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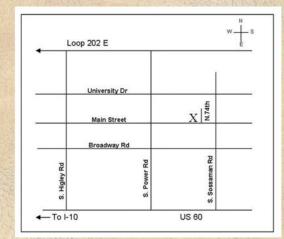




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Black Diamond Nicki, wearing chaps, holsters with revolvers, hat, bandana, and shades, won the Judes Special Award for Best Dressed Dog at Gunfight at Givhans Ferry, the 2015 Southwest Regional Championship.



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SKINNY'S SOAPBOX

By Skinny, SASS #7361

Spring Has Sprung

As a matter of fact, by the time you read this, we will be well into the spring season and closing in on summer. That means many clubs in the colder regions have geared up for new matches after a few months' hiatus. Which in turn means many of us may be a little rusty after our winter "vacation," so please be aware of this and—even if you want to shoot like the Devil—take it easy for your first match or two. We all want to be as competitive as we can be, but in the end safety is the most important aspect of our game. So have fun, be safe, and I'll see you down the trail.

Young Guns

Making good on their promise last year, Cimarron Firearms, together with Pietta, is proceeding this year with their second annual Young Guns Program. Last year six young shooters aged 13-14 were chosen out of almost 100 applicants to receive a pair of Pietta revolvers to encourage their interest in SASS® and Cowboy Action Shooting™.

Needless to say, it is of utmost importance to the future of SASS to support young competitors and to encourage new youngsters to enter our sport. Efforts like Cimarron's and Pietta's

go a long way towards offering that encouragement and we surely appreciate it.

Look for an announcement in The Cowling Chronicle this summer on the 2016 winners of the Young Guns Program. In the meantime, you can go to www.cimarron-firearms.com for further information.

Comic Book Corner

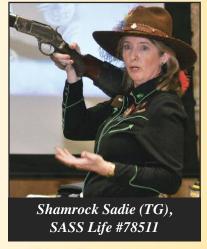
This issue begins a new series of reprints featuring the Western adventures of Dusty Ballew from the pages of *Prize Western*, another title that switched from super hero adventure in the 1940s to Western adventure in the late 40s and 50s, which is why this story from *Prize Western* 69 is actually the inaugural adventure of Dusty Ballew. Issues 1-68 were titled *Prize Comics* and contained stories of such memorable heroes as The Green Lama, Capt. Gallant, and Yank & Doodle. But the late 1940s witnessed a decline in interest in costumed heroes and so most surviving comic book publications—such as *Prize*—switched over to a Western theme. *Prize Western* 69 was originally released in May-June 1948, with the art on Dusty Ballew and the cover by Al Carreno.

-Skinny ♣



GUNFIGHT at GIVHANS FERRY

Southeast Regional Championship







By Shamrock Sadie (TG), SASS Life #78511
Photos by Classic Impression and Shamrock Sadie

Ridgeville, SC (November 12-15). Just outside of Charleston marked the location of the Gunfight at Givhans Ferry 2015 Southeast Regional Championships. It was the nineteenth year of the Geechee Gunfighters hosting a State or Regional match.

The low country was hit with a 1000-year flood six weeks prior to the Regional match, with areas of Charleston receiving twice as much rain as Hurricane Hugo laid down in 1989. Though many families had suffered property loss and roads in the mid-state area were either dam-

aged or washed away, the range survived and the match continued in full force. The range had slowly started recovering from the soaking rain as match participants arrived for registration and side matches. Let's just say there were areas on (Continued on page 8)



By Shamrock Sadie (TG), SASS Life #78511 Photos by Classic Impression and Shamrock Sadie



Sidekick, Overall Man and Shamrock Sadie, Overall Lady.

Gunfight at Givhans Ferry ...

(Continued from page 7)

the range for potential "mud runs," but our range crew did a fantastic job of diverting participants from dooming mud events. Though a little muddy (but no more rain), the event unfolded on a gorgeous November weekend with cool weather for sending lead down range. Throughout the weekend, participants and workers contributed to the SASS fund and towards helping one of the flood victims in the mid-state area (family member of a cowboy from the Regional area). Thanks to everyone's generosity, \$1000 was contributed to the SASS Scholarship fund and \$700 was collected to assist the family affected by the flood.

There were shooters from 16 different states who participated in numerous events offered at the match. The side matches on Thursday ran from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., giving participants a chance to shoot a four-stage event and speed matches to warm-up for the main match, RO I and RO II classes were held as well, with several attending the RO II class. The side

matches included afour4-stage Black Powder match, a four-stage Wild Bunch match, a three-stage Warm-Up "Blast" match, Long Range, and Speed Derringer/Pocket Pistol/Rifle/Shotgun/Pistol.

