. Outside this game I simply don’t meet people like Ace (a Classic Curmudgeon even if he shoots B-Western). He has been like a third parent, rewarded only by his own virtuous kindness.

Getting to know Ace and many others at El Dorado ... I don’t have that kind of luck outside Cowboy Action Shooting™. This group, including Charmin, J.D. Nevada, Runamuck Kate, SASS #86475, Dolly Double Barrel, SASS #85686, Buzzard Bait Billy, SASS #87444, Lightning Buck, SASS #83595, Wesco, SASS #77091, Salt River Ford, SASS #58843, Contrail, SASS #38578, Two Shot Tinly, SASS #39599, Box Herder, SASS #73857, Lady Glitter, Gunsil, SASS #80901, and so many others, have become a kind of Posse For Life.

Come for the shooting, stay for the people, get better at shooting? The confidence spawned by this group has actually helped drop my average stage time. I have shot for years averaging 35-50 seconds per stage at best. In the last 12 months this has come down to 30 or less without *any* extra practice. I even placed first in Wrangler category at a small annual match this year, something I could not even imagine before it happened. In fact, I still can’t believe it. Having more fun shooting has actually made me a better shooter—which makes it even more fun!

I can’t really imagine these last 10 years without Cowboy Action Shooting™ and the friends I’ve made. In fact, life without Cowboy Action Shooting™ is hard to picture at this point. Hats off to the Wild Bunch for this unique community of ours. It may be a Fantasy Game, but the impact on some of us is real, positive, and permanent. 🤠

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**Cree Vicar Dave,  
SASS Life #49907**

# Showers of Blessing

*By Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907*

**Y**ou have probably heard the saying, "Cleanliness is next to godliness." Some think this phrase is a verse from the Bible. You could very well think so because the book of Leviticus makes several references to cleanliness. Many attribute this quote to Benjamin Franklin, but after surfing the web, I found out the quote was made much earlier. John Wesley used this quote in a sermon in 1778, attributing it to another older source. It says in Psalm 24:3-4a NIV, "Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart...." There is another expression often used that goes like this, "Company and fish are alike, after three days they both start to smell." And this leads me to the purpose of my essay - after three days or if need be, before, most Cowboy Action shooters need a shower.

The Vicar's Wife and I spend long spells on the road attending Cowboy Action Shooting™ events.

Many of these do not have inside plumbing or even runnin' water. We often are on the road for a month at a time. We could use the RV shower, but the holdin' tank fills up real fast. A body could spend a night or two at a campground with showers, but I would rather spend my extra money on ammo than on amenities. So when we took ta the trail some four years past, the wife researched the cleanliness dilemma good and proper. She found a neat little shower house tent on Cabela's website, [www.cabelas.com](http://www.cabelas.com). It came with a plastic five-gallon shower water bag. We ordered a couple of extra four-gallon bags that work very well. The instructions with the bags said to put around a tablespoon of baking soda in each bag along with some water, washing it around for a spell. Then rinse out with clean water. This keeps the bag from wantin' ta stick to itself on the inside.

At the campsite ya just set up the enclosure, stake it down, fill the bags with water, and lay 'em clear side up in the sun. In a few hours ya have the makings of an excellent body odor removal device. But you may be a wonderin', "What if there ain't no sun a shinin'?" Well, in that



**Back view of shower house tent.**

*There is plenty of room inside to move around without rubbing the sides.*



**Front view of the shower house tent. I place it back far enough so I don't run my head into the awning support bar (AGAIN) when exiting the shower tent.**

set of circumstances, ya just remove enough water ta fill a tea kettle, fill up a tea pot with water, heat it up on the stove, and pour it into the plastic bag, being careful to have water in the bag opening ta mix with so as not to damage the plastic bag with hot water and not ta scald yourself.

It works excellent for the purpose for which it was intended, "Removin' the three day odor problem," but it is no match for a full blown hot shower with good water pressure. In the long run it helps us to be more thankful for the things we often take for granted.

Hope ta see ya on the trail (within the three day limit, mind ya). [creevicardave@hotmail.com](mailto:creevicardave@hotmail.com)  
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**A view of the four-gallon water bags and five-gallon water jugs. The bag on the right is full of water with the clear side up so the sun can shine in and heat up the water.**

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# CARBON DEPOSITS ON BRASS Why?

By Blackthorne Billy, SASS #74914

**S**ASS general rules for revolver and rifle restrict velocities to fairly low powered loads. Most of the Top-Gun “Gamers” shoot small caliber, light-weight bullets at low velocities to greatly reduce recoil and muzzle-flip, and many Cowboys shoot .44s and .45s with 200 grain and heavier bullets at very low velocities for the same reason.

Over several years talking with my Cowboy buddies about loading techniques, the myriad powders available, bullet weights, etc., I’ve heard a few dozen comments about how hard it is to remove the dark black smudges from fired brass cases. Huh? Wonder why that is? Sumpin causing’ dat ol’ black “stuff” on dem cases! Everyone asks me what I do to clean them up nice and bright shiny. Well, the answer is my cases DON’T get that black smudge on them! Period! I shoot a .44-40 caliber.

I began reloading waaaaaay back in the early 1970s. My first target pistol was a Colt “Diamond-back” in .38 Special. (Wish I didn’t sell it ...) My reloading Guru instructed me to load 148 grain full wad cutters using the very lowest “Starting” loads with “Unique,” as I remember it at the time. This caveat was to facilitate my learning curve in developing accuracy while becoming used to what the revolver would do when it went BANG! After several months, I progressed to Max loads, and became proficient with the heavier recoil. Then I decided it might be better to go back to somewhat lighter loads instead.

I went to the lowest loads shown in my original Lyman manual, and gee, it was more like I was shooting a .22 Long Rifle instead of the .38 Special. BUT! But, the cases had this nasty black deposit of carbon on them, and looked like they were 100 years old! Dang. I showed them to my reloading Guru, Tom, and he laughed, telling

me I had TWO problems that created the smudge.

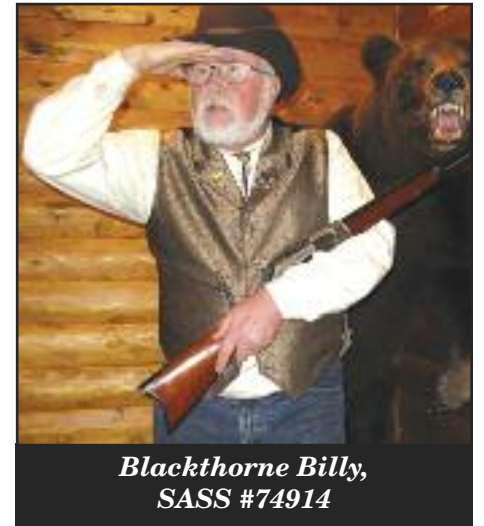
One was the powder charge was so light, the powder didn’t develop sufficient pressure to expand the case walls to tightly fit the cylinder chambers to seal them. The second problem was the crimp, which was just barely against the first driving band of the wad cutter bullet. He explained that when powder “burns” rather than exploding, as some believe, it gradually develops pressure that forces the bullet to begin moving forward. The problem occurs when the bullet begins moving prior to maximum pressure being achieved, and the case walls do not expand sufficiently to prevent the hot gases from flowing back along the case!

Most Cowboys use semi-wad cutter bullets with a rounded nose to facilitate feeding in rifles. These bullets generally have one or two grease grooves and a crimping groove. The case mouth should be tightly roll-crimped into the crimping groove to prevent premature movement before maximum pressure is achieved. This ensures the case walls expand under pressure, theoretical velocity is correct, and there’s no escaping hot gases to blow back along the chamber! You should not be able to feel the edge of the case mouth after correctly crimping in this manner.

I use two separate bullet loading dies, one to seat, then one to crimp correctly into the crimp groove, and I don’t experience any black smudging of my cases. They clean up quickly in the vibratory tumbler with coarse-ground corn cob. That crimping groove is there for two good reasons. One is to prevent too-early bullet release, and the other is to ensure the next bullet doesn’t move forward under recoil and jam itself between the cylinder mouth and barrel breech! (Never had THAT happen to me ... Ooops!)

There is another cause that is caliber specific—the venerable .45 Long Colt. The walls of this ancient

development are thicker than the .44-40. and .38/.357 case walls and resist the low pressures created with Cowboy loads. Increasing the powder charge enough to expand the case walls and seal the chamber will likely create a much heavier recoil. But, you must keep in mind that in 1873, this was the caliber of choice for bandits, gunslingers, Indian fighters, Sheriffs, and ranchers defending their families against outlaws and attacking Indians. Therefore, it was designed to utilize heavy loads of blackpowder and send that 255 grain slug singing out at close to 1000 FPS. It was designed to do damage.



Blackthorne Billy,  
SASS #74914

Because of the thicker walls, it requires higher pressure to expand, which is the antithesis of Cowboy shooting. There is a solution. It involves softening the case walls slightly down from the mouth. Annealing the brass softens it, allowing it to expand at lower pressures. It does work when properly done; however, it is somewhat tricky. Annealing involves the use of a torch to heat the mouth area to just over 600 de-  
(Continued on page 28)

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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

*By Captain George Baylor, SASS Life #24287*

## Five Years on the Trail

**A**pril 2007—I was being prepped for prostate cancer surgery. A psychiatrist had told The Redhead she should give me something to look forward to in order to increase the chances for my survival. She leaned over to me and said, “You’re not going back to work.” To make a long, boring story into a short, boring story, I survived. On June 7, 2007, we began our odyssey. We took our 40 ft. diesel pusher motor home, towing a 20 ft. enclosed trailer with our SUV and my mini-



*Camp Baylor at END of TRAIL 2008*



*The Jeep in the trailer in 2011. Yes, it fits.*



*Camp Baylor arrives at Buffalo Stampede 2012, five years after the cancer surgery that prompted the odyssey.*

shop in it on the road (overall length 65'). The plan, devised by The Redhead at the 2006 END of TRAIL, was to sell our home, buy a motor home, retire, and go to SASS matches full time. We just didn't

expect to be able to do it so soon. We figured it would take five years to do it. It took about a year because we really wanted to.

As you might imagine, it was easier said than done. It meant

making some tough decisions and adopting a completely new lifestyle. On the other hand, the lifestyle of SASS shooting, risking death and destruction on the highway in a big rig, and RV maintenance beats the heck out of the commute to work six days a week lifestyle!

### Suggestions

We're always meeting SASS members who express an interest in doing the same. After five years I have some suggestions.

First, from The Redhead—if your significant other is leery of doing it, ask your wife a question about this situation based on an incident that happened to us.

You are in Colorado going west on I-70 going from Denver to Utah. It has been raining all day. Your exhaust braking system has failed due to a shorted wire. You are using the brakes heavily while going down a steep grade that goes on for miles. You catch up to an 18-wheeler with a heavy load doing 15-20 mph. Using your brakes so heavily blows the fuse on the brake lights, and you lose auxiliary braking on the trailer. 44,000 lb. is now depending on just the bus brakes. But using them heavily uses up air pressure. Since you're going so slowly, the engine isn't refilling the air tanks. First the front air tank low-pressure light comes on, with a banshee-like warning buzzer; then, the rear one. The next thing that will happen unless you can speed

up is the brakes will lock up when you run out of air pressure. If you let up on the brakes, you will hit the 18-wheeler. The left lane is full of traffic doing 70 mph bumper to bumper. A string of traffic is tailgating you. The emergency flashers have stopped working. There is no exit in sight. Your mind flashes to *Star Trek* and the *Kobiashi Maru*.

Here's the question: Are you still having fun?

Unlike *Kobiashi Maru*, there was a solution. If you are 65 ft. long, 8 feet wide, and 12 feet tall, and you start moving into the fast lane, cars will get out of the way.

Second, most RVs are 45 ft. long or less. If you to get a motor home and a trailer totaling 65 ft., don't believe anyone who tells you that you can easily park your rig at his shooting range. Trust me on this. If they don't own one, they have no idea how big a radius you need to turn the rig (think *Titanic*) and how narrow most gates are. Don't even trust a messenger who flies in with wings and a halo. Don't trust Google Earth. Do a recon run with your SUV. If you don't, and you see



*The shop when it was new and shiny in 2007.*

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**This is how your huge RV is taken to the shop when it breaks and can't be driven. Camp Baylor arriving at a shop for 5 days in 2010. If you RV long enough, you will encounter this sort of thing.**

the “no outlet” sign as you get to the entrance to the range and see you can't possibly make the turn into the range, and the only way out is to back up two miles down a ditch lined, twisty one lane road, well, don't say I didn't warn you.

Third, for planning purposes, when you calculate the cost of going to the events you want to go to, maintaining your vehicles, and paying for RV parking, for budgeting purposes, whatever amount you plan on spending won't be enough. Whatever diesel fuel is now, no matter how overpriced, it will go up. Diesel, on January 20, 2009, the national average was \$2.268/gal. On April 9, 2012, it was \$4.148 (source, US Dept. of Energy.) And when fuel goes up, the cost of feeding your Rugers and your dog goes up accordingly.

Fourth, get an extended service contract from a reputable company on everything you can. The refrigerator will break—on a holiday weekend just after you filled it with \$200 of Albertson's best.

Fifth, get a RV Roadside Assistance policy—we use Good Sam, and it has been extremely helpful. Put the motor home on a flatbed once, and it's paid for years of dues.

RVing is an adventure. So is going to war. The difference is no hazardous duty pay, and no VA benefits. It has been said combat is hours and hours of sheer boredom punctuated by moments of stark terror. RVing is like that without the boredom. Usually the stark terror punctuates what was, until then, a really pleasant drive.

On the other hand, you get to park at some really neat matches and meet a lot of really neat people. The most people we've had in the RV for Margaritas at once is 17. When you get stuck at a SASS match, folks will help get you out. At Byers, Colorado, someone found a 16-ton earthmover to pull it out. At Badlands Bar 3 in Texas, we learned you could move a 33,000 lb. rig with a Jeep winch if the Jeep is anchored with a posthole digger.

**Practical items:**

Mail—we have a permanent Texas mailing address at Escapees RV Club in Livingston, Texas. They forward mail to us weekly. Texas was chosen (a) because we're Texans,

and (b) Texas has no personal state income tax or personal property tax on vehicles. Registration for the vehicles is relatively cheap. Even better, with a Purple Heart or Disabled Vet license plate, it is only \$3/year.

TV—DirecTV with a portable dish. We use an automatic dish on the roof. Dishes or domes on tripods are cheaper, but less fun to set up in a rainstorm. Ours was expensive, but goes up and down at the push of a button. You can't get local network stations, but after you send in an affidavit that you're a fulltimer, DirecTV will sell you east and west coast network feeds for a few bucks. If you want local news, you'll have to use the antenna on your RV, but the NYC or LA local news on the satellite feed will make you grateful you're not there.

Internet—we have a satellite Internet dish on the roof. It emits a blue light at night. We've been identified as a UFO twice, once by another UFO. Five years ago it was necessary. Now a Verizon Mi-Fi card will work almost everywhere and is faster,

Phone service/banking/bill paying—online using the computer and iPhones with all the bill paying and banking apps. We use a bank that is well set up for people who can't go to a local branch. The advances in electronics are making it easier every year to do this.

Books are heavy and take up space. Kindle and Nook books aren't and don't. Even my novel, *Common Valor*, is available on both. (Shameless plug.) The *Cowboy Chronicle* is easier to read in the digital version (and it's all in color, too).

**Shooting supplies**

I order a lot of things online: bullets, powder, primers, etc. Buying in bulk has its problems in an RV. Carrying 25 lb. of blackpowder in your RV might be more excitement than you want, and 10,000 bullets are heavy. So we get smaller quantities or split orders with friends. Speaking of fire, which people usually do when they learn we carry blackpowder, we have a serious automatic fire suppression system in the bus and an automatic extinguisher in the trailer, and hand extinguishers every few feet. Google “RV fire” and watch a few films of burning RVs, and you will, too. And those burning RVs weren't carrying blackpowder and thousands of rounds of ammunition.

**What happens in the shop stays in the shop**

I have the shop in the trailer. If I didn't need the shop, I wouldn't need the trailer. I could flat-tow the Jeep. Life would be easier, but I couldn't reload and fix guns. Some people reload in their RVs. Some of them are still married—to saints. The shop needs to be a separate



**Camp Baylor in 2009 climbing a 10 ft. wide, twisty trail to an “Undisclosed Location” 5,000 feet above the desert that was enough like Afghanistan to be used to train special ops ... and hold Cowboy Action Shooting™ matches.**

man cave; hence, the trailer. (Think what your wife would do if you spilled 100 spent primers in the living room carpet). Some fulltime RVing SASS members have “toy haulers” with the shop in the “toy hauling” area.

The Shop/Car Hauling Trailer—If I were ordering a trailer today I would insist on 16" wheels. You can put light truck tires on 16" wheels. They're rated at 85 mph sustained or more. The only 15" tires with the weight rating needed are trailer tires. They are made in Carjackistan and rated for standing still for 30 seconds. We've had a lot of blowouts to the point we started buying replacement tires at Discount Tire and bought the warranty, so replacements are \$30. We carry two spares. Then I don't have to look for a tire in Raton, NM. Don't leave home without a tire pressure monitoring system for everything. Even so, the

trailer had to go back to the factory to repair damage from a blown tire.

**Journal Of A Gypsy Cowboy**

We read a lot of RV blogs to learn about what really happens when you fulltime. So I do one, *Journal Of A Gypsy Cowboy* at [www.curtrich.com](http://www.curtrich.com). It chronicles our naïve, stupid, sometimes-funny mistakes, and might help you avoid the same mistakes. You do want to make different mistakes, don't you?

**Last Suggestion:**

We're all on borrowed time, and we don't know when the loan will be called. If you want to do it, do it.

If you start the RV lifestyle, and both of you want to do it, you probably won't stop until your health forces you to. “Regrets, I've had a few,” actually quite a few, but going fulltime isn't one of them. Marrying The Redhead, joining SASS, and going RVing fulltime are the best decisions I've made in this life! ♪

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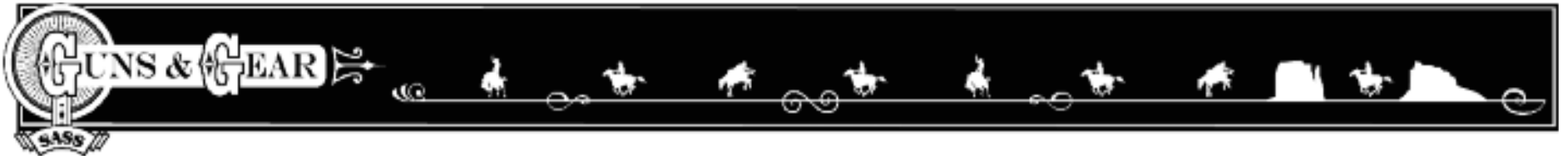
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# MY FIRST MATCH

By John Ray Davis, SASS #91943

**T**wo years ago this month, I shot in my first Cowboy match. A local club runs a series of Wednesday morning shoots in the winter, through the graciousness of a senior member. As I was interested in Cowboy Action Shooting™ and it sounded like far more fun than mid-year employee performance reviews, I went.

I learned several important lessons I would like to share. I originally set these down for a local online forum, but they are updated with additional lessons I've learned.

**Lesson #1.** Cowboys are generous. I brought the lone Uberti .45 handgun I owned and learned my first, very important lesson. I was able to borrow a second revolver, as well as rifles and shotguns. I have

continued to be impressed by the welcome given to new shooters.

**Lesson #2.** The Uberti 1873 carbine is a very sweet rifle. (I wrote this, then went and found a '92 I used for two years. I've recently switched to a Uberti 1866 carbine, based on what was affordable. I'd still like a nice '73. Corollary to Lesson #2: There are *always* nice guns to buy.)

**Lesson #3.** Many clubs sponsor new shooter clinics or other events for new shooters. These are great. You can ask more questions without feeling at all embarrassed. You will usually get to try a range of firearms before you buy the guns and equipment. The pace is slower and the expectations are lower. I highly recommend a clinic if you can find one available.

A good clinic will include a classroom portion to introduce the sport, cover the basics of the equipment, the safety rules, and the conduct of a match. It will cover both minor safety violations and stage/match disqualifications. It will introduce the terminology of the match and the categories. The class instruction should include the expectations of the shooter, such as have fun, stay safe, and assist with the conduct of the match.

The shooting portion will repeat all safety protocols and be conducted as a regular match. Experienced shooters will be on hand to coach the new shooters. For many shooters, this is their first experience with this type of gun, or any gun. Share the *Spirit of the Game!*

**Big lesson #4.** Gun on target. Then, cock the hammer. Shooting way up the berm or in the dirt is not cool.

I had visited a regular match the previous month. Two things impressed me; the fun had by the participants and the overall safety of the match. From the loading table to the handling of the loaded guns

to the unloading process, everything was designed for safety.

**Big lesson #5.** Don't use the cheap earplugs from around the flight line. Use something better. My one ear rang for a few days. (I didn't know it, but I was developing an ear infection.)

**Conclusion.** This wasn't as easy as it looked, but it was a lot of fun. I met my wife for lunch afterwards, and she asked if I liked it. She said she could tell by the grin!

**Follow up.** (Originally I wrote: *Not sure if I want to make the initial financial commitment to purchase the three additional guns I'd need. The wife is a costumer, so that would be a modest cost. And, I'd probably have to start reloading.*) Well, I purchased the guns. And the leather and a few more guns. I've joined SASS. I've sold some guns. My wife has made me a vest and a shirt. A frock coat is cut out and awaiting her attention. I'm reloading .45 LC, with a few lessons learned there.

A public thank you to Wicklow Wrangler, SASS #29048, Brother Gary, and the other generous cowboys. 🤠

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## Carbon Deposits On Brass – Why? . . .

(Continued from page 25)

grees evenly all the way around the circumference. Is it more trouble than its value? Maybe, but I've read reports about how it effectively corrects the carbon smudges on cases.

The other side of the .45 Long Colt smudge problem is cylinder chamber dimensions. Some imported reproduction SAA revolvers have oversized cylinder chambers, maybe just in one or two of six. This can be checked with a good dial caliper. If one or two chamber mouths or breeches are found to be 5 or 10 thousandths over the rest, the manufacturer should replace the cylinder. Ruger replaced a cylinder on one of my Vaqueros at no charge a few years ago when it was determined to be off in a couple chambers. In my case, the

chamber mouths were just a bit too short and tight, requiring a stiff push to load them. Success.

One last item regarding cleaning brass. After resizing, I use detergent and hot water to remove the case lube. Though I use RCBS "water soluble" lube, there IS some petroleum, so a detergent is needed. After washing, I rinse, rinse, rinse, then either force-dry in a 200 degree oven, or spread them on a big towel in the sun. There's always been these annoying spots from evaporating water. Problem? No. Pretty? No. I found the solution. That dishwasher rinse aid? A teaspoonful in the last rinse sheds water to a spotless appearance just like it does on fine glassware! Cheap and easy! That's me!

Blackthorne4440@aol.com 🤠



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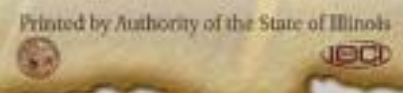
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# THE GREAT NOR'EASTER

*(Continued from page 1)*

cowboy who did suffer from the heat. Funny though how a small line of cowboys seemed to appear when they saw how fast Hawley stripped the trio's one patient nearly naked to help him. Though I couldn't swear to it, Tom Payne, SASS #13115, may have come up with a new alias for her of "Fast Hands" Hawley!

Shooting on 'Side Match Thursday' this year was a little different than in previous, as we stole an idea tested out at the SASS Vermont State Championship where the speed rifle/pistol/shotgun were conducted on one stage instead of being separated out to three locations. Shooters could elect to shoot any combination of or all three of the possible events as they pre-



*Sebec Ranger, SASS #46174, talks about "The National Day of the Cowboy" celebrated during "The Great Nor'easter."*

ferred. One stop shopping for the speed aficionados as it were, and the feedback I got were universally positive on the change. An additional event this year was main match revolver accuracy where competitors used, as might be expected, main match handguns at seven yards to see who could shoot the smallest group right smack in the middle of the bull's-eye. Let me give you a tip, if Doc Silverfinger, SASS #3444, ever asks if you want to shoot such an event for say a sawbuck per target, just pass and save your money!

The theme of the match this year was "New England Firearms Opened the West" where the main match stages were prefaced by information on our favorite firearms manufacturers. Colt, Winchester, Marlin, Ballard, Stevens, Remington, and Sharps among others—all founders and/or foundations here in New England. The products of these companies moved west with our ancestors and provided not only meat for the pot, but protection from whatever threat presented itself. It is hard not to toss in a short political aside here and wonder why this area with its proud heritage of firearms design and manufacture can have some of the most Draconian laws regulating to those same tools. The handbook inclusions are a short master's class on the subject, so you might want to hang on to it for future reference.

The working group here at the Nor'easter really outdid itself this year when it came to props, with



*Dead Head, SASS #29768 receives his Regulator badge from Match Director Capt. Morgan Rum, SASS #6859.*

the dual bay for stages 7 and 8 being the cherry on top of the sundae, so to speak. Shooters arriving at this bay were presented with a train made up of engine, coal tender, flat car, cattle car, and caboose that stretched some seventy feet from the engine's cowcatcher at one end to the rear lamp of the caboose at the other. Oh yeah, did I mention the train station as well? I didn't, eh? Well there was a train station, too. Shooters on stage 7 used the engine and coal tender, while those on stage 8 used the cattle car and caboose. Wow!



*Tom Payne, SASS #13115, awaits the starting buzzer.*



*Lil Miss Sassy, SASS #80579, after completing the train stage.*



*The Abbot - Downing Historical Society displayed their beautifully restored 1847 Concord Stage Coach.*

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# SASS NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year also marked a first, as we had to make water rather than try to make water go away with drainage ditches, sump pumps, and the like. Stage 9, a Missouri boat, ride got not only a big, stable, raft with crates of guns, but also a semi-permanent river as well created out of something no good New Englander is without, blue tarps. It was accented with miscellaneous floating debris that at one point included Homer Simpson, for some unknown reason ... had it been real, we probably would have had an occasional outbreak of skinny-dipping!

Flocks of buzzards on fence rails, herds of buffalo, cacti, and corals were widespread as were the vital and in demand shade tents. Aside from the amazed comments about the train on stages 7 and 8 the most commented on prop, directed to me at least, was the "cowboy entertainment center" on stage 3. Boy, that Match Director Capt. Morgan Rum, SASS #6859, sure is a crafty devil! It came out of his basement, but never returned there.

Stages with sufficient movement and target diversity ensured

folks were thinking, but were completely devoid of procedural traps. A couple of stages with "Wow, those pistol targets are really close!" placement became "Wow, those pistol targets are really close, and I LIKE IT!" when the shooter was at the unloading table. The fact we had 35 clean shooters over the two days of main match shooting, again taking the weather into consideration, means we did our jobs right. Gunfighters were well treated with only two stages that called for split



**New England Regional Champions, husband and wife team—  
Appaloosa Amy, SASS #63949, and  
Quaker Hill Bill, SASS #61021.**



**Ladies and Men's Top Gun Winners—  
Snazzy Mcgee, SASS #66689, and  
Timberland Renegade, SASS #58071.**

pistols, and only one that really couldn't have been shot the way EVERY cowboy should shoot EVERY stage (whoops, kind of slipped in an editorial there!).

Saturday saw the end of main match shooting wherein a lot of tired cowboys and cowgirls, both young and old, headed back to campers, hotels, or homes for a well-deserved cool shower and cold libation, possibly at the same time. Many, once so refreshed put on their Sunday best and returned for SASS #48419, Ida Mae Holiday's, annual

outstanding banquet and perhaps a photo by 'Professor PT Litewell' and 'Miss Ambient Light.' The Top 16 Shoot-off participants were announced and side match awards were presented as well.

Generators chugged and air conditioners hummed in the evening air as shooters cleaned gear or prepared for the shoot-off. Vendors were visited yet again, this time in slightly cooler weather and clothing to make yet another purchase. Throughout the weekend, folks visited the Re-Shoot Clothing Store where folks had brought excess or no longer used gear to be sold. Thanks to the hard work of Birdie Cage, SASS #32773, Blackie Lawless, SASS #18868, Marshal Mo Hare, SASS #45984, and Wylie Harp, SASS #21158, among others and the generosity of participants, \$650 was raised as a donation for the Wounded Warriors charity.

As some might have predicted at match outset, the New England Regional male and female championship trophies went home in the same truck this year with husband (Continued on page 32)

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# THE GREAT NOR'EASTER

(Continued from page 31)

and wife team, Appaloosa Amy, SASS #63949 and Quaker Hill Bill, SASS #61021. A word of caution though to Amy, as her daughter, Snazzy McGee, SASS #66689, bested her in the Top Gun Shoot-off, so I wouldn't get real comfortable with that title. Who knows, maybe it will go to the third generation of cowboy shooters in the family next year!

Without work horses like Rootin' Tootin' Tim, SASS #57091, Bear Lee Tallable, SASS #23670, Callous Clyde, SASS #4677, Crusty George, SASS #70726, Vince Lobo, SASS #28366, and others, all the steel and props wouldn't migrate from place to place. Without the 30+ volunteers who stepped up, the side matches and warm-up stages wouldn't be manned and enjoyed by all. Without the ven-

dors who setup early, stayed late, and worked through the heat when they knew folks who were that hot might not be in a shopping mood, vendor row would be a sad and lonely place. Without the hard work of folks like Capt.



SASS #47400, and many others, this shoot and 'The Great Nor'easter' itself would not continue to grow and become one of the absolutely must schedule shoots on the calendar.

Make sure you mark your calendar for this year's event July 26-29, 2012, as come hell, high water, or even similar temperatures, wait—the hell part covers that! ... I'll be there! 🤠

Morgan Rum, SASS #6859, Miss Delaney Belle, SASS #6860, Sheriff Rusty P. Bucket, SASS #44721, Dead Head, SASS #29768, Wild Bill Blackerby, SASS #34989, Ida Mae Holiday, SASS #48419, Piney Woods, SASS #29887, Emma Goodcook, SASS #49743, Chelsea Kid,

Winners			Category Champions		
<b>Top Overall and Regional Champions</b>			L B-Western Shoulda Married Money, SASS #67920 PA		
Man	Quaker Hill Bill, SASS #61021	CT	L Duelist	Wild Sage, SASS #40879	RI
Lady	Appaloosa Amy, SASS #63949	CT	L Gunfighter	Emma Goodcook, SASS #49743	VT
<b>Category Champions</b>			L F Cartridge	Miss Delaney Belle, SASS #6860	NH
B-Western	Spirit Warrior, SASS #57526	VT	L 49'er	Stormy Shooter, SASS #57333	AZ
C Cowboy	Travis Spencer, SASS #59583	NY	Cowgirl	Mustang Megs, SASS #60070	PA
Cowboy	Yukon Mike, SASS #23165	NY	L Wrangler	Three Barrel Chris, SASS #70513	VA
Duelist	Hawkeye Kid, SASS #24196	CT	L Senior	J. T. Longfeather, SASS #78316	VT
Frontiersman	Patchogue Mike, SASS #8626	NY	L S Senior	Yukon Deb, SASS #86992	AK
F Cartridge	Capt Morgan Rum, SASS #6859	NH	G Dame	Bonnie Dee, SASS #28413	MA
F C Duelist	Gun E Bear, SASS #5557	VT	Buckarette	Lil Miss Sassy, SASS #80579	ME
F C Gunfighter	Dead Head, SASS #29768	NH	Buckaroo	Dan The Man, SASS #80527	ME
Gunfighter	Grazer, SASS #38845	MA	L Young Gun	Snazzy McGee, SASS #66689	CT
49'er	Constable Nelson, SASS #11784	AUS	Young Gun	Outlaw Jimmy Wales, SASS #49316	NY
Wrangler	Quaker Hill Bill, SASS #61021	CT	<b>Shootoff Winners</b>		
Senior	Brett Cantrell, SASS #33868	RI	<b>Wild West Sweethearts</b>		
S Duelist	Peddler Jack, SASS #18828	NY	Snazzy McGee, SASS #66689 CT		
S Gunfighter	Single Action, SASS #30155	ME	<b>The Showdown</b>		
S Senior	Rowdy Bill, SASS #9628	NY	Timberland Renegade, SASS #58071 PA		
E Statesman	Geriatric Kid, SASS #28872	NY	<b>Top Gun</b>		
			Timberland Renegade, SASS #58071 PA		



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**Saturday**

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- Shop with Vendors
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**Sunday**

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- Top Gun Shoot Off
- Awards Ceremony

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  RO 1  RO 2  TG

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  - Senior/Lady Senior (60+)
  - Silver Senior/Lady Silver Senior (65+)
  - Elder Statesman/Grande Dame(70+)
  - Cattle Baron/Baroness (75+)
  - Classic Cowboy/Cowgirl

- Check Category Below**
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  - Senior Duelist/Lady SD
  - Gunfighter/Lady Gunfighter
  - Senior Gunfighter/Lady SG
  - B-Western/Lady B- Western
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  - Frontier Cartridge/Lady FC
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# C & B REVOLVERS & CONVERSIONS PUT TO THE TEST

By Long Johns Wolf, SASS #81095,  
Panhandle Paden, SASS #68806,  
Bumble Bee, BDS #2589, Socks, SASS #69087,  
and Magic Joe, SASS #92431

Round-up, Endurance Test, and the Drag of German Gun Regulations!

Part 1

**D**rums from the old Heimatland: If the steady growth in the number of enthusiastic participants in Cowboy Action Shooting™ type matches is an indicator in Germany, our sport grows stronger every year—despite tight gun regulations here on the Eastern banks of the big pond. This growth has given rise to many questions about Cap and Ball (C&B) revolver performance and their conversions versus the Colt SAA and its clones.

“Are open top type pistols robust enough for Cowboy Action Shoot-

ing™ competition?” “Can the various makes and models of C&B revolvers stand up to the demands of a fast paced Cowboy Action Shooting™ match?” To answer these questions some German pards in Hofheim and Wiesbaden have tested different types of modern percussion revolvers and their conversions for robustness and accuracy under “match” conditions.

Although German shooters still represent the majority at their open State and National shoots, the steady flow of friendly competitors from surrounding countries and also a few American cowboys and

cowgirls is a much appreciated challenge and adds to the attraction. This sweet trend pleases our gun dealers and the officers of the (BDS) Bund Deutscher Sportschützen alike. This increase in shooters of both genders at the official matches is only one example of the growing interest in our sport with a cowboy and Indian flair and lots of Spirit of the Game. To mention just a few major matches, there are the National Championship—“Philippsburg Star”, the “German Territorial Roundup,” plus numerous State and Regional shoots. At last year’s four-day German cham-



Don't go to the shoot-out with a C&B revolver ...

pionship, 244 cowboys and cowgirls happily and enthusiastically engaged 12 stages of targets in three

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different Categories—namely 1870, which roughly equals the SASS Frontiersman Category (13 shooters); 1880, which is similar to Classic Cowboy (46 shooters); and the huge balance of 185 contestants in 1890, which is very much like the SASS age-based categories.

Cowboy matches in Germany are to be organized under the BDS-Western-Schießen umbrella. The rules applied are very similar to the SASS Handbook but have been “Germanized” somewhat to be sanctioned in this country.

#### Trend lines and the law

This positive development nourished the idea among the authors—members of the FROCS, the Friends Of the Centaure Society in the German Rhine—Main Heartland with a much needed back-up from Lubbock, TX—to round-up all the percussion revolvers they could lay their hands on and evaluate their usefulness for Cowboy Action in an assault course of abuse tests to determine their reliability, accuracy, and other important parameters against a stringent, standardized test program during the winter of 2011/2012. Cap & Ball revolvers are often the entrance level revolvers in Germany due to the stringent gun regulations. The government makes it easier to get a license to purchase and own a front-stuffer compared to a breech-loading revolver.

For the record, the testing and the analysis of the data was executed with professionalism, although we cannot rule out some of the test results being interpreted with our rose-colored FROCS shooting glasses firmly sitting on our noses!

Let’s elaborate on the gun laws a bit more: Once

1. you are member with an official gun club for
2. at least 12 months during which you have
3. attended some 18 trainings or shoots, have
4. successfully completed an official multiple choice test on gun handling, ballistics, subject laws, and proved yourself in some target shooting, plus
5. a further theoretical and practical test organized by the BDS to prove you know and understand safety issues related to cowboy guns, the respective regulations, and can shoot a stage safely ... you are issued your BDS Star and are ready to cowboy up!

Some field research and forum discussions during the summer and fall of 2011 indicated the majority

of the 1870 competitors (Frontiersman Category) shoot .44 caliber clones of Colt Army 1860 or Remington New Model 1863 Army revolvers of different makers and production ranging from as early as the 1960s.

Only few shooters seem to prefer the easy handling Colt Navy models and even less shoot their stages with gentleman loads in heavy weight horse pistols of Colt Walker or Dragoon fame. Unfortunately, they are rare sightings at our Western matches. The same applies to replicas of the Rogers & Spencer, Starr SA 1863, or the mighty LeMat—they are more the exception than the rule.



... when you can have a Colt Long Cylinder Conversion: pictures “liberated” from 2011 SciFi-Western *Cowboys & Aliens*.

Based on these findings the authors focused their practical tests on clones of the Colt 1860 Army and Remington New Model 1863 Army. We evaluated pistols “out of the box” and more or less tuned C&B revolvers. Specific tuning methods were documented, and their relevance in Cowboy Action Shooting™ analyzed.

During a 2<sup>nd</sup> step of the program, conversions of the aforementioned percussion revolvers and the Colt Open Top Model 1871-72 from Italian replica makers were evaluated as well as a few custom made conversions from conversion artists.

We felt there were unexpected trends to be discovered in this category of pistols, too ... which we did find.

- Hard core 1870/Frontiersman Category shooters tend to shoot in their percussion revolver cat-



*Magic Joe puts the Centaure Richards to the test with the true powder ...*

egory for years and years—German Championship 2007 10 contestants, 13 in 2011. On the other hand, a number of C&B revolver shooters will retire their revolvers after one or two years to wall hanger status once they have obtained the more difficult to get license to purchase and own a pair of breech loading revolvers. But, they will set their heart not only on the

- common modern SA-look-alikes—Ruger Vaqueros for the 1890/age based category—minimum caliber .38!—or the
- time-honored Colt Single Action Armies and their clones from various makers, S&W Schofields, Russians, or Armies from the Uberti Remington M1875 or M1890 stable, for the 1880/Classic Cowboy Category in “.40 Plus” caliber. Since 2007 the number of starters grew by a whopping 35% to 46% in 2011!
- A small but steadily growing group of cowboys and cowgirls alike strives for historical correctness, not only in the outfits, BUT insist on Period Correct revolvers, too. They wish to shoot the special, the unique, but similar revolvers to their previous percussion irons. They shoot conversions or Open Tops because they know it was these revolvers that were carried to tame the Wild Wild West, not the Colt SAAs of Hollywood!



*Socks with Colt Open Top (left) and Magic Joe with Centaure (right) blazing away!*

Recognizing this development, the BDS Hesse State division not only considered the suggestions of a few eager conversion shooters but will be launching the new “1875 Conversions Category” at the Open State Championship April 21, 2012 in Philippsburg. For the first time, conversion aficionados can shoot in their own category and will be evaluated separately. Spirit of the Game provides for this opportunity. Now they can shoot under competi-

tive conditions. Up to now they had to shoot in the 1880 category ... where their chances were limited because their favourite revolvers were just technically inferior compared to the SAAs, et al. We will elaborate more about the particular charm but also the inherent flaws of conversions and Open Tops further down in the test section.

A new breed of cowboys and cowgirls enters the scene: These days many German Cowboy Action Shooting™ beginners get into the game bored with a shooting association offering static shooting only. He or she is generally in the middle to senior age brackets and was brought up with Bonanza, Karl May movies, Spaghetti Westerns, John Wayne, and Clint Eastwood. They usually have decades of solid shooting sports or hunting experience, own one or two percussion revolvers, mostly Italian clones of the Remington New Model Army or Rogers & Spencer. These solid frame revolvers feature highly visible rear sights cut into the top strap and are the preferred shooting irons in bulls-eye competition at 25 meters.



**Bumble Bee –**  
*“Cowboying keeps you young at heart!”*

Although quite a number of our beginners also have an 1860 clone in their safe, possibly even a Centaure or 2<sup>nd</sup> generation Colt, they shy away from shooting it. Why? Because they have problems aligning the front sight with this funny little notch on the hammer, or they just don’t trust the connection of barrel and frame with a wedge, but without a top strap. These open top type revolvers have a reputation of being less robust than the competition with the solid frame. This assumption is wrong, as we will see.

#### The Practical Test

Preparations: Between November 2011 and February 2012 a  
*(Continued on page 36)*

# C&B Revolvers & Conversions Put To The Test-(pt. 1) . . .

(Continued from page 35)

total of

- 21 percussion revolvers in .44 caliber and
- 16 conversions and Open Tops were evaluated: 14 in .44 or .45 cal. and at the suggestion of a cowboy from the German southwest, and as outsiders, two revolvers in .38 Special were also entered into the race.



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**Velocity measurements: only the true powder was used for C&B revolvers, but smokeless and blackpowder cartridges were used for the conversions and Open Tops.**

conversions in its possession, but not all the important models made by the replica industry. When Dr. Waldemar Gorzawski of HEGE company, an importer and distributor for Uberti, learned of our troubles, he made an offer: "... Grab whatever conversions and Open Tops you need from my new gun inventory – have them on loan but send them back cleaned once you are done with your evaluations!" ... which we could not refuse and picked five new in the box Ubertis. They are the conversions and Open Tops with the red flag fixed to the trigger guard in the pictures. Suspicious cowboys and cowgirls please note: These five revolvers had to go through the same tortures as our own guns. Just for the record, they were not specially selected or prepared for the test!

As a "wanted" poster, important profile data of all revolvers evaluated were examined, measured, and documented: manufacturer, serial number, model as applicable, caliber, year of production or proof testing, barrel length, width of cylinder gap, rifling groove and chamber diameter, and the "mileage" if possible.



8

**Loading up for the test ...**

Like the revolvers, the loads used were assessed and documented. To achieve some methodical comparability between 1860, 1863, and 1865 type C&B revolvers, external loading presses were used for loading the standard 18 grains of CH2 or Wano PP. After the chamber diameter measurements were taken, commercially available round balls were loaded over grits or coffee powder. The balls used

had a nominal diameter of .004 in. larger than the chamber diameter.

Loads in the cartridges charged with smokeless or blackpowder were standardized as well and adjusted so the BDS MIP of 112.5

C&B revolver	Load 1 (L1)	Load 2 (L2)	Load 3 (L3)	Load 4 (L4)	Load 5 (L5)
Round ball weight (gr)	138	138	141	141	141
Round ball dia	.451	.451	.454	.454	.454
Blackpowder type	CH2	Wano PP	Wano PP	CH2	CH2
Blackpowder load (gr)	18	18	18	45	55
Filler type	grits	coffee	coffee	wad	wad
Cap maker	Remington	BWE	BWE	BWE	BWE
Cap type	Nr. 10	Nr. 1075	Nr. 1075	Nr. 1075	Nr. 1075
Loading press	external loading press	external loading press	external loading press	loading lever	loading lever
MIP (BDS)* range	91.8-110.7	72.2-95.1	74.9	148.8	176.1

**\* evaluated revolvers. Loads #1 to #3 were used in 1860, 1863, and 1865 clones, #4 in Dragoon, #5 in Walker.**

could be safely achieved in all .44 and .45 cal. breechloaders.

Bullets for smokeless and blackpowder ammunition were the same. In our reloads we used the commercially available RNFP or

Conversion/OTF	.38 Spec. 1 (L1)	.44 Cal. 2 (L2)	.44 Cal. 3 (L3)	.45 Cal. 4 (L4)
Smokeless loads	inside lubed	inside lubed	inside lubed	inside lubed
Case maker	various	Starline	Starline	various
Bullet	SWC	RNFP	RNFP	RNFP
Bullet dia	.358"	.429"	.429"	.452"
Bullet lube	unknown	unknown	Blue Lube	unknown
Powder maker	Swedia	Swedia	Hopkins	Australian
Powder type	NS10	NS10	Clays	Solo 1300
Powder load (gr)	3.5	4.2	4.5	5.8
Bullet weight (gr)	155	250	250	200
Primer maker	CCI	Federal	Mosses	CCI
Primer type	small pistol	large pistol	large pistol	large pistol
Crimp	roll	roll	roll	roll
MIP (BDS)* range	114.9-159.3	120.5-141.8	135.1-145.2	181.5-193.5

**\*evaluated revolvers**

SWC type with a hardness of 16 Brunel. They had lube rings of regular widths. No special bullets with extra wide lube rings were used for the blackpowder loads.

Test protocol: Prior to all practical shooting tests we made sure all visible screws, wedges (Colt clones) and front sights (!) on the

Conversion/OTF	.38 Spec. 1 (L1)	.44 Cal. 2 (L2)	.44 Cal. 3 (L3)	.45 Cal. 4 (L4)
Blackpowder loads	inside lubed	inside lubed	inside lubed	inside lubed
Case maker	Winchester	Starline	Starline	CHC
Bullet	RNFP	RNFP	RNFP	RNFP
Bullet dia	.357"	.429"	.429"	.452"
Bullet lube	Blue Lube	Blue Lube	Blue Lube	Blue Lube
Powder maker	Swiss	Swiss	Swiss	Swiss
Powder type	2	4	4	2
Powder load (gr)	18	28	18.5	28
Bullet weight (gr)	135	250	250	250
Primer maker	Federal	Mosses	Mosses	Mosses
Primer type	small pistol	large pistol	large pistol	large pistol
Crimp	roll	roll	roll	roll
MIP (BDS)* range	124.3-136.7	157.5-169.2	156.3-156.1	200.8-210.2

**\*evaluated revolvers**

revolvers to be fired were firmly and securely fixed.

- percussion revolver was to be loaded and fired with six strings of five shots for a total of 30 shots, but through every
- conversion or Open Top, six strings of five rounds with smokeless, plus six strings of five rounds with blackpowder cartridges were to be shot.

The test was organized in such a way the breechloaders were fired with smokeless rounds first, fol-

lowed by the blackpowder cartridges, without cleaning between strings. In the exceptional case that we had to start with blackpowder cartridges, the revolver in question was completely disassembled and cleaned before starting with the smokeless rounds.

Shooting took place at the indoor range of the SV Hofheim ([www.svhofheim.de](http://www.svhofheim.de)) and at the open range of the Wiesbadener Schützengesellschaft ([www.wsg-ev.de](http://www.wsg-ev.de)). Temperatures were between -5° C (23° F) and 10° C (50° F).

Six stages or 30 rounds per revolver are about a day's worth of shots fired at a typical Cowboy Action Shooting™

match. Powder residue could be wiped off the revolvers after every string. Further thorough cleaning was not allowed because there would be no time for such procedures between the stages at a match, either.

All revolvers were fired Duellist style. This is the regular stance in the 1870 and 1880 Categories. Cocking, aiming, and firing was to be done as quickly as possible, no pausing between shots. After each string, impressions, observations, and remarks of shooter and spotter were noted, plus possible

issues, problems, or incidents documented.

"Jams" during a string, like lost caps or cap fragments in the actions, or cartridges failing to fire, cocking/cylinder turning issues, would be taken care of with caps, cartridges, or tools carried on the body of the shooter. If the failure

could not be cured at the firing line, the revolver was withdrawn from the test and the issue was documented.

Shooting blackpowder fast and repeatedly through a revolver will heat it up quickly. Therefore, a gun was given a rest between strings to cool for at least five minutes before it was reloaded again.

Such a precaution was unnecessary during the smokeless strings.

During the 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> string, BDS Cowboy targets were to be engaged at a distance of five meters using a uniform center POA. The objective here was to document accuracy at typical Cowboy Action Shooting™ distances, but also to assess if a change in POI or the spread of the hits after a couple of strings can be expected.

Velocity for the MIP calculation was then measured during the



9  
**Magic Joe engages the BDS Western target with one of the Santa Barbara Remingtons.**

second string. Strings 3, 4, and 5 were fired into the barrier as quickly as possible.

**Observations and Remarks on the Revolvers in the Test**

**Favourite revolvers:** Our market research prior to the practical test regarding which type of percussion revolver is actually being used in the sport indicated 80% of the shooters favour Colt Army 1860 type clones over Remington New Model Armies in the 1870 Category. Hard core Remington shooters do not switch over to Colts and vice versa.

Percussion Revolvers	"open top" frame	"solid top" frame	Total
Armi San Paolo 1860/1863/1865	1	2	3
2nd gen Colt 1860	1	-	1
3rd gen Colt Dragoon/Walker	2	-	2
E.N. Santa Barbara 1863	-	3	3
Euraarma 1860/1863	1	1	2
FAUL 1860	3	-	3
Uberti 1860/1863	4	3	7
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Conversions /Open-Tops</b>			
Custom FAUL 1860	4	-	4
Custom Uberti 1863	-	2	2
Uberti .36 SP 1861/1863	1	1	2
Uberti .44/45 1860/1863/1871	7	1	8
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>37</b>

For the sake of the exercise we assumed this trend line to be about the same when it comes to conversions and Open Tops.

In our test we could evaluate 24 Colt clones, 12 Remingtons, and 1 Rogers & Spencer as an outsider.

While solid frame revolvers rule the bulls-eye competition, this is not the case in Cowboy Action Shooting™. Bulls-eye contestants successful with their Rogers & Spencers refused this model in Cowboy Action Shooting™ after in-depth trials!

Here are a couple of reasons given by shooters why they prefer

the Colt Army 1860 clones:

- Larger grip,
- Ergonomically designed geometry of grip and hammer for easy, fast, and reliable cocking, aiming, and firing,
- Less affected by blackpowder fouling compared to solid frame revolvers.
- The pistol will hit what the front sight is aimed at ... with the caveat the arbor is bottomed out and a front sight of appropriate height is installed
- The small rear sight on the hammer or on the top of the barrel of Open Tops or Long Cylinder Conversions are not considered critical.
- Tuning and replacement parts are usually easily available from the wide assortment of Colt-SAA customs parts.

**Italian disease:** More than 50 years after Aldo Uberti assembled the first open top type Italian per-



10  
**Checking out the length of the arbors in Italian Colts ... this one is too short!**

cussion Colts, their arbors are still cut too short, or the counter bearing in the barrel lug is bored too deep. Unless this ailment is corrected, the width of the cylinder gap changes in line with the depth the wedge as it is pushed into the barrel lug. These guns will have no reproducible POI, and sooner or later malfunctions from fouling on the barrel side of the cylinder and/or contact with the barrel cone will eventually make cocking the piece impossible.

**Steel:** A growing number of cowboys and cowgirls purchase the Belgian Centaures for the 1870 Category or as base guns for custom conversions because of the harder steel used in their making. Unfortunately, since 1973 they are no longer made, but some pre-owned specimens still seem to trickle to the market regularly.

**Accuracy:** All revolvers evaluated in our test were sufficiently accurate at typical Cowboy Action Shooting™ distances. Provided, of course, the shooter behind the gun does his or her job. We did not find a change worth mentioning in the



11  
**European champion in the Classic Cowboy Category, Socks, is happy with the accuracy of his Uberti Open Tops.**

POI or the pattern of the hits between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> string. Due to their PC front sights, most Italian clones and US "made" new issues connected a bit high, but mostly around 12 o'clock.

**Wear and tear parts:** The factory installed leaf type trigger/bolt spring, the leaf spring of the hand, and the bolt stop of both Colt and Rem-

ington systems will break eventually. According to Murphy's Law in the middle of the match when you least need it. The recommendation here for non-purists is to exchange the trigger/bolt spring for a piano wire spring, which is almost unbreakable. These springs are available as after market parts.