Thursday afternoon, cowboys and cowgirls were able to display their goods and wears under the big tent for a well-attended swap meet. Guns, knives, cases, leather, clothing and all sorts of cowboy gear covered the tables. Following the swap meet, a free pig pickin' was held for all of the side match workers and side match participants. All participants and workers had a chance to enter their names at each side match for a drawing for a Stoeger coach-gun, courtesy of Mustang Dave (SASS #95854) with action job by Surly Dave (SASS #14630).

Friday and Saturday, enthusiastic shooters made their way through the Main Match: 10 stages built on the theme, "Those Who Truly Settled the Old West." The old West was largely settled by "ordinary" people who were just interested in a better life for themselves and their families. These settlers (mountain men. sodbusters, stagecoach drivers, saloon keepers, the Pinkertons, doctors, preachers, railroad workers, bankers, blacksmiths, etc.) were responsible for the successful transition of the West from wild frontier to a prosperous civilization. The main match stories were written by various members of the Geechee Gunfighter's match committee and the stages were written by Laredo Lou (SASS #67886) of the Geechee Gunfighters. The stages consisted of a diverse set of scenarios with targets just at the right size and distance to please



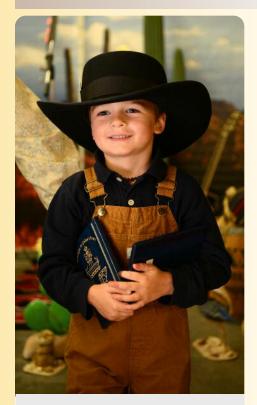
Shootoff winners Side Saddle Sue and Santa Fe River Stan.

every shooting skill, with no "P" traps. There were 36 clean shooters out of 222 (about 16 percent)! Great job, Lou!

The Saturday night Gala, held at the Summerville Country Club, was attended by almost 200 cowboys and cowgirls dining in their best western evening attire. Appetizers awaited the guests as cowboys and cowgirls strolled in from a fun two days of shooting. Chicken, flavorful boiled shrimp, and all of the fixin's were served for dinner. Cowboy entertainer Dandy Don sang cowboy tunes from the 40s, 50s, and 60s as attendees mingled and enjoyed their scrumptious dinner. Following dinner, a very special award was announced. The Isom Dart Cowboy Spirit Award, an annual award given to a cowboy or cowgirl from the Southeast Region for outstanding service to Cowboy Action ShootingTM and who exemplifies the cowboy way, was presented to Iron Maiden of Tennessee (SASS #67188). The side-match awards were also presented, along with the costume contest winners, and the announcement of the shootoff participants. Later, cowboys and cow-

(Continued on page 10)

Best Dressed Costumes



Best Dressed Junior Boy, Cracker Dan (SASS# 90287).



Dixie Pistols (SASS #98145), Best Dressed B-Western Lady and Blackhawk Henry (SASS #98744) Best Dressed B-Western Man.



Sidesaddle Sue, Best Dressed Lady.



R.J. Gatling (SASS #86317) and Candace B. Real strut their stuff as Best Dressed Couple.



Kota Joe (SASS# 89807), Best Dressed Working Cowboy.



Best Dressed Junior Girl, Little Livvy (SASS# 82544).

Gunfight at Givhans Ferry . . .

(Continued from page 8)

girls stretched their legs and stepped up the beat as a DJ played favorite dance tunes late into the evening.

The costume contests stretched over the weekend as participants strutted their fancy costumes from head to toe. The costume judges, Bulls Head Bill (SASS #33692), Diablo Deb (SASS #94313), Kearney Kid (SASS #68592), and Pearl (SASS #68593), did a spectacular job with the selection of the winners.

Sunday morning, the awards ceremony was started with a Veteran's Day salute led by Knot Hardly Dunn (SASS #43113), honoring all branches of the mili-

tary with bagpipes played by our dedicated piper (Pipe Sergeant John Weed of the Charleston Police Pipes and Drums). Harman Hammer (SASS #20214) assisted by firing off a simulated 21-gun salute as the bagpiper walked into the distance playing *Amazing Grace*. As usual, heart-felt tears came to many eyes.