A Ruger type plunger and coil spring assembly to replace the leaf spring of the hand can be installed by a gunsmith familiar with SA systems.

From time to time one of the bolt stop legs can break. Having a



12  
**Wire instead of leaf spring.**

replacement part fitted in, ready for installation, in one's box of exchange parts is prudent.

**Lubrication agents:** MoS2 is an often-used gun cleaning agent, preservative, and lube for moving gun parts. One of the authors is using nothing but this as a spray since the 1970s.

However, to lube revolvers to be fired with blackpowder, we found it



13  
**Lubricating agents that proved themselves in our test (clockwise from left): WD-40 (WD-40 Company Zweigniederlassung Deutschland/Bad Homburg), PTFE Trenn Gel (TEFLON-Paste: HEGE/Messkirch), Vaseline (Drogerie), HP .357 Hubertus Waffen-Top-Pflege (Friedrich & Hubertus Hofmann/Burghaun)**

not suitable! Shooting blackpowder makes the MoS2 film turn goeey. The cylinder pin and cylinder begin binding together during the first strings fired. Cocking is eventually no longer possible.

Lubes made from Vaseline like HP .357 work very well for percus-



14  
**Centaur conversion: application of Vaseline to the arbor before shooting blackpowder cartridges.**

sion revolvers and conversions alike when blackpowder loads are used. It should be applied generously to arbor AND the chamber mouths on top of the bullets. Teflon paste, likewise, was a problem solver in our test, and WD-40 can be used as universal lube with blackpowder as well. We consider US reports of discoloration of the blueing after application of WD-40 anecdotal. However, the European formula of WD-40 might differ from the one used in the USA.

Part 2 of this story to be continued ...

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March 2, 2012



Col. Richard Dodge,  
SASS #1750

# The Second Battle Of

# ADOBE WALLS

## Quanah Parker and Isa-tai against Billy Dixon and the Buffalo Hunters

By Col. Richard Dodge, SASS Life #1740

In the early morning hours of June 26, 1874, a war party of some 250 Comanche, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Kiowa warriors gathered on a bluff near the Canadian River overlooking the tiny cluster of sod buildings that made up the trading post of Adobe Walls. Ten years earlier, Kit Carson had nearly lost his command and his life near this spot, and here the gathered tribes

were determined to begin their grand final assault on the hated white buffalo hunters.

They eagerly anticipated an easy and total massacre of the post's inhabitants, and it well might have been. They were led by the great Quahada warrior Quanah Parker, famed and feared throughout Texas for his prowess and leadership of the most fierce and independent band of Comanches.

Perhaps more importantly, Isa-tai, a medicine man of immense power and vision, was the inspiration for the tribes' violent mission. Interestingly, Isa-tai's name translated to the unflattering term, "coyote's rectum." A stocky man with a broad face and bull neck, this night he was in his glory. Stark naked, save for a cap of sage stems, his body and horse were painted yellow, as were those of several others. Yellow, he had informed his followers, made them impervious to the white hunters' bullets, and they believed

him. Had he not demonstrated his powers by regurgitating a handful of white man's bullets and swallowing them again? Had he not risen into the heavens and returned with new words of wisdom? His eloquence, his skills of sleight-of-hand, and his uncanny ability to inspire others to follow him had imbued these desperate warriors with courage and determination in what were fast becoming the last years of their dominance in their own world.

Tonight their dreams of reclaiming that lost world and ridding it of the hated men who were destroying it would begin here. Most of the buffalo were gone now; most of the other tribes had "gone in" to the reservations, and these remaining men were the last hope for their world. They impatiently awaited Quanah's signal to begin the attack.

Adobe Walls trading post had been a major shipping point for buffalo hides for many years. The post consisted of two stores (Leonard & Meyers and Charles Rath & Co.), a saloon, and a blacksmith shop. Though the latter was only a reed enclosure, the other buildings were built of two-foot-thick sod walls. Inside were some 28 persons, including Billy Dixon, Bat Masterson, saloon owner James Hanrahan, one woman (the wife of cook William Olds), and an assortment of tough, hardened hunters who were there to trade their buffalo hides.

Also in the store were cases of Sharps rifles – "Big Fifties," capable of killing a 2,000 pound bison at a thousand yards with their 600 grain lead bullets. There were cases of over 11,000 rounds of ammunition. Every man was also armed with



Billy Dixon made the most famous shot in the Old West with his Sharps rifle at the 2nd Battle of Adobe Walls.

side arms and many had Winchester repeating rifles. Archeological excavations a century later revealed several Colt's Richards conversions, some S&W Americans, and even a brand new Colt SAA, in addition to several rifles in .50-70, .50-90, and at least one .45-70, also new at the time. The post was not only well fortified, it was well armed.

It was also awake. Hanrahan knew the risk of Indian raids was high. Stories vary about how it came about. Some say he fired a round to wake everyone, claiming the ridge pole was in danger of breaking (a serious condition). Others claim the pole really was in danger of collapse. In any event, there

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**Isa-Tai, Comanche medicine man, believed his medicine would make the Comanche warriors impervious to the white eyes' bullets**

was considerable activity in those early hours as they hurriedly repaired or replaced the supposedly vulnerable pole. So, when Quanah finally gave the order to attack, it was into the fire of a wide-awake and well-defended foe.

When the charge reached the post in the pre-dawn hours, the Indians were upon the defenders before the long-range rifles could be effective. First to fall to the Indians were two luckless men who chose to sleep in a couple of wagons outside the stifling interior of the stores.

For two hours, Quanah's warriors beat upon the sod buildings, unable to break through. The thick sod walls made the Indians' rifle fire and arrows ineffective, as lead bullets and flint arrowheads simply imbedded into the sod. Defenders huddled against the walls inside to avoid the hail of lead from the Indians' repeating rifles, and the hunters fought back with side arms and repeating rifles, taking a terrible toll on the attackers. Many were later found lying against the exterior walls where they fell, the withering fire from within making retrieval by their comrades impossible.

More than once, Quanah displayed both his remarkable courage and enormous strength by lifting fallen comrades from the ground while still mounted and spiriting them away from the battle while under withering fire from the post's defenders. At one point, he even attempted to back his horse into the door in a futile attempt to break it down.

Eventually, Quanah realized the futility of the attack and called a withdrawal to a hill about a mile away from the post. Here they gathered themselves, took stock of the situation, and discussed what to do next. Isa-tai came under considerable condemnation for the failure of

his promised invulnerability to the white man's fire. True to the devout beliefs of the Plains Indians, it was eventually acknowledged his "medicine" had failed him – and them.

The final blow was to come as a small band of warriors rode out to take a hard look at the post, hopefully to envision a new course of action. As they watched, a puff of smoke burst from one of the store windows. Curious, they watched. Again, another puff. And a third. As they watched this curious thing, a loud thud was heard and one of the warriors suddenly threw up his arms and fell backward from his horse – dead from a .50 caliber bullet from Billy Dixon's borrowed .50-90 Sharps buffalo gun, perhaps the most famous shot fired in the Old West.

At a range of just over 1,500 yards (some research indicates closer to 1,200 yards), Billy Dixon had fired the shot that truly signaled the beginning of the end of the Comanche's rule over their ancient homeland. Thoroughly defeated and dispirited, their last great effort to save their way of life had been snuffed out with that desperate shot.

The defenders suffered the following four dead: the two sleeping in the wagons outside, another who was killed as he attempted to fire a shot from an open window, and William Olds, who was killed by his own newly reloaded rifle being passed to him by his wife.

In one last desperate orgy of revenge, Quanah's forces split up in an effort to fulfill Isa-tai's mission. Wagon trains were attacked and burned, outlying ranches were raided, and over two hundred and fifty people were killed. The resulting Red River War, a "take no prisoners" drive by the U.S. Army, finally broke the power of the feared Comanche.

Quanah, with Isa-tai in tow, would soon surrender to the Indian agency and go on to lead an exceptional life as leader of his people on the "white man's road." He exhibited the same intelligence and courage he had at war, adopting the white man's ways (except for keeping a total of seven wives), building a magnificent white man's house (which survives to this day), waging an endless campaign for the rights of his people, and becoming quite wealthy and highly respected in the process.

Addendum: *In tests conducted by the U.S. Army using highly sophisticated radar equipment, the .50-90 Sharps fired a 675 grain bullet at a 35 degree angle, with a muzzle velocity of 1,216 fps, a distance of 3,600 yards. An angle of 5 1/2 degrees achieved a "Billy Dixon shot" of just over 1,500 yards. A 458 grain bullet, with a muzzle velocity of 1,416 fps and 35 degree elevation, traveled*



**Quanah Parker, Last Chief of the Comanche and leader of the 2nd Battle of Adobe Walls**

*2,585 yards, indicating the effect of bullet weight. The tests were viewed and recorded by no less a personage than Mike Venturino.*

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**Quanah in later life dressed in white man's clothes.**

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Sgt. Shuster, SASS #60835

# GERONIMO **Part Two**

## “Vengeance for Kas-Ki-Yeh”

Adapted by Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835

continue with the story.

In the summer of 1859, almost a year from the date of the massacre of Kas-Ki-Yeh, three Apache tribes assembled on the Mexican border to go on the warpath. Their faces were painted, their war bands fastened upon their brows, and their long scalp-locks were ready for the hand and knife of the warrior who could overcome them. Their families had been hidden away in a mountain rendezvous near the Mexican border. With these families a guard was posted, and a number of places of rendezvous designated in case the camp should be disturbed.

When all were ready, the chieftains gave the order to go forward. None of the Apaches were mounted, and each warrior wore moccasins and a cloth wrapped about his loins. This cloth could be spread over him



Most of us have some knowledge of Geronimo. Leader of the Chiricahua Apaches, Geronimo led the fight against the expansion into their tribal lands by the United States during the Apache Wars. But you knew that much from the movies. The greatest wrongs visited upon the Apaches were from the United States government. But it all started in Mexico ... and we

when he slept, and when on the march would be ample protection as clothing. In battle, if the fight was hard, the braves did not wish to be hampered by too much clothing. Each warrior carried three days' rations, but as they often killed game while on the march, the Indians were seldom without food.

They traveled in three divisions—the Bedonkohe Apaches led by Mangas-Coloradas, the Chokonen Apaches by Cochise, and the Nedni Apaches by Whoa; however, there was no regular order inside the separate tribes. Warriors usually marched about fourteen hours per day, making three stops for meals, and traveling forty to forty-five miles a day.

Geronimo acted as guide into Mexico, and they followed the river courses and mountain ranges in order to better keep their movements concealed. The Indians entered Sonora and went southward past Quitaca, Nacozari, and many smaller settlements.

When they were almost at Arispe, the Apaches camped, and eight Mexican men rode out from the city to parley with them. The warriors promptly captured, killed, and scalped the Mexicans. The purpose of this was to draw the Mexican troops from the city, and the

next day they came. The skirmish lasted all day without a general engagement, but just at nightfall, the Apaches captured the Mexican supply train, giving the Indians plenty of provisions and more guns.

That night the Apaches posted sentinels and did not move their camp, but rested quietly, for they expected heavy work the next day. Early the next morning the warriors assembled to pray—not for help, but to have health and avoid ambush or deceptions by the enemy.

As the war party had anticipated, the whole Mexican force came out at about ten o'clock in the morning. There were two companies of cavalry and two of infantry. Geronimo recognized the cavalry as the soldiers who had killed his people at Kas-Ki-Yeh. Geronimo relayed this information to the chieftains, and they decided Geronimo could direct the battle.

Geronimo was no chief and never had been, but because the chieftains were of the opinion Geronimo had been more deeply wronged than others, this honor was conferred upon him, and Geronimo resolved to prove worthy of the trust. Geronimo arranged the Indians in a hollow circle near the river, and the Mexicans drew

(Continued on page 64)

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# Clay Allison

By White Smoke Steve, SASS #91779

soon resettled in Texas.

In the fall of 1870, Allison was in Northeastern New Mexico where he led a mob in an assault on the Elizabethtown, New Mexico jail where he abducted a convicted serial killer named Charles Kennedy. Allison led the mob in lynching the man.

In 1874 Allison was involved in a brief but deadly gunfight with Colfax County, New Mexico gunman "Chunk" Colbert. Colbert and Allison had long-standing animosities, but they were having dinner together when Colbert suddenly pulled his pistol to shoot Allison. The barrel of Colbert's pistol hit the edge of the table, giving Allison the time he needed to pull his own pistol. Allison shot Colbert in the head and left the man dead at the dinner table.

A year and a half later, Allison led a New Mexico mob who lynched Cruz Vega, a man accused of the murder of a traveling Methodist preacher. Two days after the lynching, Vega's uncle confronted Allison, reached for his pistol, and fell dead to the floor as Allison proved to be faster on the draw. A week and a half later, Allison was charged with murder, but the shooting was quickly ruled to have been self-defense.

In 1876, Allison rode into Las Animas, Colorado, where the local sheriff told Allison to surrender his guns because a local ordinance made it illegal to carry weapons in-

side the town limits. Allison refused. The sheriff left, deputized two men, returned and opened fire. Allison was hit three times but managed to fire four shots, killing the sheriff. The two deputies fled. Allison was charged with manslaughter, but the case was dismissed when the inquiry determined the sheriff started the fight.

In 1880, drunk and apparently looking for excitement, Clay Allison rode stark naked through the streets of the small Texas panhandle town of Mobeetie, whooping and hollering. When the sheriff responded to the complaints of the local ladies, Allison got off his horse, leveled his gun at the sheriff, and marched him into a bar where he forced him to drink until the man couldn't stand up. Allison, still naked, strode to his horse and rode away.

By 1883 Allison had settled down to the mostly quiet life of a married rancher in West Texas, but he still managed another cattle drive up the Goodnight-Loving Trail from Texas to the Wyoming Territory. A severe toothache forced Allison to seek treatment from a Cheyenne dentist, who began drilling on the wrong tooth. Allison bolted and had the job done elsewhere. Allison returned, pinned the dentist to his chair, and began pulling the dentist's teeth. The dentist's screams attracted passers-by who pulled Allison from

the dentist and saved the frightened man's life.

Clay Allison died at the age of 47 on July 3, 1887, in an accident. A sack of grain fell from a loaded wagon Allison was driving. He reached to catch the falling sack and fell beneath the wagon wheels. The wagon rolled over him and broke his neck. ♀

**R**obert Clay Allison is one of the fascinating characters fans of the Old West love to talk about, but he's also one of the men who the same fans of the Old West would least like to meet in a saloon or dark alley. Clay Allison was a mean man with a short temper.

Allison, born on September 2, 1840, was the fourth of nine children of Tennessee farmer and Presbyterian minister Jeremiah Allison and his wife, Mariah Brown Allison. He joined the Confederate Army in September of 1861, but was given a medical discharge in December because of a boyhood head wound that left him "incapable of performing the duties of a soldier." The doctor who ordered the discharge wrote that Allison could easily fly into fits of maniacal rage of near-epileptic seizures in times of emotional or physical excitement.

In September of 1862, Allison joined the cavalry of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest, where the after-effects of his boyhood injury either enhanced his value as one of Forrest's troopers or were simply ignored. After the War, Clay Allison, his brothers, Monroe and John, sister Mary, and brother-in-law Lewis Coleman,

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Sweetwater Jack and Gaye Abandon

# THE SHERIFF'S LEGACY

By Linn Keller, SASS #27332

Reviewed by Sweetwater Jack, SASS Life/Regulator #28885

will become more than a "trilogy," is entitled *The Sheriff's Legacy*. Firelands County, Colorado has a newly elected Sheriff. Will Keller is a combat-tested Marine. Sheriff Keller is a reserve Lieutenant Colonel with combat experience in the "sand box" and a person who has a "legacy." The sheriff's great-grandfather was also the sheriff of Firelands. The first day on duty often "sets the tone" for just how effective a lawman is going to be in the job, whether in a big city or a rural western community, and Sheriff Keller's first day is a doozy ... Called to stop a bar brawl while on the way to the Town of Firelands' City Council Meeting, the good sheriff proved to be no slouch in "kicking butt and taking names." No one killed, no PERMANENT injuries to the

brawlers, either male OR female, although there was the ritual breaking of a beer bottle to discourage one participant, as well as a swift, and wholly accurate kick to the "slats" received by one gentleman. (Note: If you don't know what "slats" are, ask your dad in what part of his anatomy he would least like to receive a high-speed shoe toe.) With the bar emptied of the "partiers" and jailed for at least one night ... Sheriff Keller continued to the council meeting where the order of the day (night, rather) was to arrest the town mayor ... Why? Read the book ...

Having convinced the council members and the Firelands City Police Department the Firelands County Sheriff's Office would play no political games, and all who played the game fair and square would receive the same deal from the new sheriff, Keller returned to the Sheriff's Office, dropped into a chair behind the large, scarred desk, drew up her legs and examined her high heel shoe ... "Dang! Snagged a stocking!" Yep, Willamina Keller is no ORDINARY Sheriff!!

About the "Then" in "Then and Now?" Great-Grandpa had some secrets, too ...

Are you going to like this series? (Three books so far and promise of a fourth.) Let me put it this way ...



when I read it I passed it on to my sweetheart, Gaye Abandon, SASS #44556L, who kept me up all night with her bed lamp on, reading it. The second novel in the series, *The Sheriff's Betrayal*, never got to my hands until AFTER she read it ... and the third one, *The Sheriff's Journal* is currently hiding from her in my reloading shop, until I finish it. *These moderately-large paperbacks are available either from Amazon.com or directly from the Publisher. www.authorhouse.com Authorhouse, 1663 Liberty Dr., Bloomington, IN 47403.*

A Story of "Then" and "NOW"  
**I**'VE FOUND IT TO BE TRUE that the folks involved with Cowboy Action and Cowboy Mounted Shooting as well as the love of the "Old West" are a surprising bunch of folk, in many ways. The writing talents of some of "our" people continue to delight me. Linn Keller is no exception.

His first novel, in what I'm sure

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# BOB EDGAR

1939 – 2012

By Lucky Bill Thorington, SASS Life #765



Wyoming Drummer, Flat Nose George, Wooden Eye, Bob Edgar, and Lucky Bill at Old Trail Town several years ago.

**Cody, Wyoming**—One of the last chapters of the American Old West closed Friday evening, April 20, with the passing of Bob Edgar, 72, of Cody, Wyoming, founder of the Old Trail Town Frontier Museum and an internationally acclaimed

historian and archaeologist. If this iconic western gentleman had need of a proper resumé, it would have also included artist, author, sharpshooter and firearms specialist, hunting guide and trapper, naturalist and conservationist.



Bob Edgar was destined to be a historian; the aggregator of the Old West that Cody, Wyoming so dearly hung its hat on. While the community of Cody diverted much of its energy in promoting its western image through rodeo and the growing Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Bob Edgar chose to capture the real grist and edifice of the Old West and put a foundation under it. By recovering the artifacts of the past and giving them a new home and extended life at Old Trail Town, Bob Edgar assured the frontier life and pre-20th century history of northwest Wyoming all the way back to the Ice Ages and earliest peoples will be experienced by generations to come.

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# My Experience at The Junior National Young Leaders Conference

By Mustang Maddie, SASS #89066



*Yakima Red, SASS #13539, shown here ROing Mustang Maddie, asked the Colter's Hell Justice Committee in Powell, WY to sponsor a fund-raising match for Maddie.*



*Mustang Maddie's fund raising efforts lasted all summer long.*



*The Oregon Basin is a long way from everywhere ... so the addition of the canvas-enclosed "potty" was a welcome addition to camp!*

I live in Billings, Montana. I am 12 years old, and I am in the 6th grade. In October of 2011, I had the amazing opportunity to go to the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington DC. I had a lot of fundraising to do during the summer!

When I was 10 years old, my grandpa, Grizzly Bill, SASS #72345, got me into Cowboy Action Shooting™ at the Billings Rod and Gun Club. I have been shooting for three years with the Montana Territory Peacemakers Club. I love dressing up in period clothes. All the shooters are very friendly and help coach me in shooting. It's a lot of fun! I am also learning to shoot at the Yellowstone Rifle Club with the NRA Junior Shooting Class. All the shooters and my instructors are very supportive and helped to sponsor me for the Leadership Conference.

At the monthly shooting match on July 23, 2011, the Montana Territory Peacemakers Cowboy Action Shooters auctioned off a Cricket single shot .22 rifle donated by Doc Weed, SASS #60818. Backstrap Bill, SASS #26516, was the auctioneer. Buntline, SASS #92346, was the high bidder. It was a lot of fun! Cowboy Action Shooters came from Powell and Cody, Wyoming, Red Lodge, Livingston, Colstrip, and Billings, Montana to attend the match.

We held a gun raffle all summer to help with fundraising. It was a lot of work! We raffled a Savage rifle, model axis long action, detachable box magazine in a .270 caliber with a 3-9X 40 scopes. Almost all of the Cowboy Shooters bought raffle

tickets. Yellowstone Kate, SASS #88291, sold tickets at the Exxon-Mobil Refinery. The drawing was October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Tim Binkoski who works at the Exxon-Mobil Refinery won the raffle.

Yakima Red, SASS #13539, asked the Colter's Hell Justice Committee Cowboy Action Shooters in Powell, WY to sponsor a match for me. On August 6, 2011, we went out into the Oregon Basin countryside in Wyoming to shoot. Shooters from Wyoming and Montana came to shoot. Flat Nose George cooked stew and biscuits over an open campfire with wild berry pie. Everything was so delicious. They even had a canvas enclosed potty! All the shooters helped to coach me during



*Doc Weed, SASS #60818, donated a .22 rifle as part of Maddie's fund-raising program.*



*Mustang Maddie's grandpa, Grizzly Bill, SASS #72345, got her involved in Cowboy Action Shooting™.*

the match and they were all very generous supporters. I had a great time! I love shooting with them.

At their monthly match on August 27, 2011, the Montana Territory Peacemakers Cowboy Action Shooters also sponsored a shoot to help me fundraise. One of the SASS members, who wishes to remain anonymous, donated a pair of Pietta 1858 Remington .44 Cap and Ball revolvers with five shot .45 Colt conversion cylinders to be auctioned off. Coyote Skinner, SASS #55558, was the auctioneer. The bidding

was hilarious! Backstrap Bill was the high bidder. The match was a lot of fun! All the shooters were again very supportive.

Montana Lawman, SASS #83504, President of the Billings Rod and Gun Club, invited me to speak to the Board of Directors about the Leadership Conference. They very generously donated to help me. I attended the Board meeting after the conference to tell them all about my trip and what I learned.

The Wild Bunch and the Single Action Shooting Society® were also very generous to help me go to the Leadership Conference. I was overwhelmed by the support from all of the Cowboy Action Shooters. A big THANK YOU VERY MUCH to ALL the shooters! I raised enough money for my tuition, my parents, and my plane tickets, and a little extra for spending and souvenirs.

The Junior National Young Leadership Conference lasted six days. During each of those six days, I had leadership focus group meetings, met people from different states in the U.S. and even visited some cool places in Washington, D.C. each day. It was a great time to make new friends and to get a better taste of what leadership actually means.

**Saturday - Day One:** I arrived at the 4H center where the JRNYLC members stay, and I sadly

for themselves and they died for it. Afterwards, I went to my Leadership Focus Group Meeting. I learned about how leaders communicate to express their feelings about a problem. This involved a lecture and a few activities to teach us about problem solving and teamwork. We made a poster and wrote a song about bullying and how to *(Continued on page 64)*



*Fund raising raffles, firearms coaching, and special matches made the pre-conference summer time a memorable experience. Many Thanks to all who helped, supported, and participated in the effort!*

had to say goodbye to my parents and met up with the rest of the kids. We played some fun activities to get acquainted, and then split up into Leadership Focus Group Meetings where we learned about leadership concepts in U.S. History and Group Constitution, and we had a Welcome Social. Finally, I went to the dorms with the rest of the kids. I had a roommate from Mississippi and another from Georgia.

**Sunday - Day Two:** I went to my Leadership Focus Group Meeting on goal setting and freedom. I learned about how leaders set their own goals to succeed. We worked on a booklet we received the first day. Next, we all got on a bus and went to the National Museum of Ameri-

can History! I was able to view many antiques I wasn't used to seeing every day. After seeing almost everything in the museum, we all walked to the White House and took some great pictures. We then went to three National Memorials as a Tribute to Courage and Sacrifice.

First, we went to the Korean War Veteran's Memorial. It had eighteen statues of soldiers who were all facing granite walls. The sum total of the statues of the soldiers and their reflection equaled 36. This was meant to stand for the 36<sup>th</sup> parallel. Also, when I looked at the granite wall, there weren't any names. There were pictures of the soldiers carved into the wall.

Next, we walked down to the


Lincoln Memorial. Inside was a statue of the famous President Abraham Lincoln, which is exactly nineteen feet tall! If I looked closely enough, I could see another face on the back of his head. This stood for a man Lincoln turned away from, based on what he believed. To the left side of Lincoln is his first speech carved into the wall. On the right of him was the Bill of Rights.

Finally, we went to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial. People were very quiet. It was very interesting! There is a plaque saying, "Freedom Isn't Free." These veterans from all the memorials and wars paid with their lives to give us our freedom. I see them as leaders because they stood up for those who couldn't fight

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# Cops and CowBOYS New Mexico Style!

By Tex, SASS #4

**L**as Cruces, NM – For the past few years, Fast Hammer, SASS Regulator #60707, the head honcho of the Picacho Posse, has hosted an all charity match benefiting La CASA (a support center to diminish domestic violence and abuse in all forms) and La Piñon (provides support services for victims of sexual assault and abuse) in Las Cruces. Eight-seven folks registered for the event this year ... and many were thoughtful enough to purchase half a dozen miss “nickels” and one “do over” nickel in preparing for the day’s events. 100% of the income went directly to the two charities.

There’s nothing unique about a Cops & Cowboys match ... several



*Match Director, Fast Hammer, explains the rules to everybody. Every cowboy would be familiar with this standard opening ceremony/safety briefing.*



*Over \$10,000 was raised for the benefit of La Piñon and La CASA. The cops and the cowboys did good!*



*Yes, it was AWKWARD shooting wrong-handed!*

clubs across the country have these matches ... generally to the detriment of the cops! The general rules for these matches are ten rounds handgun (two five round magazines for the officers), officers shoot cardboard “item” rifle targets while the cowboys shoot steel, and the shotguns are loaded per stage instructions. All cowboy conventions are in effect (at least for the cowboys!).

Surprisingly, SASS cowboys do very well against the cops—some cops are not shooters (?!), and those that are generally don’t train or practice with their shotguns. Tactical training dictates (whenever possible) go into a battle fully loaded ... so when a six-plus shotgun stage starts with the shotgun staged open and empty, the cowboys are often finished with the stage before the cops have finished loading the six rounds into their shotgun! (Incidentally, if your club is considering holding a Cops & Cowboys match, this is a hint to the wise ...).

However, here in New Mexico we have a different environment. Being a “Border State,” much as existed in the Border States of the

1800s, our cops (and Border Patrol personnel) have ample motivation to practice ... a lot! Here, carrying a gun is not just a matter of form ... it’s an everyday, life or death tool these guys need for survival. And, it shows on the range!

Some of these “cops” are top competitors ... the Border Patrol folks often take all the top awards in the NRA’s National Police Championships held each year in Albuquerque. The cops are supposed to use their duty weapons and their standard training procedures when addressing a shooting stage. Interestingly, some of these guys claim their supervisor allows them to wear “space guns” that would look right at home in an IPSC competition ... nestled in a low-slung gun bucket ... but who is to question an armed law enforcement officer?? Bottom line ... these guys can shoot!

Fast Hammer made a huge tactical error last year and allowed the cops to design half the stages—it seemed like a good idea at the time! Unfortunately, the cops are smart ... and it didn’t take them long to figure out how to tilt the scales back in their direction! The cops’ stages this year were typical ... six-inch pistol/revolver plates at 10 yards, rifle targets at 60+ yards, barricade shooting, wounded shooting (shooting the rifle and shotgun from the



*The cops’ stages were noticeably more difficult. There were ten rounds on the small white “hostage taker” targets (only!!) ... and the rifle targets can be seen down range. There were the LARGER rifle targets!!*



“other” shoulder!), and eight or more shotgun targets starting with the shotgun fully loaded (as many as it will hold ...)!

Last year, there were only three cowboys in the top 20 ... this year we did a bit better (5 cowboys), but the top four competitors were still Law Enforcement personnel. Mica McGuire, our New Mexico State Champion, was fifth overall with



*The Butcher has been quiet for the past few years ... but he’s back! He apparently shot on both sides of the law at this match ... he shows up (James Scordato) on both winners’ lists!*

Winners	
<b>Top 5 Law Enforcement Overall</b>	
1	Larry Houck
2	Mark Miller
3	Mark Nunley
4	James Scordato
7	Kevin Speer

<b>Top 5 Cowboys Overall</b>	
5	Mica McGuire, SASS #18526
6	Tex, SASS #4
8	Boggus Deal, SASS #64218
14	Lefty Too Slim, SASS #44564
15	Butcher, SASS #6630



*Each year the attendance goes up ... the cops have learned how to be competitive and the cowboys are determined to show them "who's best!" There were nearly 90 competitors this year and most purchased "miss tickets and a "do over"—all the money going to charity.*

Tex five seconds behind (Shooting Traditional Wild Bunch!).

The pattern seems to be set ... the cops struggle with the cowboy designed stages ... and the cowboys struggle with the cop designed stages ... but it's also fair to say EVERYONE has a great time of friendly rivalry, and all for an excellent cause.

If your club is looking for something to do that's a bit different—something that can benefit a local charity and cement good relations with local law enforcement or nearby military establishments, consider a Cops & Cowboys match—they're great fun! 🤠



*The cowboy stages were fairly standard in terms of target sizes and distances. The better cowboy competitors stayed right with the cops on these stages.*



*Even as the stage is being explained, the analysis has already started. Transitions, transitions, transitions. Notice the rifle targets on the left ... the cowboys are shooting steel and the cops are shooting the black outlined cardboard targets.*



*The cops designed lots of movement into their stages ... the shooter started seated in the chair on the right and then shot the guns in any order. The rifle targets can be seen at the back of the bay on the extreme left, there are eight shotgun clays on stands in the middle, and 50 yards away are ten (small!) revolver/pistol targets on stands.*

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# 2011 GERMAN TERRITORY ROUNDUP

## Blazing Cowboy Sixguns in Europe! Duel in Darmstadt!

*Never Mind "Quigley Down Under," how about "Jackson, Over There?"*

By Frederick Jackson Turner, SASS #28271

**P**hillipsburg, Germany – Once again, I'm in the air over the Atlantic Ocean. Folks are gazing at the curious tableaux of a duster-clad, tall-booted, cowboy hat wearing son-of-a-gun sitting in the seat on the 747. Shotgun Boogie meets me at the airport in Frankfurt. After a bear hug and a slap on the back, he leads me back to his car, gesticulating furiously all the way. There is a wild, mad doctor gleam in his eye. "We have just finished building a stage prop for the match. Really, you must see it!" he intones.

For those of you unfamiliar with the tale, I am truly among the

most fortunate of men as I am headed once again to the German Territorial Roundup, or GTR, one of the more successful cowboy matches in all of Europe. Before you start rolling your eyes, or looking quietly at your shoes, let me assure you, Cowboy Action Shooting™ is strong and vibrant in Europe. Costuming easily equals that of the United States, the matches are as good as it gets, and let me assure you—as shooters, those guys'n'gals can really bring it! At last, some noteworthy American culture has reached back across the pond!

The German Territorial Roundup is primarily the brainchild



*El Heckito, Match Director for Days of Truth 2012, shoots under the watchful eye of Ray Heartless. The still, damp air made blackpowder shooting a real challenge!*

nattered on with the stewardesses, my luggage made it all the way this time, and I am only slightly groggy when Boogie, ever present grin and seemingly limitless energy tidily in place, arrives to escort me to the match.

I get a good night's sleep, at least compared to last year, before it's off to the range for a set-up. The German Territorial Regulators shoot their matches at a large shooting range in Phillipsburg, and have to be in and out in just a few days. It's a lot of work, but willing hands and lots of beer afterward



*Frederick Jackson Turner takes to the air while transferring the hat to RePhil during the Sunday Team Event.*

of three top German Shooters: RePhil, Shotgun Boogie, and Olli the Kid. Each has traveled extensively in the US, shooting matches, taking notes, and honing their own shooting skills. Their collective knowledge, they have brought back to Europe, which has a dynamic and vibrant shooting community, and together with a host of eager volunteers, they have put together what many agree is one of the finest matches in Europe. I have attended matches all over this great country, folks, and let me assure you, GTR is one of the finest matches in the World!

Day 1. I arrive, after a lengthy flight. No great stories this time; I

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**Ray heartless and RePhil are the two top European competitors ... Ray took overall honors for the match while RePhil won the Top Gun Shoot-off.**

make it seem like easy work before we retire to the Pooley Gang pool, after a job well done.

Ah, the Pooley Gang. Inspired by their American cowboy brethren, the Germans have created an institution called the Pooley Gang. Requirements are modest. After each day's shooting, the candidate for membership simply strips down to skivvies and a hat, lights up a cigar, pours a drink, and climbs into the pool. This was one of the sensations at the Gunfight Behind the Jersey Lilly and END of TRAIL this year, where somehow, the enterprising Pooleys managed to wrangle a 1400 gallon pool out to the New Mexico high country, fill it with water, and indoctrinate (and inebriate!) about 35 new members!

Of course, this is Germany, so the chance you will be doing all of this in a downpour is ever present, which merely adds to the mystery and the fun. Why, you may ask? Well – it's fun, and an excuse to drink, tell stories, and behave a little irrationally. Just like Cowboy Action Shooting™!

After last year's experience, I have determined to harden myself to the task of European-style Cowboy Action Shooting™. I have begun a strict regimen of spending

time at a local Irish pub, training my kidneys and liver to absorb the brutal alcoholic punishment that the good-hearted and well-intentioned Europeans will be dishing out to my internal organs. Was my training enough? This, we shall see. But be warned; RePhil is the new name taken by Westphalian Phil, after some of the Dutch shooters kept ... well ... refilling his glass with their potent local brew at Days of Truth, the European Championship. The outcome was ... among other things, a new alias!

We pull up to the range, where Phil, and a small handful of the faithful are already hard at work. Lyonner Dundee, his lovely wife, Lady Smile, Joe Dakota, RePhil's brother Chris, and a few others look up from the work. Backs are slapped, friendships are refreshed, and the work of setting up an entire sub-continent's cowboy match in one afternoon goes on. About this time, Ollie pulls up with a transporter truck, holding a half ton of props. Many hands lay to, and barrels, wagon wheels, fence posts, hay bales, a really interesting looking wooden cow, and the like are unloaded and meticulously put into position.

Then, the truck disgorges a curious, folded wooden structure. They drag it out to the bay and begin unfolding it. It is a masterpiece of engineering; a complete storefront and boardwalk, complete with hitching posts, that twists, folds, and contorts from the approximate size of a large dinner table, but which springs up to be a complete, rock solid shooting station, complete with a generous enough window frame to safely hold a long arm with perfect security. It is as solid as the boardwalk at my home club. It is unbelievable. Boogie grins. Ollie grins. Phil just shakes his head in wonder. Please understand, it is Shotgun Boogie who has designed, among other things, a shotgun knockdown that has the pull rope directly down the center line, so there is none of the



**The Pooley Gang takes great delight in relaxing in the pool with copious amounts of adult beverages after a hard day's shooting ... they especially enjoy inducting new members into their elite organization ... some even remember the induction ceremony!**

annoying yanking a target sideways with too hefty a tug on the rope. You kind of have to see it to believe it. He is the DaVinci of Cowboy Action Shooting™.

By the time they are done, the day is done, and so are we. But 12 stages stand, each with its own theme, steel set perfectly, in compli-

ance with not only excellent stage design, but in full compliance with German law. Oh yes, never free from bureaucracy, the Germans are not allowed to do anything that resembles combat, so no shooting from window or doorways. How this is engineered to fool the shooter into  
*(Continued on page 50)*



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## 2011 German Territory Roundup . . .

(Continued from page 49)

a sense of this would require a bit more explanation than there is room for here, but trust me, this match gives up nothing to any match back home.

Part of my reason for being there is to reprise my Shoot Like A Champion class this year. Once again it's full, and I see several familiar faces. And they've all gotten faster; some of them, a LOT faster. One of the most apt students is Clean Kid. He asks a lot of good questions, and seems an apt and diligent student. He is also destined to beat me in the overall, this time.

They are good students, and more than that, we are having a great time, despite any lingual limitations I may have. As Dutch Bear says, "It is good to take this class again. Last time, I was laughing so much all through the class I missed half the information!"

The whole crew falls into a good, steady rhythm, set-up/class/posse marshal meeting, and then back to the camp for some well-earned brew. My training appears to have paid off a bit. This time, I am able to get up in the morning after only a half hour or so of shoving and poking by Phil and Chris. Well, that and the outstanding coffee that comes from the little burner inside the RV I'm sharing with the brothers.

Truth be told, it is an adventure just staying with them. I could happily spend the week just comparing their *weltanschauung* with mine, or trading jokes and stories with those two. That there is a cowboy match surrounding all of this is just icing on the cake.

But at last, Friday dawns, and it's time to get down to business. The multi-lingual shooter's meeting is held on a cool, moist dawn. This will mean a challenge for the blackpowder shooters. I think of the all blackpowder Dutch squad, and tip my hat to them. Shooting black-

powder is the only practical way most of them can skirt their firearms restrictions, and I tip my hat to the spirit that keeps them in the game.

The shooters book is terrific! Each stage is thoroughly explained in both German and English. Most everyone speaks both, or at least one of those two languages. My posse is a good one, eager to help, and very safety-conscious. They are also a fun-loving bunch, and by the second stage they are whooping and hollering, with a hearty "Whoo-YEAHHH!" any time a shooter cleans a stage, which is not too daunting a task as the stages are especially well thought out, and very, very shootable. I always say you can tell when a good shooter designs a match, and between the talent possessed by Phil, Ollie, and Boogie, the stages each have a unique character, target sizes are good, and they flow with the seamless perfection of stages that have been tested, refined, and tested again by knowledgeable shooters.

The shooting is in an enormous, walled facility that has baffles, but no ceiling, so we have the curious scenario of sound reflections of indoors, but dappled sunlight, and occasional rain, just like the outdoors. It's German law, folks, and it does help me understand why they truly enjoy shooting over here so much! But they make the very best of it, and within a few stages, I am getting my game together, and acclimating to it.

The match is a terrific one. The target sizes are generous, and the distances, regulated by German law, are reasonable. Of course, as RePhil explains, no matter how far away the law requires them, he can always order bigger targets . . .

The shooting orders are thoughtful, as well. There is one clever gimmick or problem to be solved on each stage, but only one per stage, and procedurals are few



**Cowboy Action in Europe is alive and well!**  
*The costumes, shooting scenarios, and level of talent are second to none. Cowboys from anywhere in the world can shoot there in perfect assurance there will be no surprises, and the range commands and etiquette are easily understood.*

and far between. No favor is conferred on either right- or left-handers, and gunfighters are taken into consideration. Even the starting positions are varied; hands on hat, on hips, at SASS default, on guns, at port arms. There's a lot of variation, and together with the enclosed stages, unique stage decoration, and quality stage writing, each stage is unique unto itself, like a chapter from a well-written western.

After each day's event, it's back to the Pooley Gang retreat for a brief libation or seventeen, with a dip in the pool to clear the head. The hardcore initiates have little engraved pewter cups dangling from their necks by a cord. These are seldom left to hang, spending most of the evening in a regular up-down rhythm, until the stack of empty containers from every beverage known to man reaches the top edge of the pool. Amazing. My training, sadly, has not been up to the task. I resolve to bring a life preserver next year, or at least a pool floatie as a collar, to keep my head out of the water!

Friday night there is a nice dinner and an informal party breaks out. It grows and grows until nearly everyone at the match is in attendance. Guitars are broken out, songs are sung, stories are told, with wild hand gesticulations where words get lost in translation. It goes much later than anyone intends, all of which will not help the shooting much on Saturday, but which is so woven into the fabric of this particular event that the survivors should be awarded finisher

plaques. "Most Beer Consumed" or "Best Near-Interpretation of Old Cowboy Songs" or "Most Unique Dance Step While Under The Influence" or something like that. It is one heck of a party, and the Big Event is supposed to be the following night!

I dimly recall shooting on Saturday. I remember Chris pouring about a quart of espresso in me, just to get me moving in the right direction, but not much is clear after that. There were some loud noises, and a lot of people shouting "Whoo-YEAH!", but I'm still pretty fuzzy as to what it was all about.

I finally reach consciousness just in time for the Saturday Night party and awards. There is a really good catered duck dinner, and then, it's time for Frederick Jackson Turner and his guitar. Aply assisted by the ever-growing "Gringo Bastards," a pickup band consisting mostly of my posse mates, we do a stunning rendition of our theme song, "King Of The Road." This has been re-written by Phil and Co. to directly address Cowboy Action Shooting™ realities, containing such lyric gems as, "Trailer whose axle's bent; Guns that ain't worth 50 cents . . ." Of course, Frederick Jackson Turner's classics "Wreck of the Ol' '97" and "The Whining Cowboy" are now staples.

The party grows and grows until it seems every Cowboy at the match has brought a half dozen friends. I didn't believe Friday night could be surpassed, but somehow, with the pressure of actually shooting the match now off, Satur-

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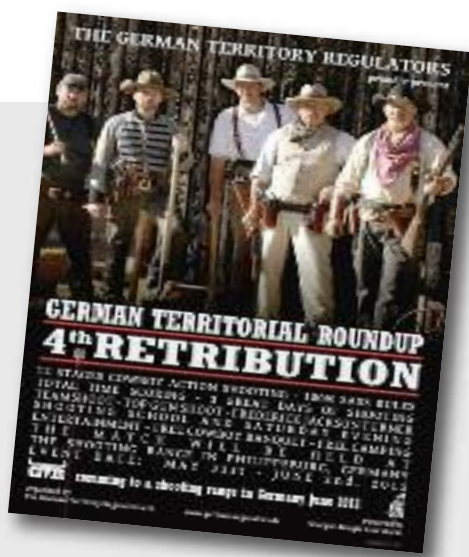


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day night does. I'll tell you what—the leaders of the world should give Cowboy Action Shooting™ a look. The good humor and bonhomie that abound at this event is a wonder to behold, and I am delighted to be witness to any part of it.

I am sitting at a table, Saturday, after the main match is over. In the group are two Swedes, a couple of the Dutch, two Frenchmen, a handful of Germans, a Hungarian, and a couple of others at whose nationality I can only guess. Food is brought out from every European menu on the continent, and, amid laughter, beer, and the same, “Missed it by THAT much” tales you would hear after any match in the States, good humor and jollity reign.

One of the Italians strolls by, looks at the tables, groaning under the weight of shared food, and, apparently, decides there is not enough. He is built like a beefy fire-plug, has a bristly black beard, and the most gleaming white teeth imaginable, which show constantly through his smile. He looks for all the world like one of the Three Musketeers. Well, he makes his way back to his car, rummages around for a few minutes, and then emerges with a sausage that resembles the Hindenburg, and a chunk of cheese wrapped in tin foil, the size of a cinder block. He clumps up to the table,



pulls out a Bowie knife big enough to decapitate a buffalo, and starts slicing off chunks of sausage and cheese, distributing them to everyone at the table. Once satisfied that we will all stand a good chance of dying from overeating, he carves off a hunk for himself, sticks the knife, quivering, in the cutting board, and sits down to eat. His black beard hides much of his amiable good humor, but not his gleaming white teeth. I lean back and suddenly realize; I AM in the Three Musketeers!

Ah, yes, the match. To be honest, my shooting was not as good as last year's. I take Third Overall, and first in my category, but unlike last year's shoot-off win, I am taken out in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the top gun shoot-off when I double clutch a rifle round. That's all you get in

this game, even in Europe. Pat McRyan, one of the Italians, does the deed. Trust me, folks, these guys'n'gals can really bring it!

Look out for Wild John. When he gets his speed under control, there will be no stopping him. He reminds me of a young Lead Dipper, and we all know how that turned out!

There is a team shoot, which again, is a hoot. I end up on the team with RePhil, which ups the chances of success considerably. Except, the stage requires each team member shoots their part of the stage wearing a particular hat, and then put that hat on the next team member, before they can engage the targets. All 5'10" of me draws the task of clamping that hat firmly on the head of 6'8" RePhil. No problem, just do it at a dead run, and plant it so it stays! There is a photo attached of me trying to slam dunk RePhil to achieve this task; no mean feat! Good times!

The Titans of the game in Europe are RePhil and Ray Heartless. Everyone expects this to be a shootout between these two, and they are not disappointed. Ray wins the match, and Phil wins the Top Gun Shootout. The shoot-off between these two is a barn-burner.

Me? I'm a winner, every time I go over there. And every year, Phil,

Olli, and Boogie, and their hard-working crew walk away from the match with the deservedly satisfied demeanor of a job well done. There is some sitting around, beer and story-telling, as well as planning for the next trip to the United States. (The Germans head out for Bordertown—a story worthy of its own article. I'll do that later!)

After a final dunk in the Pooley Gang pool, we share a last round of goodbyes. Sadly, I have to be back at work—no jaunt around Germany in the hands of my wonderful hosts this year. They're not 10 kilometers down the highway towards home when Boogie suddenly grabs for cell phone. He speed dials the other two. “I just had an idea to make next year's match even better, he explains. There is a wild, mad doctor gleam in his eye ...

And THIS time, I came back with my own luggage!

A side note: This year, the German Territorial Regulators match has been designated by SASS as the European Regional. It is a justly-deserved honor, and will put this match on the map, where it belongs, even across the sea in Europe, on any Cowboy Shooter's list of Must-Attend Matches.

List of Winners:  
<http://www.german-regulators.de/resultgesamt.pdf>

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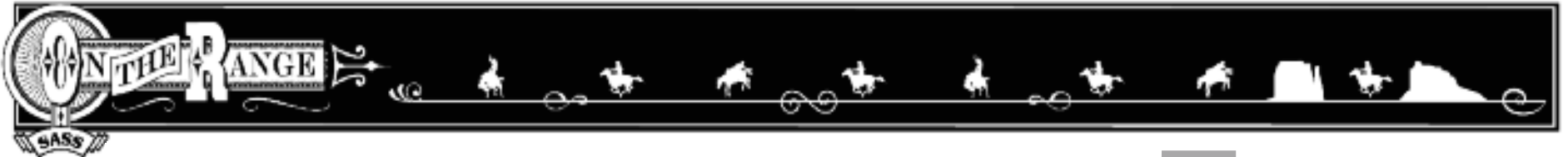
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Lefty, SASS #361

# GLORY HOLE 5

## April 13 to 15, 2012

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If the nine hearty Cowboys and one brave Cowgirl did not suffer from triskaidekaphobia (fear of the number 13) before ... they dang ed well might now. The rain came down in buckets. Then came the thunder and lightning followed by the muddy streams flowing through the shooting area. But, all six events were completed as initially planned, with the Long Range Rifle events being shot with the shooters standing in an inch of water!

**A**zusa, CA – This December will commemorate the 20th year since the Silver Queen Mine Regulators Cowboy Action Shooting™ Club was formed. The 2012 Annual Match “Glory Hole 5” was declared our 20th Anniversary Shoot.

Glory Hole 5 started on Friday, April 13, 2011 with Side Matches, which included:

- \* .22 Pistol and Rifle
- \* Pocket Pistol

Saturday came and the rains were gone and the ground was mostly dry. It was a beautiful bright, sunny day in the Angeles National Forest. Cowboys and Cowgirls began to assemble, mingle, and socialize as early as 7:00 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. the Main Match commenced with the customary Flag Salute, followed by a brief safety meeting by Match Director Kidd. After completing the first six stages, shooters gathered for lunch. Burgers cooked to order by Sandwash with all the fixin’s, exceptional potato salad was provided by Mrs. Skunk River, who graciously acted as Little Mary (cook’s assistant). Lefty’s cowboy beans, chips, and fruit completed the menu. All items were provided in ample quantity, so no one left the match hungry.

Sunday brought even clearer and warmer weather than Saturday. By late morning scores for the final three stages were part of history. With ample help from all the bighearted Cowboys and Cowgirls, the targets and props were in the shed before lunch. Again Sandwash demonstrated his culinary expertise with grilled bratwurst accompanied by the same sides and extras as Saturday. Colorado Belle took over the job of Little Mary, and once again

all shooters were adequately stuffed.

Immediately after lunch a raffle was held to draw for door prizes. Then came the Awards Ceremony.

Even though this year’s “Glory Hole” had fairly large targets at fairly close range, only one Cowboy managed to shoot a Clean Match—Solomon Star ... Congratulations!

All the participants proclaimed the match a great success and indicated they all plan to attend “Glory Hole 6” in 2013 ... dang ... there’s that triskaidekaphobia problem again!

To learn more about the Silver Queen Mine Regulators please visit: [www.SQMR.org](http://www.SQMR.org).

### Winners

<i>B-Western</i>	Solomon Star, SASS #208
<i>Cattle Baron</i>	Peashooter, SASS #18
<i>C Cowboy Cowboy</i>	Kidd, SASS #3840 Flatland Kid, SASS #77289
<i>Duelist 49'er</i>	Lefty, SASS #361 R.J. McRuger, SASS #46061
<i>Gunfighter</i>	Guy Wolf, SASS #53548
<i>L 49'er</i>	Not So Dead Eye Maverick, SASS #4435
<i>L Wrangler</i>	Molly McRuger, SASS #46062
<i>Senior</i>	Dead Eye Maverick, SASS #4434
<i>S Duelist</i>	Tenderfoot Henry, SASS #49307
<i>S Senior</i>	Skunk River, SASS #76029
<i>S S Duelist</i>	Singing Sandy Jim, SASS #47066
<i>Wrangler</i>	Maddog Mark, SASS #77911



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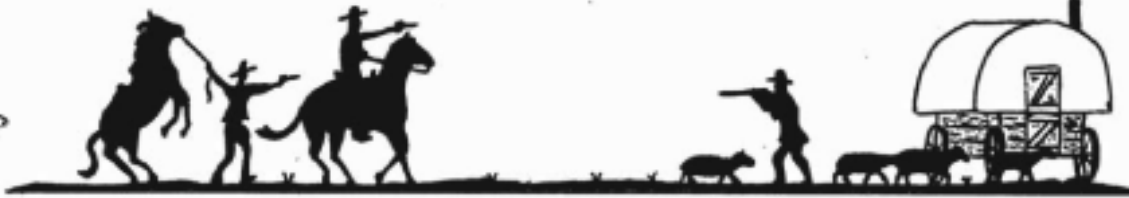
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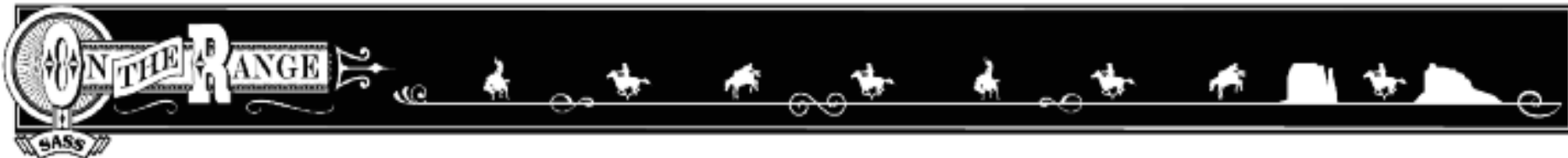
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# THE Melee ON THE Bay

## Long Island Cowboy Action Shooting™ Championship

By Deacon Henry, SASS #53503  
TG, The Shadow Riders, LINY

**W**esthampton Beach, Long Island, NY – The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Long Island Cowboy Action Shooting™ Championship, The Melee On The Bay, took place October 21 – 23, 2011.