The awards Master of Ceremonies, Saloon Keeper (SASS #56216), with the assistance of the Match Director Doc Kemm (SASS #52557), led the event with distribution of awards to the Regional winners, allowing for a group picture before all dispersed. Following the Regional winner call-out, the clean match shooters graced the stage to collect their awards from Colonel Dan (SASS #24025), adding to the



list of the Stealth Bullet Society members. Category winners were then announced as far down as tenth place in some well-populated categories. (There were 21 shooters in each of the 49'er, Elder Statesman, and Silver Senior categories!) The last awards to be handed out were the Overall Southeast Regional Champion winners. Overall Man Champion was Sidekick (SASS #40914) and Overall Lady Champion was





Gunfight at Givhans Ferry . . .

Shamrock Sadie. For a complete list of match results, go to the Geechee Gunfighters web site at http://givhansferry.homestead.com/scores1.html.

For photos of the Southeast Regional, visit Classic Impression at http://www.authorizedlogin.com/classicimpression/events/2015Ridgeville/.

Following the awards ceremony was the knock-down shootoff with: sixteen Cowboys,

eight Cowgirls, and seven under-18-year-olds. Yes! That's right. The Geechee Gunfighters allows all shooters under the age of 18 to participate in the shoot-off... extra fun for the young ones! There were some first-time Buckaroo and Young Gun shooters; what a great experience for them! Shooters started with their pistols and 10 knock-downs, followed by moving to the next table, hitting 10 more knock-downs with their rifle. The shooters met in the middle at their respective tables, making up any standing knock-downs with their shotgun. The last knock-down overlapping the other determined the winner (with no targets standing or penalties). Georgia's Phantom Rider (SASS #98146) made his way through a few rounds and ended up as Top Buckaroo. The Young Guns ended up in a head-tohead shootoff against cousins Jessie Mae Mucho (SASS #96394) and Dirty Dead Eye Cotton (SASS #96276), with Dirty Dead Eye Cotton taking the lead! Side Saddle Sue (SASS #73023) edged out Ms. Jewel (SASS #62556) for the Top Lady shootoff winner and after several rounds of head-to-head competition, the Men's shootoff was won by Santa Fe River Stan (SASS #36999).

(Continued on page 12)





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Gunfight at Givhans Ferry . . . (Continued from page 11)

The 2015 Southeast Regional Championship was the nineteenth major match for the Geechee Gunfighters. The Match committee decided to stop at the 20-year mark



with the 2016 Southeast Regional slated to be the last Gunfight at Givhans Ferry, scheduled for November 10-13, 2016. The announcement was made by our esteemed Match Director, Doc Kemm at the safety briefing and the awards ceremony on Sunday. So for

those of you who have always wanted to shoot the Southeast Regional near beautiful Charleston, SC, you might want to turn in your applications for the 2016 match as soon as possible (http://givhansferry.homestead.com/info.html). We are planning a twentieth an-



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Gunfight at Givhans Ferry ...

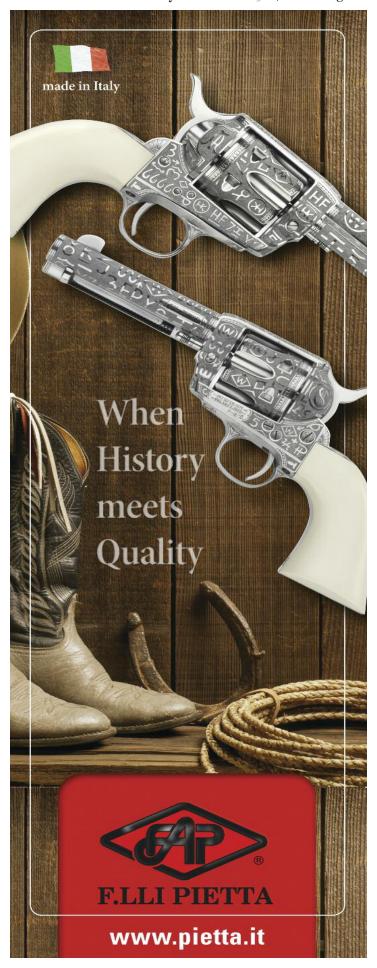


niversary match to top all of our previous matches and we are limiting the attendance to 400 shooters. The

wish to thank all those volunteered to who make this a wonderful match and we're looking forward to seeing Geechee Gunfighters | everyone next year! ...







RED DIRT RAMPAGE

Southwest Regional Championship





Tex and Cat Ballou looking good, as usual.

Saturday night, October 17 2015, at approximately 10:00 p.m., a collective sigh of exultation could probably be heard for miles as the first SASS® Southwest Regional Championship hosted by the Oklahoma Territorial Marshals came to a very successful conclusion. With the threat of inclement weather never far from our minds, we were all pleasantly surprised that we had three

fun-filled days of shooting and never had to shoot in the rain.