The weather was outstanding, and we had fun. Friday was side matches and a three-stage Wild Bunch or Cowboy Action match. Saturday we shot six stages. Then it was off to the banquet at JC's

Restaurant. The Don Bikoff Jug Band was back as well as Brett Smith of T-Star leather, showing us some real fast and fancy gun handling. We were back on Sunday for the final four stages, top sixteen shoot off, and the awards ceremony. Vito of Gourmet to Go did a great job as the onsite caterer with killer breakfasts and lunches. Our numbers increased from last year, and folks came from as far as Idaho and New



Top Sixteen Shootoff

Mexico, also New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and of course, upstate New York and many Long Islanders. New faces on Sutlers' Row were The Carver (AKA Russ Michels), and Gunpowder Creek Trading Post (AKA Dutch Henry Brown). The pards were looking good getting their tintypes done by M&D Photographers as well as modern shots by P.T. Litewell.

Our theme this year was TV Westerns, so stay tuned and don't touch that dial! We joined up with The Hole In The Wall Gang, NY—our pards on Long Island—to present 10 TV Westerns from the 1950s and 1960s. Many westerns were broadcast during that time. Here are a few of our favorites:

Stage 1: 26-Men shootout at the poisoned water hole filled with water, adobe walls, cactus, steer skulls and scary skeletons. The rifle targets were a challenge. They were a little smaller and farther out than the usual, but the Nevada sweep with the shooter choosing the start sequence made it a cinch. A cinch you could be complacent over and miss! Don't ask me how I know.



It's important to keep your score.

Stage 2: Maverick had its bar. You sat at the poker table with the winning hand. The varmints were cheating so you dropped your cards, flipped the table, and drew your guns to let 'em have it. Moving to another table, you shot your rifle and then to the bar where a bar room shotgun should be. Here you blasted off the last of the cheaters.

Stage 3: Wagon Train settled in around a very realistic campfire for the evening. There you are facing up range with a coffee cup in hand and then it's time to fight some desperadoes.

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Long Island Cowboy Champions—  
Illustrated Man and Garnet Gal

Stage 4: The Lone Ranger where we kicked in the bunkhouse door. The door swung open and activated the swinger with bonus points for fast shooters.

Stage 5: Roy Rogers at the Double R Bar corral. With your hands on the gate, you pushed it aside and entered the corral. The highlight was the rifle sweep. In

front of the targets was a wooden watering trough filled with water. The bigger the caliber shot—the bigger the splash! That was fun, even with my Procedural. BTW if Deke Robertson shoots before you, don't watch him if you are unsure of the stage. Did I watch him and get a P? I'm not saying.

Stage 6: Gunsmoke with Dodge City. The Long Branch, Matt's Jail, Doc's office, and the law office of Arnold Firestone (AKA Six-Gun Arn Fire) were there, including other various store fronts and the church at the end of town. Walk (run) down Front Street and engage the bad guys through windows and doors ending at the Church for the final gunfight.

Stage 7: F-Troop and the attack on Fort Courage had you moving a bit. The final targets were six shotgun targets while defending the fort.

Stage 8: At the Wild, Wild West we engaged the rifle and shotgun targets from the train tracks and pump cart. Then it was



Melee overall winners—  
Illustrate Man from New York and  
Dancin' Angel from New Jersey

off the cart and down range to finish with your revolvers.

Stage 9: Shotgun Slade was in town. It was a fun stage with forward movement. It also included the Melee Sweep, a moniker from the Hole In The Wall Gang. Some pards asked about the Melee Sweep sequence, and I was able to explain it without a hiccup. I started the stage ... and then a

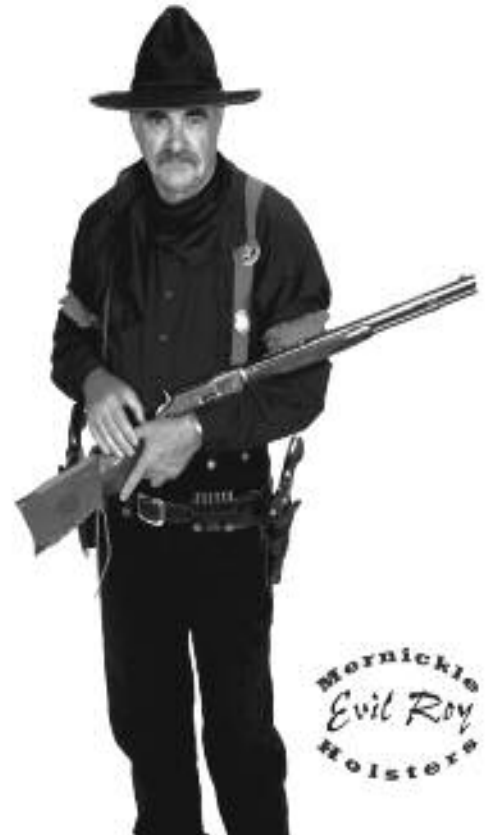
*(Continued on page 57)*



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**The Melee On The Bay . . .**



Winners			F C		
<b>Long Island Champions</b>			<i>Gunfighter</i>	Dead Head,	NH
<i>Man</i>	Illustrated Man, SASS #77202	NY		SASS #29768	
<i>Lady</i>	Garnet Gal, SASS #53738	NY	<i>Frontiersman</i>	Patchogue Mike, SASS #8626	NY
<b>Overall Winners</b>			<i>Gunfighter</i>	Dutch Cassidy, SASS #5252	NY
<i>Man</i>	Illustrated Man, SASS #77202	NY	<i>Senior</i>	Roy Cassidy, SASS #23458	NY
<i>Lady</i>	Dancin' Angel, SASS #53686	NJ	<i>L Senior</i>	Victoria Barkley, SASS #15634	NJ
<b>Category Champions</b>			<i>S Duelist</i>	Pecos Pav, SASS #36327	NJ
<i>B-Western</i>	Kohl Elder, SASS #78072	NY	<i>S Senior</i>	Rascal Rick, SASS #51258	ID
<i>L B Western</i>	Birdie Cage, SASS #32773	MA	<i>Wrangler</i>	Illustrated Man, SASS #77202	NY
<i>C Cowboy</i>	Just Plain Larry, SASS #13965	NY	<i>L Wrangler</i>	Shamrock Shelly, SASS #81112	NY
<i>Cowboy</i>	Art Reytis, SASS #88180	NY	<i>Young Gun</i>	Outlaw Jimmy Wales, SASS #49316	NY
<i>Duelist</i>	Stormy Roads, SASS #16198	NY	<b>Clean Shooters</b>		
<i>L Duelist</i>	Jersey Sue, SASS #46447	NJ	<i>Dead Head,</i>	SASS #29768	NH
<i>E Statesman</i>	Lupare Chenz, SASS #40013	PA	<i>James Harvey,</i>	SASS #24856	NY
<i>49'er</i>	Jesamy Kid, SASS #34381	NJ	<i>Just Plain Easy</i>	Mark, SASS #47803	NY
<i>L 49'er</i>	Dancin' Angel, SASS #53686	NJ	<i>Illustrated Man,</i>	SASS #77202	NY
<i>F C Duelist</i>	Just Plain Easy Mark, SASS #47803	NY	<i>Six-Gun Arn Fire,</i>	SASS #77713	NY
			<i>Stormy Roads,</i>	SASS #16198	NY
			<i>Turkey Creek Vic,</i>	SASS #80846	NY



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DUSTY LEVI'S...NJ-2009 GUNFIGHTER

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All dressed up for the Banquet



(Continued from page 55)

senior Duelist moment ... and another P for Deacon Henry. Yikes!

Stage 10: Have Gun Will Travel had you sending the wire to Paladin. At the telegraph office you dropped your silver dollar in the teller's slot and moved to three different props to engage the bad guys.

The Top Sixteen was very exciting! All of these shooters went full speed and when the smoke cleared, it was Long Island's Illustrated Man vs. New Jersey's Jesamy Kid. Folks, if you don't know these cowboys I will say you cannot find better than these two pards to represent Cowboy Action. So, they're off and running and it seemed like an eternity, but it was over in a flash. Illustrated Man won by a heartbeat or less. Congratulations to you both and the other Top 16 for a great show!

In closing a great big YEEEE-HAAAA for The Melee On The Bay! Thank you for attending The Second Annual Long Island Cowboy Action Shooting™ Championship. It was a pleasure to socialize and shoot with you. And, a big thank you for all our match sponsors!

Yes we are doing it again. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Long Island Cowboy Action Shooting™ Championship, The Melee On The Bay, will be held October 12 - 14 2012 at the LIPSA Range in Westhampton Beach, Long Island, NY. 🤠

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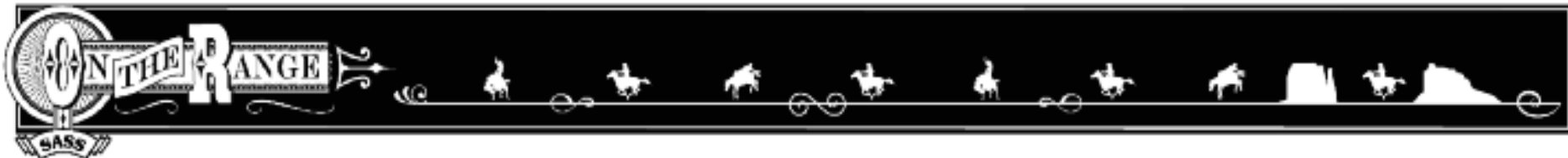
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# SASS NJ State Championship

# Purgatory 2011

**“Should’ve Been A Cowboy”**  
 by Toby Keith  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aIq1LvzSLsk&ob=av3e>

*Submitted by Deacon Will, SASS #24190*

**J**ackson, NJ – The lyrical admonition of Toby Keith beckons SASS members to live out their dreams ... “... wearing my six-shooter riding on a cattle drive.” The Jackson Hole Gang of Jackson, NJ gave Cowboy Action Shooters the opportunity during the weekend of 14-16, October, 2011 to at least in the spirit of the lyrics, live the dream.

The match theme was going on a cattle drive and to make the experience interesting, much effort was put into making props and building props and writing scenarios to take the competitors on an

imaginary trail drive, with plenty of shootin’ and fun. With incredible effort, the host club, Central Jersey Rifle and Pistol Club, has totally rebuilt the ranges where Cowboy Action Shooting™ matches are held. The berms were made higher, parking lot graveled, and grass planted to make this one of the premier ranges with options and plans to further improve and expand the facility.

There was plenty of food prepared by the Venture Scouts during the match, and a true BBQ prepared for all competitors for Saturday. (Continued on next page)

“I should’ve been a Cowboy  
 I should’ve learned to rope and ride  
 I’d be wearing my six-shooter riding my pony  
 on a cattle drive  
 Stealing the young girl’s hearts  
 Just like Gene and Roy  
 Singing those campfire songs  
 I should’ve been a cowboy”



Vendor's Row

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Winners			Categories		
<b>Top Gun</b>	James Samuel Pike, SASS #53331	CT	<b>Cowgirl</b>	Alamo, SASS #42496	NJ
<b>Overall</b>			<b>Cowboy</b>	Long Colt Tommy, SASS #68243	NY
<i>Lady</i>	Dancin Angel, SASS #53686	NJ		Cimarron Boca, SASS #7032	NJ
<i>Man</i>	Jesamy Kid, SASS #34841	NJ	<b>Dualist</b>	Gospel Gunslinger, SASS #39738	NY
<b>Categories</b>				Rico Creekview, SASS #83311	NJ
<i>49'er</i>	Jesamy Kid	NJ	<b>E Statesman</b>	Lupare Chenz, SASS #40013	PA
<i>Buckaroo</i>	Sheriff, SASS #72563	NJ		Captain Dan Roberts, SASS #15167	NJ
<i>Buckarette</i>	Baby Bella Hawk, SASS #92817	NJ	<b>F Cartridge</b>	Slowpoke John, SASS #45304	PA
<i>L B-Western</i>	Wyoming Schoolmarm, SASS #32071	DE		Pinelands Kid, SASS #53311	NJ
<i>C Cowboy</i>	Tom Payne, SASS #13115	NY	<b>F C Duelist</b>	Quaker Kid, SASS #61691	NJ
	Marshal Jacobey John, SASS #77140	NJ			



Doc Del Fuego – Notice the cap igniting just as the hammer is striking it ... and just before the charge in the cylinder ignites!



Annabelle Bransford,  
Lady 49'er Category Winner



(Continued from previous page)  
day night—a pig roast, slow cooked all day, and brisket and chicken that literally melted in your mouth.  
**Overall Match Winner was James Samuel Pike.** New Jersey State Champions were hus-

band and wife Team, Jesamey Kid and Dancin Angel.

**Clean Match Results:** Lefty Bob, Gospel Gunslinger, Lefty Colt, Flat Iron Frank, Dead Eye Dutch, Johnny Lone Star, and Cimarron Boca. 🐾



Jim Downing — Engraver



State Champions—  
Baby Bella Hawk,  
Buckalette, and  
Cimarron Boca, Cowboy



Buckaroos —  
Sheriff and J Everett Swan



Stage Props



Shootin' through the Bar Mirror ...



Overall State Champs—  
Dancin Angel (l) and Jesamey Kid (r).  
Overall Match Winner—  
Samuel Pike (c)



Some of the elaborate props built by the Jackson Hole Gang



Cemetery making smoke and fire while shooting Frontiersman

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Categories		Categories	
Frontiersman	Cemetery, SASS #72287 NJ	Senior	Vaquero Dan, SASS #31330 DE
Gunfighter	Bubba Bear, SASS #26793 PA		Flat Iron Frank, SASS #23826 NJ
	Doc in the Box, SASS #40647 NJ	S Duelist	Hoosier, SASS #44154 VA
L 49'er	Annabelle Bransford, SASS #11916 NY		Pecos Pav, SASS #36327 NJ
	Dancin' Angel NJ	Silver Senior	Rowdy Bill, SASS #9628 NY
L Duelist	Jersey Sue, SASS #46447 NJ		Dr. Doom, SASS #69253 NJ
L Senior	Hazel Pepper, SASS #49662 DE	Wrangler	James Samuel Pike CT
	Victoria Barkley, SASS #15634 NJ		Blazin' Gunn, SASS #6705 NJ
L Wrangler	Southpaw Slingin' Sally, SASS #39737 NY	L Young Gun	Maddy Sinclaire, SASS #55163 NJ
	Prairie Pearl, SASS #33268 NJ	Spirit of the Game 2011 Award	Navy Six, SASS #26385 NJ



Major Payne,  
SASS #86012



# Ruckus at Red Rocks!

By Major Payne, SASS #86012

**S**t. George, UT – I love words! Words have meaning, and I’ve noted we have a lot of words the dictionary now calls “Americanisms,” words we use in everyday speech, words that would “stupefy” (amaze, astound, and astonish”) many of our friends from other countries.

An “Americanism” is anything as a “custom or word that is peculiar to America.” One such word is “Ruckus.”

“Ruckus” is a “fracas” or a “rum-pus” and these words describe what happened at “Ruckus” at Red Rocks, April 19 – 21, 2012, the out-

standing shooting venue of the Dixie Desperados at the Southern Utah Shooting Sports Park, (SUSSP) near St. George, Utah.

I think all would agree this was a really great “shoot!” One hundred and thirty-five competitors is a good number for any club’s yearly event, and the shooters in this event had more fun than “a barrel of monkeys” (another Americanism).

The success of this match was, in no small measure, due to the “heroic” (“having or displaying the character or attributes of a hero—bold and determined”) efforts of Second Fiddle Sue, SASS #55872, and Blastmaster, SASS #47480. The words, bold and determined, describe this cowboy and cowgirl perfectly. Add friendly, courteous, and organized and you have the perfect match directors. All who partici-



Pistol Packin Paula provided some great entertainment at the Ruckus at Red Rock.

pated agreed the stages were built for fun and excitement! In this, the match directors truly succeeded!

The “Ruckus” got off to a great start with a bunch of really fun side matches. If there’s any greater

“shotgun challenge” venue in SASS, I’d be surprised! You stand on the “gallows” and shoot a knockdown target that sets a bowling ball rolling down, sending up a flyer (1 of 11 flyers) and a popup. You shoot another knockdown target, and that sends another bowling ball rolling left to right. While it’s rolling, you shoot two or three knockdown targets. The bowling ball then triggers a flyer—a total of 20 shots or so.

At the “Ruckus at Red Rocks,” there were 135 shooters, including 4 juniors, competing. 155 people later attended the banquet and awards party. Thirty percent (30%) of the shooters were women—some really good shooters and great ladies all! There were an amazing 54 participating sponsors for the event with gifts and gift certificates totaling \$5,400, including four revolvers

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### Winners

#### Overall Winners

Man Blastmaster, SASS #47480  
Lady Lefty Joe, SASS #18830

#### Top Gun

Man San Juan, SASS #1776  
Lady Lilly Long, SASS #81344

#### Categories

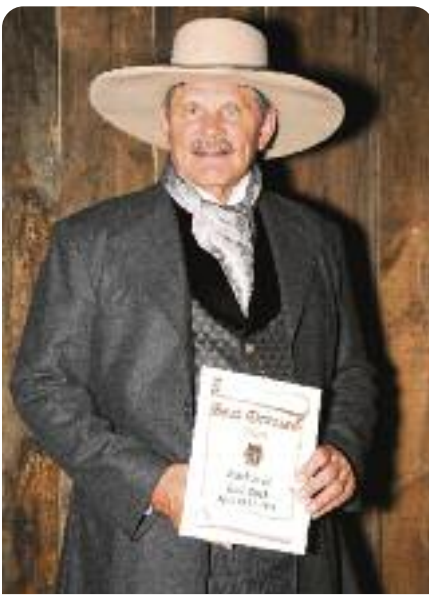
S Duelist Ruff Cobb, SASS #7548  
S Gunfighter Missouri River Kid, SASS #38088  
S Senior Diamond Jim Bandy, SASS #16884  
Wrangler Grubster, SASS #13972

#### Side Matches

Shotgun Challenge  
Man Ruff Cobb  
Lady Colorado Honey, SASS #72573  
Speed Lever Action Shotgun  
Alaskan, SASS #79504  
Speed SxS Shotgun  
Man Colt Heart, SASS #55206  
Lady Lefty Joe  
Speed Shotgun '97  
Man 12 Mile Reb, SASS #30634  
Lady Missy Mabel, SASS #35458  
Speed .22 Rifle  
Wolf Windwalker, SASS #36748 and Rusty Razor, SASS #90266

### Side Matches

Speed .22 Revolver  
Man Rusty Razor  
Lady Lilly Long  
Speed Pistol Caliber Rifle  
Man 12 Mile Reb  
Lady Missy Mable  
The Long Range Pistol Caliber Rifle  
Man Missouri River Kid, SASS #38088  
Lady Dixie Bell, SASS #5366  
Speed Pistol  
Man Mokaac Kid #78721  
Lady Lefty Jo  
Long Range Pistol  
Man 12 Mile Reb  
Lady Lilly Long  
Derringer  
Man Rusty Razor  
Lady Dixie Bell  
Pocket Pistol  
Man Jubal Sackett, SASS #22531  
Lady Junction Jan, SASS #57689  
Costume Contests  
Best Dressed  
Man Shiloh, SASS #13171  
Lady Anita Gun, SASS #92434  
Couple Short Stock, SASS #55075 and Red Rock, SASS #44465  
Working Costume  
Cowboy Two Shot, SASS #39599  
Cowgirl Runamuck Kate, SASS #86475



**Best Dressed Man – Shiloh**

tainly, the toilet seat! I reckon you read that right! So, here's the story. The traveling Toilet Seat was started by the Revenge of Montezuma Cowboy Action Shooting™ club in Cortez, Colorado in 2011. They began by saying they had replaced their old toilet seats at the club "out house." Apparently, the old one was washed and sanitized, and they decided they would give it to some lucky person by random draw. The first award of this comfortable mechanism went to Dixie Bell, SASS #5366. Well, it was a really fun idea, so Dixie autographed it and kept it among her most

(three .38 caliber and one .45 LC caliber), two Stoeger side by side shotguns, two pistols from Cobra, one with holster. Other significant prizes included a brass tumbler and 10 boxes of ammunition, a turquoise necklace, bracelet, and earrings. There were two knives and two leather shotgun slides, three screw knives, a set of shooting sticks and two site covers, a Kendal computer, a set of leather cowboy leg coverings, a hidden gun concealment clock, a 1911 BB gun, a \$300 gift certificate, and much more.

I think the most clever ("showing inventiveness or originality") and unique ("having no like, or equal") presentation was most cer-



**Overall Winners – Blastmaster and Lefty Jo**

prized possessions! Then, she thought, "Gee, this was fun," so she got the idea to start a tradition of passing on this very beautiful (and useful) piece of art. So, at the Ruckus at Red Rocks, she put a nice a bow and ribbon on it and, during the awards banquet, held a drawing. The lucky winner was Angry Ned, SASS #88768. Ned



**Top Guns – San Juan and Lily Long**

now puts his "John Henry" on the toilet seat and, at a most propitious time and place Angry Ned will cheerfully pass it on to some, as yet, unsuspecting cowboy or cowgirl. Hmhmhmhm. I wonder who that will be? Anyway, as Dixie Bell said, "I was taught to be polite and say, "Thank You," when receiving a gift (even if you do not want it) and accept it with grace, and Angry Ned



**Best Working Cowboy and Cowgirl – Two Shot and Runamuck Kate, and Best Dressed Lady – Anita Gun**



**Best Dressed Couple – Red Rock and Short Stock**

did the same.

The perfect ending of a great match took place at Cotton Town Village, in Washington, Utah, which (Continued on page 69)

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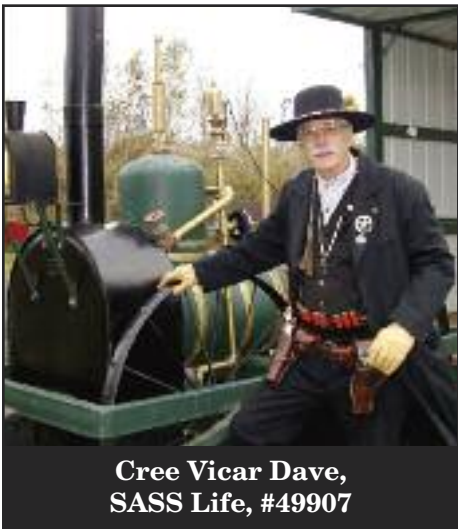
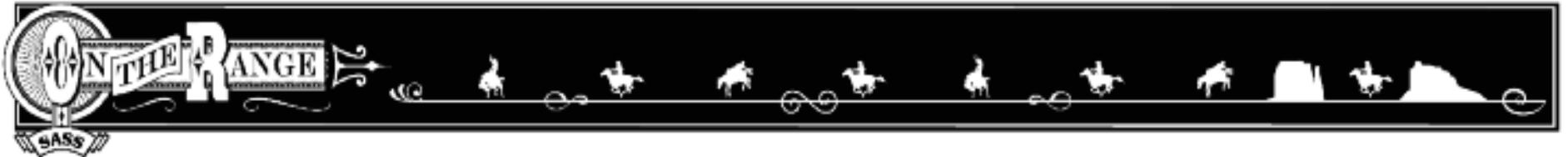
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**AUGUST EVENTS CALENDAR**

- WEST COAST**
- Rae Bros, 247 E. Main St. Grangeville, ID 83530 208-983-2677 - Aug 2
  - Tri-States Outfitters, 120 Thain Rd. Lewiston, ID 83501 208-746-5307 - Aug 3
  - Tri-States Outfitters, 1104 Pullman Rd. Moscow, ID 83843 208-882-4555 - Aug 4
  - Tri-States Outfitters, 1224 S. Pioneer Way Moses Lake, WA 98837 509-765-9338 - Aug 5
  - White Elephant Surplus, 1730 N. Division St. Spokane, WA 99207 509-328-3150 - Aug 10-11
  - Shedhorn Sports, 103 W. Main St. Ennis, MT 59729 406-682-4198 - Aug 18-19
  - Steel Gun & Pawn, 519 S. Utah Ave. Idaho Falls, ID 83402 208-542-6223 - Aug 30-31
- CROSS COUNTRY TRUCK**
- Sodak Sports, 850 S. Highway 281 Aberdeen, SD. 605-225-2737 - Aug 3-5
  - I & M Hardware, 128 W. Main St. Beulah, ND. 58523 Ph# 701-873-4318 - Aug 7
  - Scenic Sports, 1200 E. Broadway Williston, ND. 58801 - Aug 3/10-11
  - Dry Dock Sports, 730 4th Ave. Carrington, ND. 58421 701-652-2421 - Aug 17-18
  - Rocky Mtn. Discount Sports, 1351 Cy Ave. Casper, WY 82604 - Aug 24-25
  - The Outdoorsmen, 632 Big Horn World, WY 82401 307-347-2891 - Aug 30-31

- EAST COAST**
- Hidden Valley Outdoors, 47694 Reservoir Road Saint Clairesville, OH. 43950 - Aug 4
  - Pembroke Stop and Save, 138 Grill Road Pembroke, VA. 24536 - Aug 7-8
  - Green Top, 10193 Washington Hwy. Glen Allen, VA. 23059 - Aug 10-12
  - Reed's, 522 Minnesota Ave. E. Walker, MN. 56484 - Aug 17-19
  - Ace Hardware, Tomah, WI. - Aug 22
  - Ace Hardware, 2350 8th Str. South Wisconsin Rapids, WI. 54494 - Aug 25
  - The Fisherman's Corner, 5675 Miller Trunk Hwy. Duluth, MN. 55811 - Aug 29
  - Timberline Sporting Goods, 209 Summit Ave. West Blackduck, MN. 56630 - Aug 31-Sept 1
- Don and Jan Schaeffer have traveled all around the US with a state of the art promotional vehicle. Their work has included showcasing/sales for a major ammunition manufacturer as well as promoting sales in handguns, long guns and optics. They bring with them many years of experience in sales and marketing performance along with a passion to provide friendly customer service to outdoor enthusiasts.
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Cree Vicar Dave,  
SASS Life, #49907

# 3rd Annual FISHER CHARITY MATCH HOUSE

• March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 •

## Sponsored by BAYOU BOUNTY HUNTERS

By Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907

**A**mite, LA – For the past three years the Bayou Bounty Hunters have held a benefit shoot for the Military. The Bounty Hunters share the range with the Florida Parrish Skeet Club located a few miles outside of Amite, Louisiana. All the proceeds from this match go to the “Fisher House.” The Fisher House Program builds and operates “Comfort Homes” close to hospitals on Military Bases and near VA Medical Centers. These Comfort Homes provide a place for family members to stay when traveling to visit their retired and active duty loved ones who are in need of medical care. The visiting family members stay at these facilities free of charge. Besides money raised by the Annual Match entry fees there are also individuals, other clubs, and companies who add to the total amount given.

The match was a little more



Some of the guncarts were sporting the Flag in support of our troops.

laid back then most shoots. Friday featured Long Range Shooting, Cowboy Skeet, and Short Range Action. The main match followed with six stages on Saturday and four on Sunday. Rattlesnake Blake, SASS #8402, wrote the scenarios for the stages. Each story line made reference to a past or present military conflict. There was some concern about inclement weather, but Praise God, all we got was a few clouds that helped shade the shooters.

After the first six stages on Saturday, there was a gathering  
*(Continued on next page)*



Posse picture of the Cowpokes that came to the benefit shoot for Fisher House. There were 39 shooters in all. There are also many other donors who give to this worthy cause.

### Winners

#### The Top Shooters

<i>Man</i>	Macon A Longshot, SASS #81327
<i>Lady</i>	Diamond Lilly, SASS #20005

#### Categories

<i>49'er</i>	Parson Delacroix, SASS #38863
<i>Buckarett</i>	Chantilly Lace, SASS #93323
<i>Cowboy</i>	Macon A Longshot, SASS #81327
<i>C Cowboy</i>	Kisatchie Moon, SASS #82723
<i>Duelist</i>	Marshal Big Daddy Jenks, SASS #66849
<i>E Statesman</i>	El Otro Doc, SASS #58695
<i>Frontiersman</i>	Oliver Loving, SASS #72721
<i>Gunfighter</i>	Crazy Emmitt, SASS #12932
<i>L 49'er</i>	Mountain Laurel, SASS #85813
<i>L B-Western</i>	Concho Pearl, SASS #81328
<i>L Duelist</i>	Runnin Rose, SASS #71726
<i>L F Cartridge</i>	Cameo Rose, SASS #18029
<i>L Senior</i>	Diamond Lilly, SASS #20005
<i>L Wrangler</i>	Steele Magnolia, SASS #87613
<i>Senior</i>	Leatherneck, SASS #22173
<i>S Duelist</i>	Rattlesnake Blake, SASS #8402
<i>Wrangler</i>	Goofus Macotter, SASS #81991
<i>Young Gun</i>	Catahoula Kid, SASS #93324
<b>Clean Match</b>	Copperhead Charlie, SASS #71725

Copperhead Charlie was awarded a bar of Cowboy Soap for his fine effort!



(Continued from previous page)  
 at the Clubhouse where pizza and refreshments were distributed. Sunday morning started with breakfast, then Cowboy Church. The Vicar's Wife led the singing while Cree Vicar Dave accompanied on the Do Bro. Old Time hymns

were sung and a special was offered by the Vicar's Wife and Cree Vicar Dave entitled "I've Got More to Go to Heaven For." A short sermon by the Vicar promoting prayer for our Country followed. It says in **2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)**<sup>14</sup> if my people, who are called by my name, will



The Vicar's Wife directed the singing while the Vicar accompanied on the Do Bro. The Vicar's Wife and Cree Vicar also sang a duet, "I've Got More To Go To Heaven For."

leather patches with an Eagle stamped on them were just as prestigious as a bronze plaque to everyone who received one, especially knowing that participating in the event helped those who raise their hand and pledge to "support and

Continued on page 65 ... along with more **HIGHLIGHTS**



There were several campers at the match. The range offers a few campsites with electric and/or water.

humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

The four stages on Sunday went by quickly and the cowpokes gathered in the Clubhouse for the awards ceremony. Since all the proceeds for the shoot went to the Fisher House, the category awards were kept to a minimum. Small



Top shooters were Macon A. Longshot, SASS #81327, and Diamond Lilly, SASS #20005. Congratulations!

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## My Experience At The Junior National Young Leaders Conference . . .

(Continued from page 45)

fight it, much like the veterans in the memorials we saw earlier.

**Monday - Day Three:** After our morning Leadership Focus Group Meeting, we were off to visit Harper's Ferry, where we learned about John Brown. We toured the area and learned about Civil War and Loyalties: Choices and Consequences. This tied into our lesson about teamwork because John Brown gathered people to help him fight slavery. Later, we had to decide if we would follow John Brown or not. It was a tough decision, but I think I would have followed him.

After a long day of touring, we went back to our Leadership Focus Group Meeting and learned more about how leaders have to work as a team with others to succeed. We played some fun games involving teamwork and research solutions. In one of these games, the teacher would say a word and we had to sing a song involving that word.

**Tuesday - Day Four:** At the morning Leadership Focus Group Meeting, we reviewed what we learned in the past few days. After class, we went on a walking tour of Capital Hill to tour the Capitol Building and take lots of pictures.

Inside the dome there were painted pictures of soldiers and well-known people who were leaders. Sadly, I didn't get to meet any people of Congress.

Next, we went on the bus to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial. After reading all of his famous quotes, I saw a very tall carving of him in a huge piece of rock. On both sides of him, there were two plain pieces of huge rock, which stood for Martin Luther King Jr. breaking through the mountain of segregation. Martin Luther King Jr. stood for respect and wanted blacks and whites alike to be respected and to respect each other.

The second memorial we went to was the Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial. One of the facts I learned was he was diagnosed with a disease (polio) that almost ended his career for good! I really enjoyed both of these memorials and I would like to visit them again. At our evening Leadership Focus Group Meeting, we learned about how leaders should have problem solving skills and should respect others.

**Wednesday - Day Five:** After getting my entire luggage packed, we listened to a speaker named Blair Smoak who encouraged us to

go after our passion and not to let challenges stop us. At a young age, he was homeless, but decided he was going to follow his dream and get a good education despite his situation. He was successful in achieving his goal of graduating college. Now, he encourages others, including me, to get a good education and go for dreams no matter what situation someone finds themselves in. After hearing his speech, I realized how he has applied all the knowledge I had learned throughout the week to become a better leader.

Next, I went to Leadership Focus Group Meeting and continued to learn about how each leader has his own character and his own way of doing things. Finally, my classmates and I went to the Maryland Science Center for a sleepover. They had a lot of awesome things involving science! We did many activities including one where I sat on

a chair and was able to pull myself up easily with the use of a pulley system. It was cool to experience science in a different way.

**Thursday - Day Six:** My classmates and I headed back to the 4H center for our final Leadership Focus Group Meeting, and then went to meet our families again. When my family arrived, I was so happy to see them. I missed them terribly. I would love to go back to Washington, D.C. Perhaps I could return as the President or another kind of leader. I was exhausted, but happy to be flying home!

I would like to thank all of my family and friends for supporting me in this wonderful experience. I learned so much about what it means to be a diligent, respectful person and how this makes a truly great leader. The lessons I learned, along with the rich history I experienced, was priceless. 🐾

## Geronimo (Pt. 2) . . .

(Continued from page 40)

their infantry up in two lines, with the cavalry in reserve. The Apaches were in the timber, and the Mexicans advanced until within about four hundred yards. The Mexicans halted and opened fire. Within moments Geronimo led a charge against them, and, at the same time, he sent some braves to attack the Mexican rear.

Throughout the battle, Geronimo thought of his murdered mother, wife, and babies; he remembered his father's grave and his vow of vengeance, and Geronimo fought with fury. Many fell by his hand. Without hesitation Geronimo led the advance. Many Indians were killed. The battle lasted about two hours.

At the last, four Indians—Geronimo and three other warriors—were alone in the center of the field of battle. Their arrows were all gone; their spears broken off in the bodies of dead enemies. They had only their hands and knives with which to fight, but all who had stood against them were dead. Then two armed Mexican soldiers came upon the four from another part of the field. The Mexicans shot down two of the braves and Geronimo and the remaining Indian took flight toward their compatriots at the edge of the field of battle. Geronimo's companion was struck down by a Mexican saber, but Geronimo reached his fellow warriors, seized a spear, and

turned. The Mexican soldier who pursued Geronimo missed his aim and fell by Geronimo's spear. Geronimo then confronted the Mexican trooper who had killed his companion and they grappled and fell. Geronimo killed him with his knife and quickly rose over his body, brandishing the Mexican's saber, looking for other troopers to kill. There were none. But the Apaches had observed what Geronimo had done. Over the bloody field, covered with the bodies of Mexicans, rang the fierce Apache war-whoop.

Still covered with the blood of his enemies, still holding his conquering weapon, still hot with the joy of battle, victory, and vengeance, Geronimo was surrounded by the Apache braves and made war chief of all the Apaches. Then Geronimo gave orders to scalp the slain.

Geronimo could not call back his loved ones. Geronimo could not bring back the dead Apaches, but Geronimo could rejoice in this revenge. The Apaches had avenged the massacre of Kas-ki-yeh.

### SOURCES

Barrett, S.M., ed., *Geronimo's Story of His Life*. New York: Duffield, 1906

*Geronimo*, Stephen Melvil Barrett, and Frederick W. Turner. *Geronimo: his own story*. New York: Penguin, 1996.

*Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835, is a social and cultural historian, founder of the Lincoln County Regulators in Ruidoso, New Mexico, and purveyor of the official SASS coffee: Cowboy Action Coffee. 🐾*

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### 3rd Annual Fisher House Charity Match (Sponsored by Bayou Bounty Hunters) . . .

(Continued from page 63)  
defend the Constitution ...”



The officiating of the awards was handled by Soiled Dove, SASS #17365, Cameo Rose, SASS #18029, and Crazy Emmitt, SASS #12932.

When all the proceeds were counted (from the shoot and donors), it added up to well over \$8,000(!) ... a goodly amount, con-

sidering today's economy. The Fisher House Match is a great way to support our military. If you happen to be in the neighborhood next time around, stop in and shoot a spell. By doing so, you could help out a very worthy program and have a great time ta boot.

God bless our troops.  
[creevicardave@hotmail.com](mailto:creevicardave@hotmail.com)





## SASS® Presents "Smokeout at South River"

### The 2012 Southeast Territorial Black Powder Championship

Hosted by South River Shootists and South River Gun Club Covington, Georgia  
August 31st - September 2nd, 2012

SASS Rules apply. Must be a SASS Member in good standing to shoot. All contestants must shoot black powder or a SASS approved black powder substitute.  
Please fill out completely and clearly (use separate application for family members and attach)

Name (Participant) \_\_\_\_\_ Alias \_\_\_\_\_ SASS # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry Deadline is August 6, 2012 for match, camping and Saturday night dinner.** Match officials may combine categories of less than five entrants.  
 This is a 10 stage match. Side matches and warm up stage will be offered on Friday, August 31.  
 Shooter packets must be picked up before the shooters meeting on Saturday, September 1, 2012.  
 Additional information can be found at our website "www.southrivergunclub.com/cowboystation/2012smokeout".

<p style="font-size: x-small; text-align: center;">Please Indicate or Circle Gender/Pistol Loads Used/Category</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Male    <input type="checkbox"/> Female    <input type="checkbox"/> Black Powder Cartridge Pistols    <input type="checkbox"/> Black Powder Cap &amp; Ball Pistols  <input type="checkbox"/> Buckaroo/rette (13 &amp; under)    <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (14 - 16)    <input type="checkbox"/> Cowboy/girl (all ages)    <input type="checkbox"/> Wrangler (36+)    <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (60+)    <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Senior (65+)  <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Statesman/Grand Dame (70+)    <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer (75+)    <input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cartridge    <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Frontier Cartridge (60+)    <input type="checkbox"/> 49er (49+)  <input type="checkbox"/> Gunfighter    <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Gunfighter (60+)    <input type="checkbox"/> Classic Cowboy/girl    <input type="checkbox"/> Duellist    <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Duellist (50+)    <input type="checkbox"/> Frontiersman    <input type="checkbox"/> Renegade                 </p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Posse assignments will be made on a first come first serve basis with every effort made to meet the shooter's request</p> <p>PLEASE POSSE ME WITH (if Possible): _____</p> <p>ARE YOU: <input type="checkbox"/> TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR    <input type="checkbox"/> ROI    <input type="checkbox"/> ROII    <input type="checkbox"/> ROII INSTRUCTOR    <input type="checkbox"/> WILLING TO BE POSSE MARSHAL</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Send Payment &amp; Applications to South River Shootists c/o Max Robinson (Man from Little River SASS 50045), 435 Radcliffe Trace, Covington, GA 30016. Make all checks payable to SRGC (South River Gun Club). Contact Info: Man from Little River, Tel: 678-428-4240, Email: "gakan123@bellsouth.net" Confirmation will be sent by email (Or USPS if no email) upon receipt of application.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Entry Fees</b></p> <p>_____ \$70.00 Main Shooter</p> <p>_____ \$60.00 Spouse or S/O</p> <p>_____ \$35.00 Junior</p> <p>_____ Free _____ Buckaroo/Buckarett</p> <p>_____ \$30.00 Conventioneer</p> <p>_____ \$15.00 Side matches/Warmup</p> <p>_____ \$10.00 Dry Camp/day(shower)</p> <p>_____ \$25.00 Camp/day    Water/electric/ shower</p> <p>_____ \$20.00 Sat. BBQ dinner/ range</p> <p>_____ \$5.00 SASS Admin Fee</p> <p>_____ 3.5% credit card fee</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: x-small;">Total all fees</p>
--	--

<p><b>PAYMENT BY:</b>                  _____ CHECK    _____ MONEY ORDER    _____ CREDIT CARD (3.5% FEE WILL BE ADDED)                  Name on card: _____                  _____ Visa    _____ MasterCard    _____ AmEx    _____ Discover                  CARD# _____ Expiration date _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Official Use Only</b></p> <p>Date received _____</p> <p>Amount Paid _____</p> <p>Check Number _____</p> <p>Posse number _____</p>
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# Murietta Posse and COWBOY TOWN

## Back to my Roots

**R**ancho Murietta, CA – After moving back to Northern California in January of this year, I shot a match with Medford, Oregon’s “Table Rock Rangers.” The fun I had with the Table Rock Rangers lured me back into active shooting status. This ended a three-year hiatus from Cowboy Action Shooting™ that started in 2009, while I was living in the southern Midwest. After a month or two of getting settled back in the Sunshine State, I decided to “go back to my roots,” so to speak, and shoot again with the gang at Murietta Posse.

When I started Cowboy Action Shooting™ way back in 1994, the first match I actually shot was at Yolo with the River City Regula-

tors. Wild Bill Briscoe and Diamond Dick shepherded Sacramento Johnson and me through that first match, ensuring we did not make total fools of ourselves. The second match I shot, though, was with the Murietta Posse by Rancho Murietta at the Sacramento Valley Shooting Center. Many of the shooters from my first match at Yolo (including Wild Bill Briscoe and Diamond Dick) were also at that Murietta match.

My armory in those early days

*By Tuolumne Lawman, SASS Life #6127*



consisted of a used Rossi hammered double coach gun in 12 gauge, an equally used Rossi 1892 clone in .44-40, and an 1875 Remington and EMF Dakota, both in .44-40. Already being a reloader with a LEE turret press with auto-index, switching to loading .44-40 ammunition was easy.

There is no way to say how many matches I have enjoyed with the Murietta Posse since that first couple matches. In fact, during the period from 2000 to 2007, when I lived in Grass Valley, Murietta Posse was the shoot I frequented most. Back in the day, I shot with the likes of Wild Bill Briscoe, Diamond Dick, Boss Hayes, Frolicking Fred, Two Bears, Sacramento Johnson, River City Gun Runner, Hangin Judge Hemp, Sutter Lawman, Rio Justice, Shenandoah, Abi-

lene Drifter, Black Jack Traven, Maggie Hunter, Badlands Bud, Coyote Creek Mike, Allie Mo, Southpaw, Wild Root, Jasper, Mossy Horn, and Howdy Doodie. Some of these folks are still active in Cowboy Action, others are not. Sadly, some have passed away like Wildroot and Rio Justice. Those were good times, though, and I still savor them.

As I discussed in another club report, there have been lots of changes in Cowboy Action Shooting™ and SASS in the last 18 years since I joined SASS. Back then, SASS was a much different, and a much smaller organization. Cowboy Action Shooting™ was still in its infancy in many ways. The official Handbook back then was a 3 ½ inch by 5 inch pamphlet, about 1/8 inch thick! Our stages had goofy lines, activities like tossing

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Sacramento Valley Shooting Center is a world-class facility with many private “member only” ranges. We also permit public access to our 100 and 300 yard rifle ranges, as

well as our 50 yard pistol and .22 rim fire steel silhouette range.”

This facility is home to “Cowboy Town,” a dedicated Cowboy Action Shooting Facility shared by six Cowboy Action Shooting clubs: The Murietta Posse, California Rangers, Gold Country Wild Bunch, The Outlaws, Shady Ladies, and the Sloughhouse Irregulars. Cowboy Town consists of six large shooting bays, each capable of housing two Cowboy Action Shooting™ stages at a time, for a potential of 12 stages being possible. Generally only three bays are used, setting up six stages. Cowboy Town has a wonderful, permanent Old West town façade in the shooting bays, with some of the best designed Cowboy Action Shooting™ stage sets I have ever seen.

The Murietta Posse is the oldest of the six clubs at Cowboy Town. It was started in the early 1990s by a group of early SASS members including Boss Hayes, Diamond Dick, and Dark Alley Jim. Initially they held their  
*(Continued on page 70)*

dynamite and riding barrel horses, wearing a woman’s bonnet and holding a frying pan, shooting the mayor’s chickens, and shooting a rope in half. It was great fun.

Cowboy Action Shooting™’s emphasis has definitely shifted away from these roots, moving to an emphasis on close targets and shooting speed. Stages now have fewer props with more straightforward shooting stages, rather than a series of vignettes towards a common theme as they were in the early days. These changes did not happen all at once, but rather it was a slow evolution over a period of years.

In 1994, “Spirit of the Game” and the “John Wayne Test” were the ultimate benchmarks for SASS legality, and accuracy of the shooter with the firearms was very important. No one had ever heard

of short stroke kits, titanium 1873 firing pins, and aluminum lifters. Now they are common items. (In my personal experience, though, truly great shooters are “great” whether they use these modifications or not). The Murietta Posse’s matches reflect these changes in SASS in its matches, while still retaining much of those early roots.

The Murietta Posse is actually a member shooting discipline of the Folsom Shooting Club, Inc. at the Sacramento Valley Shooting Center. The Shooting Center is located east of Rancho Murietta, just south of the Jackson Highway (SR16). The Sacramento Shooting Center facility is absolutely state of the art, and besides Cowboy Action Shooting™, caters to every conceivable shooting discipline. The Folsom Shooting Club’s website says it best:



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## TX Tumbleweed



# Texas Tumbleweeds Shootout at Dead Man's Curve

By Masked Rider, SASS Life #90653, and Eli Blue, SASS #53766

**A**marillo, TX – Located at Dead Man's Curve, just west of Amarillo, is one the newest SASS clubs in the Great State of Texas. On April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012, a loyal band of Cowboy Action Shooters came from all parts to participate in the Texas Tumbleweed's Inaugural Shoot. Club founders Blacksmith Jim, SASS Life #68489, Dead R Alive, SASS #22983, Cayenne, SASS #70398, and Long Hunter, SASS Life #20389, were as nervous as new papas (and mamas) trying to get everything set for their first match. They were well prepared. From the opening line of the first stage—"It's been a long time

comin'!—everything went off without a hitch.

Wanting the event to be a memorable one, they planned something unexpected. They coordinated with Mother Nature and special ordered a light breeze (30–40 mph winds) and mild temperatures (30–45 degrees)! Nearly every shooter was unprepared for the elements, as they left their coats, dusters, and ponchos back at the ranch. But they didn't stop there. The hosts went so far as to give everyone location-themed elegant parting gifts in the form of West Texas dirt!

I think everyone on hand  
(Continued on next page)



Long Hunter shootin' fast, with Jakobit Jack, SASS #25504, on the timer.

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Winners		Categories	
<b>Overall</b>	Long Hunter, SASS #Life 20389	L Wrangler	Panhandle Cowgirl
Cowboy		49'er	Long Hunter
Cowgirl	Panhandle Cowgirl, SASS #77924	Senior	Rebel Bill, SASS #75430
<b>Categories</b>		S Senior	Colecreek, SASS #48820
Junior	Comanche Tom, SASS #77925	L S Senior	Flossie, SASS #48821
Cowboy	Bootstrap Jason, SASS #68755	Duelist	Eli Blue, SASS #53766
Cowgirl	Grumpy in the Morning, SASS #54067	B-Western	Masked Rider, SASS Life #90653
Wrangler	Jakobit Jack, SASS #25504		

### Texas Tumbleweeds . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*  
would agree the elements couldn't slow anyone down. Nearly 30 shooters enjoyed the camaraderie and scenery—including some fitting fast-moving tumbleweeds! Six stages later, spirits were still high, and Long Hunter and Panhandle Cowgirl, SASS #77924, were recognized as the Top Cowboy and Cowgirl shooters of this

club's first match.  
Keep an eye on this bunch as they have a big potential of becoming a spotlight SASS club for north Texas. The Texas Tumbleweeds already have a dedicated following. They welcome all shooters to their range. Keep them in mind on the way to END of TRAIL—they are only a few days trail drive east of Founders Ranch! 🐾

### Ruckus at Red Rocks! . . .

*(Continued from page 61)*  
has a wonderful Old West setting, where the catered dinner was chuckwagon good and a good time was had by all. The evening was capped by the costume contest that was a sight to behold. Good-looking

cowboys and cowgirls, gamblers, handsome couples, and beautiful ladies abounded!  
If you missed out on this fabulous event, don't miss next year. It will be even bigger and better! You heard it here first! 🐾

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## The Murietta Posse and Cowboy Town . . .

(Continued from page 67)

matches in a different area of the Sacramento Valley Shooting Center facility they shared with Action Pistol disciplines. The California Rangers (a neighboring SASS club that had been using a different area of the Sacramento Valley Shooting Center after losing their shooting facility on the nearby Van Vleck Ranch), joined with the Murietta Posse around 2005 and developed a new Cowboy Town to be shared by both clubs, shooting on alternate weekends.

Subsequently four more clubs joined with Murietta Posse and California Rangers at Cowboy Town. By combining the resources of the six clubs, they have been able to create a Cowboy Action Shooter's dream: A state of the art, dedicated Cowboy Action Shooting™ facility with one or two matches every weekend! This makes for a unique opportunity for us Cowboy Action Shooting™ shooters in the Sacramento area. If you can't make a particular

match because the wife's family is in town visiting, just do the match the following week. My long time acquaintance, Sutter Lawman, was elected "Sheriff" of the six clubs, and he is responsible for overseeing and coordinating the activities of all six club's matches.

I have found the Northern California and Southern Oregon Cowboy Action Shooters are some of the friendliest, most courteous Pardes and Pardettes with which to shoot. For me, a barometer for "Spirit of the Game" is the old "John Wayne Test" from the early days of SASS. I think John Wayne would have enjoyed it at Murietta!

The Murietta Posse has some incredibly talented shooters, who would be great competitors, even without any fancy equipment. I have known Murietta Posse's Territorial Governor, Badlands Bud, since he was a Buckaroo shooting .22s with Kings River Regulators at Fort Miller. He has grown into a fine man, and world class SASS competitor. He can shoot his

slicked up 1866 as fast as I can shoot a semi-auto rifle like my M-1 carbine or AR-15! With that said, he is both helpful and humble when dealing with new shooters.

"Spirit of the Game" was alive and well at Murietta Posse, though the targets are big enough and close enough to make any speed shooter smile. I did still manage to miss two pistol targets, though. It is true—NO target is too close to miss! Every stage was fun, challenging, and satisfying. Normal attendance at Murietta matches runs about thirty shooters. It can be up to forty plus, from what I have seen in the past.

The oldest shooters at Murietta are Elder Statesmen (Cattle Baron) Mossy Horn, Preacher Joe, and De Sabla Don. The youngest is a Buckarett named Morgnz Ann Ammo, who by all accounts is a rising star in Cowboy Action.

The Club Officers for the Murietta Posse are:  
 President: Grizzly Peak Jake  
 Vice President: Black Jack Traven  
 Territorial Governor:  
 Badlands Bud  
 Match Director: Sutter Lawman

Match fees are \$15 for non-members, \$10 for members of the Folsom Shooting Club. Murietta Posse's match is every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at the Sacramento Valley Shooting Center's Cowboy Town. Shooters meeting and registration start at 8:30 AM, and the match starts at 9:00 AM.

The Murietta Posse collaborates with the other five clubs at Cowboy Town for an annual match. It is called "Dry Gulch at Arroyo Cantua," after the incident on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1853 where Harry Love and the California Rangers killed bandito chieftain Joaquin Murietta and his lieutenant, Three Finger Jack at Arroyo Cantua in what was then San Benito County. The Dry Gulch Arroyo Cantua match is generally held the last weekend in April.