Shooting started Thursday with all the best side matches, two practice matches and a Wild Bunch mini-match. Ninety percent of our competitors checked in Thursday so a large group were able to participate in the side matches. (A special thanks to all the volunteers who helped by working a side match.)

Flat Top Okie, SASS #80827

2015

With the expansion of our RV area, we were able to accommodate 38 campers, with water and electric hookups, at the Cowboy range, eight RVs at the Shotgun Range, and 10 hardy souls who chose to dry camp.

We introduced a new method to determine our Top Guns for the match. One bay and an allotted time was set aside for competitors to show up and show off. In the end, our own Roy's Creek Dan (SASS #73697) and Diamond Kate (SASS #95104) were our 2015 Top Guns. Immediately following the finals, Bois D'Arc (SASS #27951) and Tacky Jackie (SASS #99684) provided us with a cookout on the range. We finished off the night with the group singing Happy Birthday and then presenting of a large birthday cake to Cat Ballou (SASS #55).

The stages were well written, with the perfect mix of speed and difficulty to enable us to challenge the best shooters and allow every-

(Continued on page 16)

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Red Dirt Rampage . . .

(Continued from page 14)

one else to still have a great time. Not only was this our first regional, it was also our first match to be shot in flights. The shooters all seemed to like the idea of shooting in morning or afternoon flights as it gave them more time to visit old friends and to shop.

Our open area directly across from stages 1 through 8 showcased many vendors of all types. According to the vendors I talked to, it was a very successful weekend for them also. We very much appreciate the support we received from all our vendors.

Saturday morning whether we were ready for it or not and we were at it again. Some were trying to hold on to the success of the day before and some were striving for redemption. Thanks to the posse members pitching in and working together, the shooting was over by 4:00, which gave our scoring team time to double check all the numbers in preparation for the awards ceremony and still have



COSTUME CONTEST JUDGES Cat Ballou, Cowtown Scout, and Texas Flower take their job very seriously.

plenty of time to dress up in their finest and make it to the banquet at the Western Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

The costume contest was a grand affair with judges Cat Ballou, Texas Flower (SASS #43753) and Cowtown Scout (SASS #53540) working diligently to make very tough decisions and then turn it over to Cat Ballou to present the awards.

We feel very blessed to have been joined by Judge Roy Bean (SASS #1), Justice Lily Kate SASS #1000), Tex (SASS #4) and Cat Ballou.

Red Dirt Rampage coffee mugs were sold with the proceeds being donated to the SASS Scholarship Fund. I was proud to present to Justice Lily Kate with a check for \$1,000.00. To date the SASS Scholarship fund has provided nearly \$750,000.00 in scholarships to very deserving young people.

A very special and heartfelt "Thank You" to our club members Highland Scottie (SASS #73698), Roy's Creek Dan, Gun-A Do It (SASS #98897), Half Rack (SASS #69167), Rockslide (SASS #71068), Prince Charles (SASS #30597), Champagne Rose (SASS #69169), Marley Belle (SASS #71069), Lady Roadrunner (SASS #84776), Thistle (SASS #15705), Landers (SASS #94808), and Sagebrush Sadie (SASS #98898), for pre-shooting the previous weekend to allow them to work during the match so their friends could enjoy themselves.



The Judge and Justice Lily Kate, enjoying the banquet.



BEST DRESSED GIRL WINNERS Annie's Shadow (SASS #88463), Purdy Tall (SASS #100398), and Texas Cutie (SASS #98454).



BEST DRESSED COWBOY WINNERS

Mad Dog McCoy (SASS #17292), Tame Bill (SASS #30699),

and Broncho Red (SASS #22987).

Red Dirt Rampage ...

The long hours devoted to organizing the match by Missouri Mae (SASS #80828) were evident as every part of the match ran like a well-oiled machine. Preparation and organization are the keys to making a match of this size successful.

The banquet was everything that we have come to expect, with good food, plenty of time to visit, and lots of guns given away. After all the awards were presented, 61 clean match shooters were recognized, the Spirit of the Game Award given, and then we got down to listing of the top twenty shooters and announcing the top man and top woman.

Congratulations to Missouri Mae and Creek County Kid (SASS #89945) for not only winning the Southwest Regional Championship but also taking the honors as the top man and women overall and to (Continued on page 18)





Roadrunner (SASS #64196) was the happy recipient Mernickle Holsters generous donation to the prize pool.