Cowboy Town's address is:  
 Sacramento Valley Shooting Center  
 5501 Meiss Road,  
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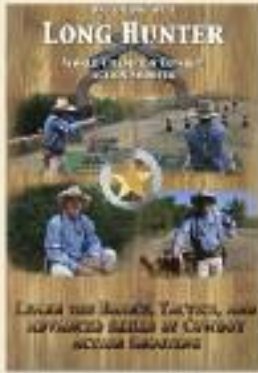
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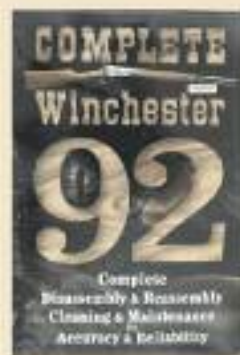


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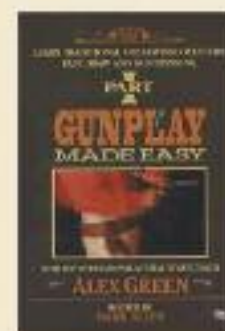
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**SASS Cowboy Action Shooting 2012 Design!**  
Navy Deluxe Ball Cap with Cowboy Action Shooting Cross Pistol Design.  
**\$19.95**



**Leather Pocket Badge Holder with Chain**  
For the service members, Hand stamped and stitched. Has pocket for identification. Comes with chain  
In black only!  
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**SASS Ammunition**  
250 Round Match Bag of .38 Special, .45 ACP, and .45 Colt SASS Ammunition.  
125 Round Nose Flat Point loaded to 700 FPS. Perfect for Cowboy Action Shooting in a convenient match bag.  
**.38 Special \$125.00 (250 rounds)**  
**.45 ACP \$125.00 (250 rounds)**  
**.45 Colt \$150.00 (250 rounds)**



**New**  
*Mernickle Holster Wild Bunch System Now with SASS Marshal logo!*  
**The SASS marshal logo is now available on the Mernickle Holster Wild Bunch System.** Get the popular Mernickle Holster Wild Bunch System and components but with the added benefit of the stamped SASS Marshal on it. Only through the SASS Mercantile will you be able to get this specialized custom rig. Please specify right or left hand pull.  
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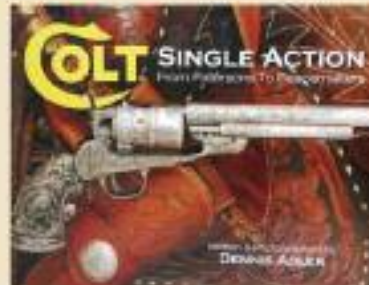
# BOOKS



**Buffalo Bill's Wild West, An American Legend**  
 By R.L. Wilson and Greg Martin  
 Featuring the Michael Del Castello Collection of the American West -Hardcover- No Theme in History has captured the imagination like the American West, and no presentation of the drama surpassed the original Wild West shows. In this unparalleled theater, the cast of characters were themselves authentic heroes: Buffalo Bill Cody, Texas Jack Omohundro, Wild Bill Hickok, Captain A.H. Bogardus, Annie Oakley, Doc Carver, Lillian Smith, Captain Jack Crawford, Sitting Bull and hordes of Indians, Pawnee Bill, and May Lillie.  
**\$29.95**



**The Illustrated History Of Firearms**  
 In association with the National Firearms Museum, detailing over 1500 Firearms with Color Photographs. By: Jim Supica, Doug Wickland, Philip Schreier | Hardcover  
 The significant tome, with over 150 photographs, covers the subject of portable firearms from muskets to machine guns; from dueling pistols to Glock; from derringers to elephant guns.  
**\$29.95**



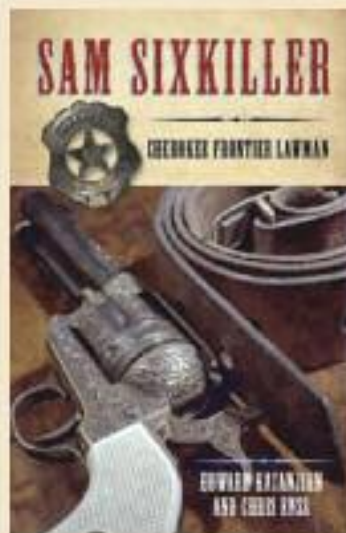
**Colt Single Action: From Patersons to Peacemakers**  
 Written & Photographed by Dennis Adler  
 Although Colt had been unsuccessful in his first venture as an armsmaker, with his fledgling New Jersey enterprise going into receivership in 1842, five years later his arrangements to build 1000 Colt "Whitneyville-Walker" .44 Caliber revolvers for Capt. Samuel Walker and the U.S.M.R. put him on a road to prosperity that would last the rest of his life and make Colt's Firearms Manufacturing Company of Hartford, Connecticut the most successful and influential armsmaker in the United States. The exciting and informative reading awaits...  
**\$29.95**



**Ruger & His Guns A History of The Man, the Company, and Their Firearms** Hardcover By R.L. Wilson  
 Part Henry Ford, part Sam Colt, part Enzo Ferrari- but 100 percent his own man- and an All-American original, William B. Ruger has made a resounding success in modern times, in an industry many thought was dying. He started in 1949 as an underdog who was told "it can't be done." Today, his line of firearms stands supreme, and his factories are the model for contemporary business entrepreneurship and enlightened manufacturing techniques. Lavish in every way, Ruger & His Guns is the official history of William B. Ruger of Sturm, Ruger & Co., and of Ruger Firearms.  
**\$29.95**

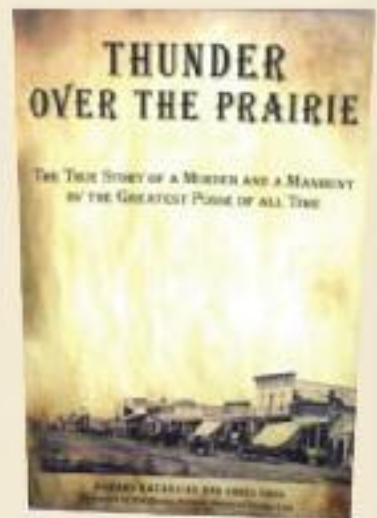
Please visit the SASS Mercantile online for our full selection of featured books.

**NEW! Only at the SASS Mercantile!**  
**Sam Sixkiller** by Chris Enss  
 Sam Sixkiller was one of the most accomplished lawmen in 1880s Oklahoma Territory. And in many ways, he was a typical law-enforcement official, minding the peace and gunslinging in the still-wild West. What set Sam Sixkiller apart was his Cherokee heritage. Sixkiller's sworn duty was to uphold the law, but he also took it upon himself to protect the traditional way of life of the Cherokee. Sixkiller's temper, actions, and convictions earned him more than a few enemies, and in 1886 he was assassinated in an ambush. This new biography takes a sweeping, cinematic look at the short, tragic life of Sam Sixkiller and his days policing the streets of the Wild West.  
 The National Launch of the book is on June 2, 2012, at the Talbot Library and Museum in Colcord, Oklahoma.



This is a new release and not in stores yet. **Get your copy through the SASS mercantile.**  
**\$14.95**

**NEW! Only at the SASS Mercantile!**  
**Thunder Over The Prairie** by Chris Enss  
 The year was 1878. Future legends of the Old West—lawmen Charlie Bassett, But Masterson, Wyatt Earp, and Bill Tilghman—patrolled the unruly streets of Dodge City, Kansas, then known as "the wickedest little city in America." When a cattle baron fled town after allegedly shooting the popular dancehall girl Dora Hand, these four men—all sharpshooters who knew the surrounding harsh, desertlike terrain—hunted him down, it was said, like "thunder over the prairie." The posse's legendary ride across the desolate landscape to seek justice influenced the men's friendship, careers, and feelings about the justice system. This account of that event is a fast-paced, unforgettable glimpse into the Old West.



Thunder Over the Prairie will be produced into a motion picture in the near future. **Get your copy through the SASS mercantile.**  
**\$14.95**

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## SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
<b>AK</b>					<b>CA (continued)</b>				
Alaska 49er's	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Tripod	907-373-0140	Birchwood	Shasta Regulators Of Hat Creek	2nd Sat	Cayenne Pepper	530-275-3158	Burney
Golden Heart Shootist Society	2nd Sat & Last Sun	Wind Drifter	907-457-2113	Fairbanks	Coyote Valley Cowboys	2nd Sat	Bad Eye Bobolu	408-722-0583	Morgan Hill
Juneau Gold Miners Posse	3rd Sun	Five Card Tanna	907-789-7498	Juneau	Guns in the Sun	2nd Sat	Johnny 2moons	760-346-0972	Palm Springs
<b>AL</b>					Buffalo Runners	2nd Sat	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Rail Road Flat
North Alabama Regulators	1st Sun	Drake Robey	256-313-0421	Woodville	Dulzura Desperados	2nd Sat	Hashknife Willie	619-271-1481	San Diego
Russell County Regulators	1th Sat	Will Killigan	706-568-0869	Phenix City	California Rangers	2nd Sat	Paniolo Lady	916-483-9198	Sloughhouse
Alabama Rangers	2nd Sun	Dead Horse Phil	205-531-7055	Brierfield	Double R Bar Regulators	2nd Sun	Five Jacks	760-949-3198	Lucerne Valley
Vulcan Long Rifles	3rd Sat	Parson Henry Brown	205-871-4237	Hoover	High Sierra Drifters	2nd Sun	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Railroad Flat
Cahaba Cowboys	3rd Sun	Duke Slade	205-854-0843	Birmingham	Richmond Roughriders	2nd Sun	Buffy	650-994-9412	Richmond
Gallant Gunfighters	3rd Sun	Buck D. Law	256-504-4366	Hoover	Over The Hill Gang (The)	2nd Sun	Kooskia Kid	818-566-7900	Sylmar
Old York Shootists	4th Sun	Derringer Di	205-647-6925	Hoover	Bridgeport Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Bee Blest	760-932-1139	Bridgeport
<b>AR</b>					Burro Canyon Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Don Trader	714-827-7360	Meyers Canyon
White River Gang	1st Sat	Arkansas Tom	870-656-8431	Mountain Home	Nevada City Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Marlin Schofield	530-265-9213	Nevada City
Critter Creek Citizens Vigilance	1st Sun	Evil Bob	903-701-3970	Fourke	North County Shootist Assoc.	3rd Sat	Graybeard	760-727-9160	Pala
Mountain Valley Vigilantes	1st Wkd	Christmas Kid	501-625-3554	Hot Springs	Shasta Regulators	3rd Sat	Modoc	530-365-1839	Redding
Outlaw Camp	2nd & 5th Sat	Ozark Outlaw	501-362-2963	Heber Springs	Robbers Roost Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Nasty Newt	760-375-7618	Ridgecrest
Arkansas Lead Slingers	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Dirty Dan Paladin	479-633-2107	Garfield	Gold Country Wild Bunch	3rd Sat	Sutter Lawman	530-713-4194	Sloughhouse
South Fork River Regulators	3rd Sat	Arkansas Harper	870-994-7227	Salem	High Desert Cowboys	3rd Sun	Doc Silverhawks	661-948-2543	Acton
Judge Parker's Marshals	3rd Sat & Sun	Naildriver	479-651-2475	Fort Smith	Kings River Regulators	3rd Sun	Slick Rock Rooster	559-299-8669	Clovis
True Grit SASS	4th Sun	Sister Sundance	479-970-7042	Belleville	Panorama Northfield Raiders	3rd Sun	Gun Hawk	818-761-0512	North Hollywood
<b>AZ</b>					South Coast Rangers	3rd Sun	Swiftly Schofield	805-886-3360	Santa Barbara
White Mountain Old West Shootists	1st & 3rd Sat	Mustang Lady Sue	928-243-3457	Snowflake	Murieta Posse	3rd Sun	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Sloughhouse
Cowtown Wild Bunch Shooters	1st Sat	Wild Bodie Tom	602-721-3175	Carefree	Ukiah Gun Club	3rd Sun	Will Bonner	707-462-1466	Ukiah
Rio Salado Cowboy Action Shooting Society	1st Sat	A. J. Bob	480-982-7336	Mesa	Mad River Rangers	4th Sat	Kid Kneestone	707-445-1981	Blue Lake
Old Pueblo Shootist Association	1st Sun	Gilly Boy	520-249-2831	Tombstone	Coyote Valley Sharpshooters	4th Sat	Wif	408-448-3256	San Jose
Cowtown Cowboy Shooters	1st Sun & 3rd Sat	Barbwire	480-773-2753	Phoenix	Pozo River Vigilance Committee	4th Sat	Dirty Sally	805-438-4817	Santa Margarita
Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association	2nd Sat	Deputy Curly	602-487-9728	Phoenix	California Shady Ladies	4th Sat	Lady Gambler	916-447-2040	Sloughhouse
Whiskey Row Gunslingers	2nd Sun	Turquoise Bill	928-925-7323	Prescott	Hawkinsville Claim Jumpers	4th & 5th Sat	Lethal Les L'Amour	530-842-4506	Yreka
Colorado River Regulators	2nd Sun & 4th Sat	Crowheart	928-505-2200	Lake Havasu	FaultLine Shootist Society	4th Sun	Querida	831-635-9147	Gonzales
Lake Powell Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Bare Fist Jack	928-660-2104	Page	The Range	4th Sun	Grass V. Federally	530-273-4440	Grass Valley
Los Vaqueros	3rd Sat	Buckeye Pete	520-548-8298	Tucson	The Cowboys	4th Sun	Captain Jake	714-318-6948	Norco
Tonto Rim Marauders	3rd Sun	Silverado Cid	928-595-1230	Payson	Deadwood Drifters	4th Sun	Lusty Lil	661-775-3802	Piru
Mohave Marshalls	3rd Sun & 5th Sat	D B Chester	928-231-9013	Kingman	Sloughhouse Irregulars	5th Sat & Sun	Badlands Bud	530-677-0368	Sloughhouse
Altar Valley Pistoleros	3rd Sun & 5th Sun	Mean Raylean	520-235-0394	Tucson	<b>CO</b>				
Arizona Yavapai Rangers	4th Sat	Whisperin Meadows	928-567-9227	Camp Verde	Colorado Cowboys	1st Sat	El Gato Gordo	719-683-6713	Lake George
Dusty Bunch Old Western Shooters	4th Sat	Squibber	520-568-2852	Casa Grande	Colorado Shaketails	1st Sun	Midnite Slim	719-660-2742	Fontain
Tombstone Buscaderos	4th Sat	Diamond Pak	520-780-4852	Tombstone	San Juan Rangers	1st Sun	Kodiak Kid	970-252-1841	Montrose
Colorado River Shootists	4th Sun	ClueLass	928-726-7727	Yuma	Windygap Regulators	1st Wkd	Piedra Kidd	970-565-9228	Cortez
<b>CA</b>					Vigilantes	2nd Sat	Grizz Bear	719-545-9463	Pueblo
Sunnyvale Regulators	1st & 3rd Mon Night	Shaniko Jack	650-464-3764	Cupertino	Four Corners Rifle and Pistol Club	2nd Sun	Capt. W. K. Kelso	970-565-3840	Cortez
West End Outlaws	1st & 3rd Sat	Chickamauga Charlie	951-549-9304	Lytle Creek	Montrose Marshals	2nd Sun	Big Hat	970-249-7701	Montrose
Silver Queen Mine Regulators	1st & 3rd Sun	T. E. Kidd	562-598-7771	Azusa	Ben Lomond High Plains Drifters	2nd Sun	Sand River Slim	303-771-1920	Ramah
Escondido Bandidos	1st Sat	Devil Jack	760-741-3229	Escondido	Castle Peak Wildshots	2nd Wkd	Old Squinteye	970-524-9348	Gypsum
The Outlaws	1st Sat	Terrell Sackett	916-363-1648	Sacramento	Pawnee Station	3rd Sat	Red Creek Dick Martin	303-857-0520	Nunn
Lassen Regulators	1st Sat	Chief Wages	530-257-3402	Susanville	Rockvale Bunch	3rd Sat	Mister	719-784-1342	Rockvale
Two Rivers Posse	1st Sat & 4th Sun	Dragon	209-836-4042	Manteca	Four Corners Gunslingers	3rd Sun	Cereza Slim	970-247-0745	Durango
River City Regulators	1st Sun	Point of Orgin	530-304-5616	Davis	Thunder Mountain Shootists	3rd Wkd	Pinto Being	970-464-7118	Grand Junction
Mother Lode Shootist Society	1st Sun	Sioux City Kid	209-795-4175	Jamestown	Briggsdale County Shootist	4th Sat	Kid Bucklin	970-493-1813	Briggsdale
Hole In The Wall Gang	1st Sun	Frito Bandito	661-406-6001	Piru	Northwest Colorado Rangers	4th Sat	Sagebrush Burns	970-824-8407	Craig
5 Dogs Creek	1st Wkd	Mad Trapper of Rat River	661-589-7472	Bakersfield	Sand Creek Raiders	4th Sun	Sweet Water Bill	303-366-8827	Byers
Cajon Cowboys	2nd & 4th Sat	Pasture Patti	760-956-8852	Devore	Black Canyon Ghost Riders	4th Sun	Double Bit	970-874-8745	Hotchkiss
Chorro Valley Regulators	2nd & 5th Sun	Sinful	805-286-1188	San Luis Obispo	<b>CT</b>				
					Ledyard Sidewinders	1st Sat	Yosemite Gene	860-536-0887	Ledyard
					CT Valley Bushwackers	2nd Sun	Milo Sierra	860-508-2686	East Granby
					<b>DE</b>				
					Padens Posse	3rd Sun	Hazel Pepper	302-422-6534	Bridgeville
					<b>FL</b>				
					Gold Coast Gunslingers	1st Sat	George Washington McLintock	786-256-9542	Fort Lauderdale
					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

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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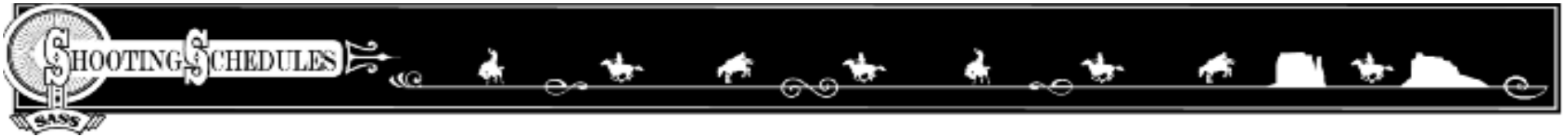


## SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
<b>FL (continued)</b>					<b>IL (continued)</b>				
Fort White Cowboy Cavalry	2nd Sat	Deadly Sharpshoot	352-317-6284	Fort White	Nason Mining Company Regulators	3rd & 5th Sat	Diggins Dave	618-927-0594	Benton
Okeechobee Marshals	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Kid Celero	561-312-9075	Okeechobee	McLean County Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Marshall RD	309-379-4331	Bloomington
Tater Hill Gunfighters	2nd Sun	Judge JD Justice	941-629-4440	Arcadia	Litchfield Sportsman's Club	3rd Sat	Ross Haney	618-667-9819	Litchfield
Weewahootee Vigilance Committee	2nd Sun	Conway Kid	407-273-9763	Orlando	Illowa Irregulars	3rd Sun	Shamrock Sis	309-798-2635	Milan
Panhandle Cowboys	2nd Sun	High Card	850-492-5162	Pensacola	Fort Beggs Defenders	3rd Sun	Torandado	815-302-8305	Plainfield
Southwest Florida Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Jed Lewis	239-455-4788	Punta Gorda	Long Nine Cowboys	4th & 5th Sun	Lemon Drop Kid	217-787-4877	Loami
Big Bend Bushwhackers	3rd Sat	Sixpence Kid	850-459-1107	Tallahassee	Good Guys Posse	4th Sun	Dangerous Denny	815-245-7264	Rockford
Lake County Pistoleros	3rd Wkd	Arcadia Outlaw	352-208-2788	Tavares	Salt River Renegades	As Sch	Lily Mae	217-985-4915	Barry
Cowford Regulators	4th Sat	General Lee Smokey	904-803-2930	Jacksonville	<b>IN</b>				
Indian River Regulators	4th Sat	Belligerent Orney Bob	321-403-2940	Palm Bay	Daleville Desperados	1st Sat	Flat Water Bob	765-284-0405	Daleville
Panhandle Cattle Company	4th Sat	Desperado Dale	850-832-2837	Port St. Joe	Cutter's Raiders	1st Sat	Midnite Desperado	574-893-7214	Warsaw
OK Corral Outlaws	4th Sun	Kokomo Kid	863-357-2226	Okeechobee	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	Riverboat Gambler	765-832-7253	Brazil
<b>GA</b>					Wolf's Rowdy Rangers	3rd Sat	Justice D. Spencer	574-264-2012	Bristol
River Bend Rough Riders	1st Sat	Done Gone	770-361-6966	Dawsonville	Circle R Cowboys	3rd Sat	Mustang Bill	219-279-2781	Brookston
American Old West Cowboys	1st Sat	Josey Buckhorn	423-236-5281	Flintstone	Wabash Rangers	4th Sat	Henry Remington	217-267-2820	Cayuga
Valdosta Vigilance Committee	1st Sat	Big Boyd	229-244-3161	Valdosta	Starke County Desert	4th Sat	Whip Mccord	219-942-5859	Knox
<b>IA</b>					Big Rock SASS	4th Sat	Southpaw Too	812-866-2406	Lexington
Lonesome Valley Regulators	1st Sun	Wishbone Hooper	478-922-9384	Warner Robins	Red Brush Raiders	4th Sat	Doc Goodluck	812-721-1188	Newburgh
Providence Springs Rangers	2nd Sat	Buckshot Bob	229-924-0997	Anderson	Deer Creek Regulators	4th Sun	Doc Molar	765-506-0344	Jonesboro
Piedmont Regulators	2nd Sat	Chase Randall	864-637-8873	Eastanollee	Wildwood Wranglers	4th Sun	Voodoooman	219-872-2721	Michigan City
Doc Holliday's Immortals	2nd Sat	Easy Rider	770-954-9696	Griffin	Westside Renegades	As Sch	Johnny Banjo	812-430-6421	Evansville
Camden County Cowboys	2nd Sat	Christian Mortician	912-227-5683	Kingsland	Indiana Black Powder Guild	As Sch	C. C. Top	574-354-7186	Etna Green
South River Shootists	3rd Sat	Man From Little River	678-428-4240	Covington	<b>KS</b>				
Tennessee Mountain Marauders	3rd Sat	Trail Bones	423-842-6116	Ringgold	Butterfield Gulch Gang	1st Sun	Kanasa Flatlander	785-493-5682	Chapman
Cherokee Cowboys	4th Sat	Bad Lands Bob	706-654-0828	Gainesville	Powder Creek Cowboys	2nd & 4th Sat & 4th Wed	El Dorado Wayne	913-686-5314	Lenexa
<b>HI</b>					Mill Brook Wranglers	2nd Sun	Grandpa Buckten Millbrook	785-421-2537	Hill City
Maui Marshals	1st & 3rd Sat	Bad Burt	808-875-9085	Maui	Free State Rangers	3rd & 5th Sun	Buffalo Phil	913-904-8733	Parker
Big Island Paniolos	3rd Sat	Paniolo Annie	808-640-3949	Ocean View	Sandhill Regulators	3rd Sat	MoundRidge	620-345-3151	Hutchinson
Single Action Shootist of Hawaii	4th Sun	Brandebuck	808-351-9260	Honolulu	Capital City Cowboys	4th Sun	Top	785-313-0894	Topeka
<b>IA</b>					Chisholm Trail Rowdies	4th Sun	Cody Wyatt	316-204-1784	Wichita
Turkeyfoot Cowboys	1st Sat	Ranger Mathias Fischels	319-234-1550	Elk Run Heights	<b>KY</b>				
Fort Des Moines Rangers	1st Sun	Pit Mule	515-205-0557	Indianola	Kentucky Regulators	1st Sat	Derby	270-489-2089	Boaz
Zen Shootists	2nd Sat	Renegade Slim	515-987-0721	Nevada	Hooten Old Town Regulators	1st Sat	Double Eagle Dave	423-309-4146	Mckee
Outlaw's Run	2nd Sun	Capt. Jim Midnight	712-623-5726	Red Oak	Knob Creek Gunfighters Guild	1st Sun	Buck Shot Jock	502-543-8439	West Point
<b>ID</b>					Green River Gunslingers	2nd Sat	Yak	270-792-9001	Bowling Green
Gunslingers of Flaming Heart Ranch	1st Sat	Jughandle Jack	208-634-3121	Council	Breathitt Bandits	3rd Sat	Slowly But Surely	606-666-4663	Jackson
Squaw Butte Regulators	1st Sun	Acequia Kidd	208-365-4551	Emmett	Ponderosa Pines Posse	3rd Sat	Copperhead Joe	606-599-5263	Manchester
Border Marauders	1st Sun & 4th Sat	Mud Marine	208-627-8377	East Port	Ohio River Rangers	3rd Sat	George Rogers	270-554-1501	Paducah
El Buscaderos	2nd & 4th Sun	Oddman	208-437-0496	Spirit Lake	Rockcastle Rangers	4th Sat	Perfecto Vaquera	406-231-2359	Park City
Northwest Shadow Riders	2nd Sat	Silverado Belle	208-743-5765	Lewiston	Levisa Fork Lead Slingers	4th Sun	Escopeta Jake	606-631-4613	Pikeville
Southern Idaho Rangers	2nd Sat	Gordo Perro	208-234-7121	Pocatello	Fox Bend Peacemakers	4th Sun	Tocala Sam	859-552-9000	Wilmore
Oregon Trail Rough Riders	2nd Sun & 3rd Sat	John Bear	208-562-1914	Boise	<b>LA</b>				
Hells Canyon Ghost Riders	3rd Sat	J.P. Sloe	208-798-0826	Moscow	Deadwood Marshals	1st & 3rd Sat	Doc Spudley	504-467-6062	Sorrento
Twin Butte Bunch	3rd Sat	Idaho Packer	208-589-5941	Rexburg	Up The Creek Gang	2nd & 4th Sat	Hardly Able	337-474-5058	Lake Charles
Panhandle Regulators	3rd Sun	Halfcocked Otis	509-991-5842	Otis Orchards	Cypress Creek Cowboys	2nd Sat	Smokey Shane	318-381-4840	Downsville
Snake River Western Shooting Society	4th Sat	White Eyes	208-734-8440	Jerome	Guns of Sabine Pass	3rd Sat	Hobbel-A-Long	337-463-5690	Hineston
<b>IL</b>					Grand Ecore Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Ouachita Kid	318-932-6637	Natchitoches
Shady Creek Shootists	1st & 4th Sun	Dapper Dan Porter	309-734-2324	Little York	Jackson Hole Regulators	4th Sat	Slick McClade	318-395-2224	Quitman
Lakewood Marshal's Rangeless Riders	1st Sat	Pine Ridge Jack	618-838-9410	Cisne	<b>MA</b>				
Kishwaukee Valley Regulators	1st Sun	Snakes Morgan	815-751-3716	Sycamore	Cape Cod Cowboys	4th Sat	Curly Jay Brooks	508-477-9771	Mashpee
Free Grazers	2nd Sat	Fossil Creeek Bob	217-821-3134	Effingham	Shawsheen River Rangers	As Sch	Yukon Willie	978-663-3342	Bedford
Tri County Cowboys	2nd Sat	Sierra Hombre	815-967-6333	Hazelhurst	Harvard Ghost Riders	As Sch	Double R Bar Kid	978-771-9190	Harvard
Kaskaskia Cowboys	2nd Sat	Beaucoup Joe	618-521-3619	Sparta	Danvers Desperados	As Sch	Cyrus Cy Klopops	781-667-2857	Middleton
Illinois River City Regulators	2nd Sun	Granville Stuart	309-243-7236	Chillicothe	Gunnysackers	Sat	Nantucket Dawn	781-749-6951	Scituate
Vermilion River Long Riders	2nd Sun	Lead Poison Lar	815-875-3674	Leonore	<b>MD</b>				
					Eas'dern Shore Renegades	1st Sat	Teton Tracy	302-378-7854	Sudlersville
					Thurmont Rangers	1st Sun	Cash Caldwell	240-285-7673	Thurmont
					Monocacy Irregulars	2nd Sat	Church Key	304-229-8266	Frederick
					Damascus Wildlife Rangers	4th Sat	Chuckaroo	301-831-9666	Damascus
					<b>ME</b>				
					Big Pine Bounty Hunters	As Sch	Ripley Scrounger	207-876-4928	Willmantic
					Capitol City Vigilance Committee	As Sch	Mark Lake	207-622-9400	Augusta
					Beaver Creek Desperados	As Sch	Jimmy Reb	207-698-4436	Berwick
					Hurricane Valley Rangers	As Sch	Leo	207-829-3092	Falmouth