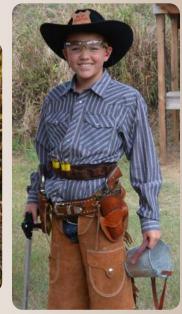


BEST DRESSED COWGIRL WINNERS Tacky Jackie, Lucinda Tincup (SASS #19034), and Annie Hickock (SASS #37899).











Red Dirt Rampage . . .

(Continued from page 17)

all the shooters who are now the Regional Champions of their categories. Please visit our webpage (http://cowboy.okcgunclub.org/reddirt/reddirt_2015.html) to view the many reports detailing the results.

Thanks to anyone whose name I may have missed. I apologize in advance for the oversight.











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Rising like the Phoenix

By The Jersey Kid, SASS Life #287 Regulator

adly when we lost Boyd Davis (General U.S. Grant, SASS #2), the founding Father and past President of SASS, I thought perhaps we had seen the last of one of our early vendors and supporters, Early & Modern Firearms (EMF) of Santa Ana, California. I am happy to inform you that, as a result of partnership backed by Alessandro (Alchimista, SASS #41531) and Alberto Pietta, EMF remains in the cowboy game in a big way. Their recent announcement at the SHOT show in January coincided with their sixtieth year in busi-



The EMF Alchimista by Pietta.



The EMF booth at the SHOT Show.

EMF Rising like the Phoenix ...

ness. EMF is currently being led by our friend and supporter Debbie Sims (California Deb, SASS #38767) as President and the news she has to share is fabulous. Since 1956 EMF has focused its efforts to bring Cowboy Action ShootingTM and Mounted Shooting the best handguns, rifles and shotguns for competitive use and enjoyment and it is exciting to have them back, bigger and stronger!

We are again able to get the Great Western II and The Dakota in all of the various finishes and configurations, but in addition there are numerous new and exciting products. EMF is carrying Rossi, Chiappa, and Pedersoli rifles and shotguns, leather by Jim Buchanan and all of those wonderful accessories and accouterments we have come to rely on EMF to deliver. EMF has also added some high quality U.S.A. made modern firearms to their product line. This modern line includes a lightweight, compact 9mm double action semi-automatic pistol with interchangeable low profile sights. EMF is still offering the SASS "Off Duty" Double Action Revolver, manufactured exclusively for EMF by Charter Arms Co. This revolver is 100 percent American made and is

available in three color choices, Silver, Gold, or the SASS "Chic Lady" in Pink, and they come with the SASS® Logo laser etched in the right side of the frame and are serial numbered to your Single Action Shooting Society member number! The front sight on top of the barrel is a wide ramp, which is perfect for high visibility and quick target acquisition. These revolvers have recoil-friendly neoprene grips and are ergonomically designed for double action firing. Additionally, the hammer is enclosed in the frame, which makes this design "snag free."

Another new exciting announcement is EMF has hired SASS's Cheryl Brand (Slipnoose, SASS #88329), who is coordinating the development and rolling out of the EMF New Shooter Academy nationwide. Working with local SASS affiliates, the academy will consist of both classroom and range sessions, focusing on educating new shooters with an emphasis on recruiting new female and youth shooters—just what we need for the sport! As the dates and locations are finalized look for them both on the SASS and EMF websites. Please check their website (www.emf-company.com) for new products and further information. Welcome back friends!

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- has been dropped and then flared out for the easiest re-holster ever!

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Elk Hunt To Benefit Abused Children

By Dutch, SASS #455

ed Turner's Vermejo Park Ranch has donated ■ a Premium Cow Elk Hunt Package for one hunter and one non-hunter for the live auction at the upcoming Friends of Happy Trails Banquet. This package includes three days and four nights lodging and meals, full guide service (1:1 with hunter plus accompanying non-hunter), and license fees. The winning bidder may select either of the following 2016 hunt dates: October 22-24 or October 31-November 2. The ranch would prefer a youth hunter with a mentor guest but this is not a requirement.

The package value is \$5,950 total (\$3,750 Premium Cow Elk Hunt plus \$2,200 non-hunter stay). An additional cow elk hunt for the companion is available for \$1,550 extra. The package does not include purchases in The Company Store, alcoholic beverages, or customary gratuities for Lodge Staff and Guide. Cinnamon Creek Wild Game Processing is on site and can process and ship the elk for an additional fee.