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## SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
<b>MI</b>					<b>NE</b>				
Rockford Regulators	1st Sat	No Cattle	616-363-2827	Rockford	Platte Valley Gunslingers	1st Sun	Firewater	308-226-2255	Grand Island
Blue Water Gunslingers	1st Sun	Buggyman	810-434-9597	Kimball	Alliance Cowboy Club	2nd Sun	Panhandle Slim Miles	308-760-0568	Alliance
River Bend Rangers	2nd Sat	Pitmaster	574-276-8805	Niles	Eastern Nebraska Gun Club	2nd Sun	Flint Valdez	712-323-8996	Louisville
Double Barrel Gang	2nd Sat	Dakota Fats	269-721-8190	Hastings	Flat Water Shootists of the Grand Island Rifle Club	3rd Sun	Fortyfour Maggie	308-383-4605	Grand Island
Butcher Butte Bunch	2nd Sun	Grubby Hardrock	810-750-0655	Fenton	<b>NH</b>				
Sucker Creek Saddle & Gun Club	3rd Sat	Kid Al Fred	989-832-8426	Breckenridge	The Dalton Gang Shooting Club of NH	3rd Wkd	Littleton S. Dalton	603-444-6876	Dalton
Chippewa Regulators	3rd Sat	No Name Justice	906-632-1254	Sault Ste. Marie	White Mountain Regulators	As Sch	Dead Head	603-772-2358	Candia
Hidden Valley Cowboys	3rd Sun	Saulk Valley Stubby	269-651-5197	Sturgis	Merrimack Valley Marauders	As Sch	Sheriff R. P. Bucket	603-345-6876	Pelham
Rocky River Regulators	3rd Sun	Terrebonne Bud	248-709-5254	Utica	<b>NJ</b>				
Eagleville Cowboys	4th Sat	One Son of A Gun	231-676-0922	Central Lake	Thumbusters	2nd Sun	OI' Sea Dog	732-892-7272	Monmouth
Johnson Creek Regulators	4th Sat	Rainmaker Ray	313-618-2577	Plymouth	Jackson Hole Gang	4th Sun	Papa Grey	732-961-6834	Jackson
Mason County Marshals	4th Sat	Two Gun Troll	231-343-2580	Scottsville	<b>NM</b>				
Wolverine Rangers	As Sch	R.J. Law	248-828-0440	Port Huron	Magdalena Trail Drivers	1st & 3rd Sat	Grizzly Adams	575-854-2488	Magdalena
Saginaw Field & Stream Club	As Sch	Bad River Marty	989-585-3292	Saginaw	Rio Rancho Regulators	1st & 4th Sat	Sam Brannan	505-400-2468	Rio Rancho
Lapeer County Sportsmans Club Wranglers	Sun	Flat Water Johnny	314-378-5689	Attica	Otero Practical Shooting Association	1st Sat	Saguaro Sam	505-437-3663	La Luz
<b>MN</b>					Buffalo Range Riders	1st Sun	Shanley Shooter	505-252-0589	Founders Ranch
Cedar Valley Vigilantes	1st & 3rd Sat	D M Yankee	612-701-9719	Morristown	Chisum Cowboy Gun Club	1st Sun	Two Bit Tammy	575-626-9201	Roswell
Crow River Rangers	1st Sun	Cantankerous Jeb	763-682-3710	Howard Lake	Bighorn Vigilantes	2nd Sat	Lawdog Bob	505-883-8829	Edgewood
Granite City Gunslingers	2nd & 5th Sat	Amen Straight	612-723-2313	Saint Cloud	High Desert Drifters	2nd Sat	Shakey Shooter	505-294-3233	Edgewood
Lone Rock Rangers	2nd Sat	Red Dutchman	651-402-0368	Farmington	Lincoln County Regulators	2nd Sat	Frank Coe	575-808-1329	Ruidoso
Lookout Mountain Gunsmoke Society	2nd Sat	Wagonmaster	218-744-4694	Virginia	Buffalo Range Riders Wild Bunch	2nd Sun	Tijeras Pete	505-227-1449	Founders Ranch
Fort Belmont Regulators	2nd Sun	Mule Town Jack	507-840-0883	Jackson	Rio Grande Renegades	2nd Wed, 3rd Sat, 4th Sun, 5th Sat & Sun	Mica McGuire	505-263-1181	Albuquerque
East Grand Forks Rod & Gun Club	3rd Sun	BB Gunner	218-779-8555	East Grand Forks	Gila Rangers	2nd Wkd	Chico Cheech	575-388-2531	Silver City
Ike's Clantons	4th Sun	Dawgnapper	320-275-2052	New Ulm	Monticello Range Riders	3rd & 5th Sun	J. W. Brockey	575-744-4484	Elephant Butte
<b>MO</b>					Seven Rivers Regulators	3rd Sat	Stink Creek Jones	575-885-9879	Carlsbad
Ozark Posse (The)	1st Sat	Tightwad Swede	417-846-5142	Cassville	Monument Springs Bushwhackers	4th Sat	Val Darrant	575-396-5303	Hobbs
West Plains Waddies	2nd & 5th Sat	Buckshot Baby	417-284-1432	Tecumseh	Picacho Posse	4th Sat	Fast Hammer	575-647-3434	Las Cruces
Moniteau Creek River Raiders	2nd Sun	Doolin Riggs	573-687-3103	Fayette	Tres Rios Bandidos	4th Sun	Largo Casey	505-330-2489	Farmington
Gateway Shootist Society	3rd Sun	Bounty Seeker	314-740-4665	St. Louis	Rio Vaqueros	4th Sun	Anna Sassin	575-744-5793	Truth or Consequences
Central Ozarks Western Shooters	3rd Sun	X. S. Chance	573-765-5483	St. Robert	<b>NV</b>				
Butterfield Trail Cowboys	4th Wkd	Smokie	417-759-9114	Walnut Shade	Fort Halleck Volunteers	1st & 3rd Sat	Green Springs Thomsen	775-753-8203	Elko
Southern Missouri Rangers	4th Wkd	Pecos Steve	417-770-7516	Willard	High Plains Drifters	1st Sun	Irish Ike	775-424-2336	Fernley
<b>MS</b>					Eldorado Cowboys	1st Wkd	Charming	702-565-3736	Boulder City
Natchez Sixgunners	1st Sat	Winchester	601-445-5223	Natchez	Lone Wolf Shooters	2nd & 5th Sun	Penny Pepperbox	775-727-4600	Pahrump
Mississippi Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Woodie B. Western	601-214-4009	Mendenhall	Nevada Rangers Cowboy Action Shooting Society	2nd Sun	MT Fargo	702-460-6393	Las Vegas
Mississippi River Rangers	4th & 5th Sat	Easy Lee	901-413-5615	Byhalia	Roop County Cowboy Shooters Association	2nd Sun	Russ T. Chambers	775-747-1426	Sparks
<b>MT</b>					Silver State Shootists	3rd Sun	Shotgun Marshall	775-265-0267	Carson City
Honorable Road Agents Shooting Society	1st Sat	Diamond Red	406-685-3618	Ennis	Desert Desperados	3rd Sun	Buffalo Sam	702-459-6454	Las Vegas
Sun River Rangers Shooting Society	1st Sun & 4th Sat	Montana Lil' Skeeter	406-761-0896	Simms	<b>NY</b>				
Gallatin Valley Regulators	1st Sat	Gooch Hill Drifter	406-763-4268	Logan	Alabama Gunslingers	1st Sat	Bum Thumb	585-343-3906	Alabama
Rocky Mountain Rangers	2nd Wkd	Jocko	406-847-0745	Noxon	Tioga County Cowboys	1st Sat	Dusty Drifter	607-659-3819	Owego
Bigfork Buscaderos	3rd Sat	Bodie Camp	406-883-6797	Bigfork	Boot Hill Regulators	1st Sun	Judge Zaney Grey	845-352-7921	Chester
Last Chance Handgunners	3rd Sat	Bocephus Bandito	406-439-4476	Boulder	Pathfinder Pistoleros	1st Sun	Sonny	315-695-7032	Fulton
Custer County Stranglers	3rd Sat	Hartshot	406-232-0727	Miles City	Crumhorn Mountain Cowboys	1st Sun	Lefty Cooper	607-287-9261	Maryland
Montana Territory Peacemakers	4th Sat	Backstrap Bill	406-652-6158	Billings	Salt Port Vigilance Committee	2nd Sat	Twelve Bore	585-613-8046	Holley
Lincoln County Regulators	4th Sat	Lady Belle	406-889-3658	Eureka	Bar-20 Inc.	2nd Sat	Badlands Buck	315-637-3492	West Eaton
<b>NC</b>					Border Rangers	2nd Sun	Dammit Dick	607-724-6216	Greene
Neuse River Regulators	1st & 3rd Sat	Paddi MacGarrett	910-938-3682	New Bern	Hole In The Wall Gang	3rd Sat	El Fusilero	631-864-1035	Calverton
Old Hickory Regulators	1st Sat	Wendover Kid	252-908-0098	Rocky Mount	Diamond Four	3rd Sat	Kayutah Kid	607-796-0573	Odessa
Walnut Grove Rangers	1st Sat	Hiem	828-245-5563	Rutherfordton	Circle K Regulators	3rd Sun	Smokehouse Dan	518-885-3758	Ballston Spa
Old North State Posse	1st Sat	Tracker Mike	336-595-8853	Salisbury	Sackets Harbor Vigilantes	4th Sun	Ranger Clayton Conagher	315-465-6543	Sackets Harbor
Carolina Rough Riders	1st Sun	Pecos Pete	704-394-1859	Charlotte	The Long Riders	4th Sun	Loco Poco Lobo	585-467-4429	Shortsville
Carolina Single Action Shooting Society	2nd & 5th Sun	Carolina's Longarm	919-383-7567	Eden	D Bar D Wranglers	4th Sun	Captain M.A.F	845-226-8611	Wappingers Fall
High Country Cowboys	2nd Sat	Wild Otter	828-423-7796	Asheville	Mythical Rough Riders	5th Sun	Rev Dave Clayton	716-838-4286	Hamburg
Carolina Cattlemen's Shooting and Social Society	2nd Sat	Wicked Wanda	919-266-1678	Creedmore	The Shadow Riders	As Sch	Dusty Levis	646-284-4010	Westhampton Beach
Buccaneer Range Regulators	2nd Sat	Jefro	910-327-2197	Wilmington	East End Regulators	Last Sun	Diamond Rio	631-585-1936	Westhampton
Bostic Vigilantes	2th Sat	Bostic Kid	704-434-2174	Bostic	<b>OH</b>				
Gunpowder Creek Regulators	3rd Sat	Fannie Kikinshoot	828-754-1884	Lenoir	Big Irons	1st Sat	Deadwood Stan	513-894-3500	Middletown
Cross Creek Cowboys	3rd Sat	Huckleberry Mike	910-980-0572	Wagram	Middletown Sportsmens Club	1st Sat	Deadwood Stan	513-894-3500	Middletown
Piedmont Gunslingers	3rd Sun	A. R. Stoner	336-922-1900	Churchland	Tusco Long Riders	1st Sat	Split Rail	330-364-6185	Midvale
Flat Branch Ranch	4th Sat	Twelve Mile Bluff	910-480-9609	Fayetteville	Greene County Cowboys	1st Sun	Ruger Ray	937-352-6420	Xenia
Iredell Regulators	4th Sat	Charlotte	704-902-1796	Statesville	Granger Hill Regulators	1st Sun	Barbwire Pete	740-450-8650	Zanesville
<b>ND</b>					Firelands Peacemakers	1st Wed, 3rd Sat & 5th Sun	Angry Angus	440-647-5909	Rochester
Trestle Valley Rangers	2nd Sat	Doc Hell	701-852-1697	Minot	Sandusky County Regulators	2nd Sat	Curtice Clay	419-836-8760	Gibsonburg
Badlands Bandits	3rd Sat	Roughrider Ray	701-260-0347	Belfield					
Dakota Rough Riders	As Sch	Blake Stone	701-250-0673	Moffit					
Sheyenne Valley Peacekeepers	Last Sat	Wild River Rose	701-588-4331	Kindred					

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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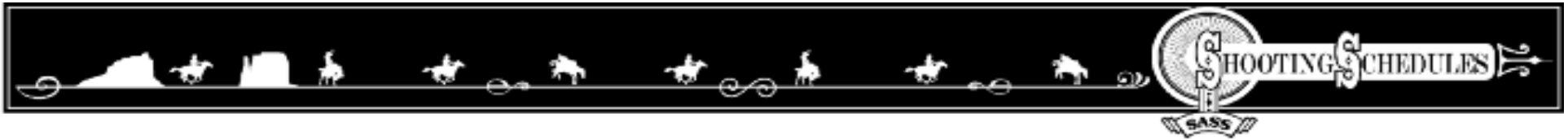












## SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS ANNUAL MATCHES (Cont.)

Match	Dates	Contact	Phone	City	State
<b>USA 2012</b>					
<b>OCTOBER (continued)</b>					
Sussex County Range War	26 - 28	Missouri Marshal	757-471-3396	Waverly	VA
Guns of Autumn	27 - 27	Bad Lands Bob	706-654-0828	Gainesville	GA
<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
SASS SOUTHWEST REGIONAL - Comin' At Cha	01 - 03	Honey B. Graceful	903-272-9283	English	TX
SASS Utah State Wild Bunch Championship Dixie Desperados Go Wild	02 - 03	Alaskan	435-635-9134	St. George	UT
Vengeance Trail	04 - 04	Shady Brady	352-686-1055	Brooksville	FL
SASS SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Gunfight at Givhans Ferry	08 - 11	Doc Kemm	843-737-3501	Ridgeville	SC
SASS Southwest Regional Blackpowder Championship Hangin' at Coyote Creek	09 - 11	Rattlesnake Blake	985-796-9698	Amite	LA
Dulzura Duststorm	10 - 10	Reuben J. Cogburn	619-997-2755	Dulzura	CA
The Great Northfield Raid Twentieth Anniversary	16 - 18	Gun Hawk	818-761-0512	North Hollywood	CA
<b>DECEMBER</b>					
Cowboy Christmas Ball	08 - 08	An E. Di	509-787-1782	Quincy	WA
<b>JANUARY 2013</b>					
Ambush at Butterfield Trail	26 - 27	Fast Hammer	575-647-3434	Las Cruces	NM
<b>MARCH 2013</b>					
Butterfield Range War Law Enforcement vs Cowboys More Fun Less Run	23 - 23	Fast Hammer	575-647-3434	Las Cruces	NM
<b>APRIL 2013</b>					
Comancheria Days	04 - 07	Red Scott	210-316-0199	Fredericksburg	TX
<b>SEPTEMBER 2013</b>					
Cheyenne Autumn	15 - 15	Eli Blue	806-293-2909	Kress	TX

### Mounted Annual Matches

Match	Dates	Contact	Phone	City	State
<b>JULY</b>					
Revenge of Montezuma	15 - 17	Aneeda Huginkiss	970-565-8479		CO
<b>AUGUST</b>					
SASS Midwest Regional Mounted Championship - Guns of August	10 - 12	Rawhidenlace	765-561-2521	Middletown	OH
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>					
SASS New Mexico & Texas State Mounted Championship Outlaw Trail	30 - 02	SASS Office	505-843-1320	Edgewood	NM
<b>OCTOBER</b>					
Shootout With the Spooks	05 - 07	Rawhidenlace	756-561-2521	Reelsville	IN
Fall Match	13 - 13	Slow Poke's Darlin	813-924-0156	Dover	FL

Match	Dates	Contact	Phone	City	State
<b>Annual International Matches</b>					
<b>AUSTRIA</b>					
SASS AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Chisholm Trail	Sep 24 - 30	Virgil Earp	61 74 695 2050	Millmerran	
Gunfight at the Ok Corral 18th Annual	Oct 27 - 28	Duke York	61 418 632 366	Drouin	
<b>CANADA</b>					
SASS Central Canadian Championship Battle at the Bar E Ranch	Jul 20 - 22	Northern Crow	705-435-2807	Barrie	ON
Showdown in the Valley	Jul 21 - 22	High Country Amigo	250-334-3479	Courtenay	BC
Shootout at the Double B Ranch	Aug 11 - 12	Frenchy Cannuck	506-312-0455	Riverview	NB
Headquarters - The Pig War at Salmonella Gulch	Aug 24 - 26	Grey Fox	250-474-3244	Victoria	BC
SASS Canadian National Championship Bust-up at Boomtown	Aug 30 - 02	Kananaskis Kid	250-923-6358	Courtenay	BC
Wild Bunch Rendezvous	Sep 14 - 16	Legendary Lawman	905-393-4299	Ancaster	ON
Robbers Roost Rendezvous	Sep 15 - 15	Bear Butte	905-891-8627	Ancaster	ON
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>					
SASS European End of Trail Hell's Coming With Me	Sep 06 - 08	Thunder Man	42 060 322 2400	Tabor	
<b>DENMARK</b>					
Danish Western Championship	Aug 25 - 25	Slim Dane	45 20 655 887	Copenhagen	
<b>GERMANY</b>					
The Fight to Way Mountain	Sep 01 - 01	Hurricane Irm	49 28 233 4426	Wegberg	
Texas Ranger Cup	Dec 01 - 02	Rhine River Joe	49-2823-3426	Wegberg	
Shootoff Championship	Dec 08 - 09	Rhine River Joe	49 2823 3426	Wegberg	
<b>HUNGARY</b>					
Days of Truth	Aug 08 - 11	El Heckito	362 0460 1739	Dabas	
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>					
End of Year Shoot-Off	Dec 15 - 15	Richmond P. Hobson	27 21 797 5054	Cape Town	

To ALL SASS Affiliated Clubs Monthly & Annual Match Listings in the Chronicle & on sassnet.com!  
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#### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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Colonel Dan,  
SASS Life #24025

*"A wise man makes his own decisions, an ignorant man follows the public opinion."*

~ Chinese Proverb ~

**T**hese daily Presidential tracking polls have some Americans tied up in knots—those who actually believe this media sponsored propaganda, that is. While some nationally known pollsters report big swings, others report a dead heat. Do they really expect us to believe potential voters are changing their positions on candidates like that? And how can both the big swingers and the dead heaters be accurate at the same time? Most Americans don't care about politics, so they won't vote anyway, or they'll wait until Election Day to decide. The truth is, those who really care have already made up their minds. So what are we to make of all this polling data? Here are just a few observations from what I think is the saddle of common sense.

What is most important to TV networks? Ratings. Ratings indicate how many people are watching, and the more who watch, the more advertising dollars the network attracts. This isn't rocket science. When America has shown distain for politics and even on a good day, only about 45% vote, how do you keep people interested in your news programs month after month so those ratings stay up during a prolonged election year? The answer—present the election as a "sporting event." Make it a nail biter between two nationally known heavyweights. Americans love sports much more than politics, so turn the presidential campaign into a championship fight that runs for months on end.

How can they maintain that

# Presidential Polls Are Best Ignored

By Colonel Dan, SASS Life / Regulator #24025

suspense? We can gain some insight by reading a paragraph from a Wall Street Journal editorial written in 2000 by John Fund on the Gallup Poll's wild swings and their sampling techniques.

*"They might be even more skeptical of Gallup's tracking poll if they knew that the swings are due in large part to the company's nightly sample having large fluctuations in how many Democrats vs. Republicans are interviewed. One three-night sample, on Oct. 4, had 37% Democrats and 30% Republicans. Perhaps not surprisingly, Al Gore had an 11-point lead. Three nights later, on Oct. 7, a completely new sample consisted of 39% Republicans and only 31% Democrats. Lo and behold, George W. Bush suddenly had an eight-point lead."* So now we know one way they can continue to keep this going back and forth.

Another obvious way is to vary the sections of the country in which the polls are taken. How big of a difference might there be if the few hundred people they surveyed came from San Francisco versus my part of the south? The final answer is—BIG ... VERY BIG. And, how about slanted wording of the questions—again, BIG difference. There's nothing real clever here.

Now let's look at another aspect of these media polls. They're designed at various stages to be opinion makers and shapers, not opinion takers. The "elite" media is certainly not objective; in fact, they've clearly become more complicit than merely biased with each passing year. One stark example: In March 2006 Bush's approval rating as reported by the media was 36% when unemployment sat at 4.7% and the GDP growth rate was 5.6%. In March 2012 Obama's approval rating was reportedly 41% when unemployment was at 8.3% and the GDP was less than 2%!

The "elite" media distorts whatever they report to advance their agenda. We've all known that for years. So why wouldn't we think

they'd at least try to do the same with the polls they sponsor under the guise of independent objectivity? Need more convincing about the media's effort to sway public opinion? If they didn't intend to influence voters, why do major newspapers endorse candidates from President down to city council? How can you tout your objectivity and then tell every reader that Moe is better than Larry and Curly shouldn't even be running? Ask a newspaper publisher that question some day.

Are there any polls that give us a better picture of how voters are really leaning? I think so. Every election year, schools across the country conduct a mock election held in grades 1-12 and they've correctly called the last 13 presidential elections. Who did they vote for in 2000 as one example? George Bush with 55% of the vote.

The Weekly Reader, the well-known school newspaper, also conducts mock elections and they've been right in every presidential race since 1956. In 2000, they voted overwhelmingly for G.W. Bush by a margin of 2 to 1. In 2004 the kids voted for Bush 47% to Kerry's 31% with Nader at 7%. In 2008, Obama beat McCain 55% to 43% with "Other" getting 2%.

The kid's TV channel, *Nickelodeon*, started holding mock elections about six elections ago and has called the presidential race correctly the last five out of those six times. Who did the more than 330,000 kids who responded vote for in 2000? George Bush with 53%. In 2004, Bush bested Kerry 52% to 47% with "Other" at 1%. In 2008, Obama received 51% to McCain's 49%.

There is yet another "poll" that has called every presidential election since 1980, and that is the sale of Halloween presidential masks. What was the outcome for Election 2000? The George Bush mask outsold Al Gore's 58% to 42%. In 2004, Bush bested Kerry 57% to 43%, and in 2008 the Obama mask outsold McCain 67% to 33%!

Why do I put more stock in those kid's polls than media polls? The representative sampling is much larger by surveying hundreds of thousands and covering the entire United States. They're also straight up votes—no slanted questions or underlying agendas. On the other hand, Gallup and others use a sample population of approximately a thousand or less and sampling techniques that are "questionable" at best. Another reason I put more credence in these "kid's polls" is those children are mostly reflecting the views of their parents—again, no rocket science here. One final bit of validation for my theory is their record. They've proven to be far more accurate than any pollster or pundit around. But what is the best poll? The one taken on Election Day at the voting booth—that poll has a 100% success rate in identifying the winner.

So my advice is to heed that Chinese proverb; think for yourself, vote your conscience, and ignore the pollsters and pundits. Let the ignorant follow and fret about those meaningless poll numbers. Your time is better spent reading or shooting a cowboy match than watching TV anyway. Just the view from my saddle ...

Contact Colonel Dan:

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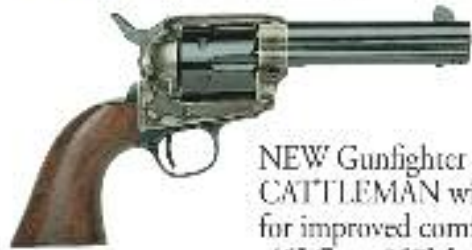
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