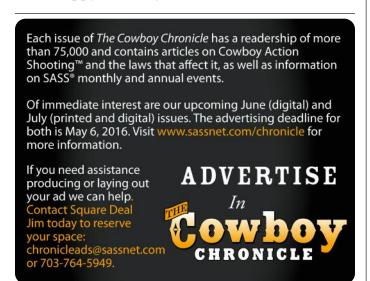
Vermejo Park Ranch is one of the foremost ranches in America, with a distinguished history that stretches back to the late 1800s. It is spread over more than 590,000 acres in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains near Raton, NM. At approximately 920 square miles, this is one of the largest ranches in North America. It reaches into Colorado and covers five distinct ecosystems ranging from an elevation of about 5,000 feet near Raton to more than 14,000 feet at its highest point. Bear, Elk, Buffalo, Deer, Mountain Lions and 20 other

Elk Hunt To Benefit Abused Children . . .

species of mammals call the ranch home. The fishing is great and numerous species of birds are found on the ranch. Visitors frequently compare the ranch to a private National Park. This hunt is a rare opportunity to spend quality time on this magnificent ranch.

Friends of Happy Trails Banquet is an upcoming event to raise much-needed funds to provide for the abused boys served by the Happy Trails Children's Foundation in Apple Valley, CA. This event features fun, food,, entertainment, games, door prizes, raffles, guns, collectibles, and live and silent auctions. Well-known cowboy poet Larry Maurice will be the MC. World famous *Dueling Pianos* will be the featured entertainers. The event will be held on Saturday night, May 21, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn & Conference Center, 12603 Mariposa Road, Victorville, CA. Tickets are only \$40.00 each, Discover, MasterCard and VISA accepted. Order your tickets today, (760) 240-3330.

Why not hunt in the style of the Old West and use a single-shot Sharps or other 1800s vintage style rifle or replica? Separately in the live auction, a deluxe engraved H&R 1871 .45-70 single shot rifle that would be appropriate for this hunt will be offered. You do not have to be present to win the hunt or the rifle. Bids will be accepted by phone, fax (760) 240-1458, and/or on-line till 4:00 p.m. PDT on Friday, May 20. Visit www.happytrails.org for more information.









Life/Regulator #43753

Costuming Corner

STEAMPUNK

What the past would look like if the future had happened sooner!



By Texas Flower, SASS Life/Regulator #43753
Photos by Texas Flower



Did you know the NRA Museum has a Steampunk display? It is advertised as a meeting point of fantasy and history. Various Steampunk fantasy guns are in the display. You can view a few of the guns on their website.

So what is Steampunk? Many people have heard the name, but some do not know what it is or where it came from. Steampunk is "Victorian science fiction" based on a period of time rather than a culture. Steampunk imagines what it would be like if the Victorians had used steam power and clockwork to make gadgets like we have today and how those people might have dressed. Steampunk combines the best of Victorian elegance with adventurous, bizarre inventions. Steampunk often features futuristic innovations as Victorians might have envisioned them based on a Victorian's perspective of fashion and culture. This includes such fictional machines as those found in the works of Jules Verne and H.G. Wells. (Around the World in Eighty Days was published in 1873, Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea was published in 1870, The Time Ma*chine* was published in 1895.)

Steampunk, as we know it, came into prominence during the late 1980s as a subgenre of science fiction, fantasy, alternate history, and speculative fiction. Author, K.W. Jeter coined the word and used it humorously to describe a group of stories set in the Victorian period written during a time when future cyberpunk was the prevailing form of science fiction. Seems the



The fantasy world of Steampunk envisions Victorian-era air travel powered by steam engines and hydrogen-filled balloons.

term stuck, and the concept had a name!

The "steam" in Steampunk involves a setting where steam power is widely used, usually the Victorian Era, that incorporates elements of either science fiction or fantasy. Jeter used "punk" as a tongue in cheek reference to the cyberpunk genre rather than a reference to the punk subculture.

Gears and goggles are popular symbols of Steampunk. Gears, flywheels, and pistons represent the "power lines" of the steam age. Steam power is mechan-

STEAMPUNK costuming for Cowboy Action Shooting



Texas Mac with Texas Flower in his first Steampunk outfit.



Doc Barium dressing Steampunk at the 2015 SASS Convention.

ical power and its transmission demands a network of moving parts. When the gear is put with nineteenth century machinery it becomes a key icon of the genre. The goggles are associated with both science and mechanized travel, both of which are common themes in the Steampunk world. Goggles are not essential but are a piece of fashion that can help give life to a Steampunk costume.

OK ladies, what about the corset



Texas Flower in her first Steampunk outfit.



Cat Ballou-SASS' First Lady of Costuming in her first Steampunk outfit.

you see used in many Steampunk costumes? The corset was a very important piece of "underwear" for the ladies during the Victorian Era. A lady would never have worn it where it could be seen! But for Steampunk the rules can be broken. In the fantasy of Steampunk, a "lady" can show off her corset made with beautiful fabric and decorate it in any manner.

Steampunk has a tremendous diversity of appeal. Some are drawn to it from a love of the Victorian period and some enjoy Steampunk's unique approach to technology. Others are drawn to it in light of its (Continued on page 26)

Steampunk... (Continued from page 25) Steampunk Ste

Steampunk has attracted its own following of costuming enthusiasts. These photos are of attendees at a recent Steampunk Convention in Dallas, Texas



arm-no doubt powered by clockwork.



A Steampunk gentlman.

fashion aspects, which allow them to combine a range of clothing styles and accessories from across the nineteenth century.

So, how do you get started putting a Steampunk costume together? The basic rule is to start with clothing of the time period and then add as many accessories as you feel comfortable using. Decide what you like and go from there. Take a look at the many images of Steampunk outfits on the Internet. Some are absolutely amazing! If you want a special costume, there are several websites that sell Steampunk clothes and accessories. But, if you are a Cowboy Action Shooter[™], you can probably start with the clothes in



An elegant Steampunk couple.

your closet. With a little imagination and some accessories, you can put together a great Steampunk outfit. It will be unique... and that is the fun of it!



Three ladies in full Steampunk splendor.



Club Reports

The Ore Cart at Railroad Flat **Peaceful's Legacy**

By Dusty Webster, SASS #15372

In the early days of SASS®, cowboys and cowgirls in the greater Northern California and Nevada areas gathered at Taylor Park, about a mile east of Railroad Flat, California, to enjoy this new shooting sport. Black powder shooters were already holding their Rendezvous there, amongst the Ponderosa pine trees and manzanita bushes, camouflaging the

remains of a gold mine. Over the years the narrow trail used by black powder shooters was widened for 15-member posses with gun carts. The firing line is still on existing terrain, using the far side of a small ravine as the backstop for the shooting bays. This picturesque shooting range is unique, and Railroad Flat and Taylor Park have a colorful history.



According to information from the Calaveras County Historical Society, the Railroad Flat area was a rendezvous location for local Native Americans. Then the Gold Rush happened. Starting in the late 1840s, all of the Mother Lode was inundated with multi-national





The original Petticoat Mine crew, who created our shooting range gully, now overgrown with native ponderosa pines and manzanita brush.

Peaceful's Legacy ...

gold seekers. At first, surface gold was exposed by washing the rocks with water... except... gold was discovered in 1867 at what is now named Taylor Park by three wives of gold miners (Mary Ann Swank, Mrs. Henry Swank, and Mrs. Post). They were walking to meet another gold miner's sick wife, when Mary Ann stepped off the trail and spotted gold. Mary Ann's husband forthwith staked a claim there, naming it the Petticoat Mine, giving each of the three families a one-third stake.

The easy pickings of finding surface gold dwindled and most of the miners did not have the capital to invest in mining equipment to do hard rock mining. The three families took a note from Mr. Elkanah Said in 1868, Mr. Said became the superintendent and started boring shafts to locate buried veins of quartz, which is sometimes laced with veins of gold. The Petticoat Mine ultimately had three shafts, one of which is 50 feet downrange of our firing line. The rigging and equipment is long gone; what remains is the shaft and concrete footings for the equipment.

The Petticoat Mine was one of many prosperous mines in Calaveras County. Railroad Flat revived into a boomtown.

On September 30, 1868, Mr. Said traveled by wagon with two other men, to make the weekly deposit of gold bullion at the bank in Mokelumne Hill, when four armed and masked horsemen bushwhacked them near the community of Glencoe. Mr. Said was instantly killed by a shotgun blast,

(Continued on page 30)

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Peaceful's Legacy ...

(Continued from page 29)

one man jumped off the wagon, and the other man hightailed it with the wagon and the body of Mr. Said to Mokelumne Hill. The man afoot was tracked down by the outlaws and robbed. He then hastily walked back to Railroad Flat.

A posse of citizens and constables was dispatched from Mokelumne Hill, but the four outlaws had left the area. Then, Ben Thorn, Sheriff of Calaveras County, began hunting down the murderers. Sheriff Thorn located an encampment where he found food containers from Sender's Store. People at Sender's Store identified who purchased the food. (The Sender family still resides in the area, and Sender's Store is still in operation in the town of Mountain Ranch... formerly named El Dorado.) It took nearly four years to bring two of the outlaws to justice, thanks to Sheriff Thorn's detective work of tracking these outlaws through their family and friends.

In mid-1869, Sheriff Thorn captured "Molino" in the town of Mariposa, and "Coyado" in Fiddletown. Molino confessed and helped in the prosecution of Coyado. Molino got a life sentence in prison and Jose





The Ore Cart set up on its track. To the left of and downrange 50 feet is one of three shafts for the Petticoat Mine.

B. Coyado got the noose on June 7, 1873 in the San Andreas jail yard.

Subsequent to the untimely death of Elkanah Said, the Swank and Post families lost their claim in the mine, and it was acquired by Mr. Tommy Taylor. Readers of *The Cowboy Chronicle* have learned about Sheriff Ben Thorn in a previous edition, written by fellow cowboy, Ben Thorn (SASS #5133), who hails from Southern California.

Railroad Flat was so named because of the numerous wood rails laid out across the meadow for transporting hard rock in ore carts pulled by teams of horses. A man with his team of horses was paid \$2.50 per day (that included his taking care of his horses and himself). The Petticoat Mine operated sporadically into the 1930s. Most of the abandoned steel and iron was cannibalized during the 1940s to supply steel factories in support of WWII.

Black Powder Rendezvous started in the 1970s. The High Sierra Shoot Out annual match was started in 1984, held the week before Memorial Day.

Peaceful (SASS #256) and a few other folks designed and built a replica ore cart (named Tinker I) along with a wooden track in 1984 and incorporated it into the Ore Cart stage; the shooter engaged the targets from inside the ore cart while it traveled from one side of the shooting bay to the other side.

Almost twenty years later, Tinker I wore out, so Peaceful, along with a dozen other folks, designed and built Tinker II and a new wooden track. It's now twelve years later and Tinker II is still operating.

Peaceful's Legacy ...

The cart makers are listed inside the cart: Tinker, Peaceful, Grizzley Peak Jake (SASS #62299), Mosebee (SASS #8,606), Nyack Jack (SASS # 6469), Bigsby (SASS #54551), Annie B. Restless (SASS #58669), Fiddletown Flash (SASS #19380), Calaveras Big T (SASS #63497), Joanne Watts, Tippicanoe Slew (SASS #46935), Jerry Bashore (J.B. Gambler, SASS #78,048), and Mudville Slim (SASS #25549).

For several years, the ore cart was included in only the main match, but its popularity inspired the committee to include it as a stage in the Wild Bunch side match, and now it is also a standalone side match stage.

I am aware of only one other SASS venue where the competitor shoots a "sit and deliver" stage



Steel drums were used to haul up rock, debris, and water that seeped into the shaft.

from a moving cart. It is the "funnest" stage I have ever shot, and I never get tired of shooting it.

Since the passing of Peaceful and others, who were instrumental in making High Sierra Shoot Out a success over the years, new cowMay 2016 Comboy Chronicle Page 31 boys and cowgirls have stepped up to keep this event going. In 2007, our annual End of Track match was started by Peaceful, held in October, and it continues in his memory.

In the last few years, stages have evolved, with bigger and closer targets, including a bell, pigs, diamonds, hearts, clubs, spades, buffalos, vultures, tombstone and cowboy racks, a couple of sloped target racks, a new clay bird thrower, lots of hay bales, and hand-held electronic scoring pads.

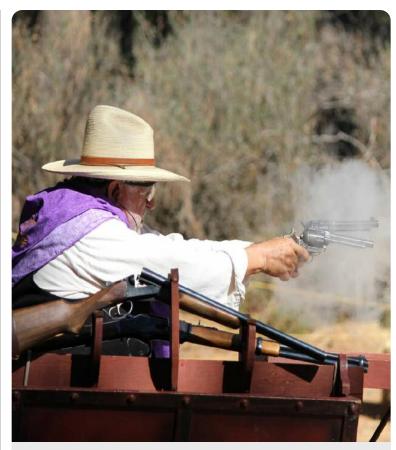
2015 was a challenge, but our trust in god is steadfast. Our region has been enduring a three-year draught. Short on rain and snowfall, our reservoirs are extremely low. With extremely dry conditions in our forests, wildfires are a serious threat. Prayers for rain are commonplace.

In late September, the Butte (Continued on page 32)









Dusty Webster shooting the Ore Cart stage.

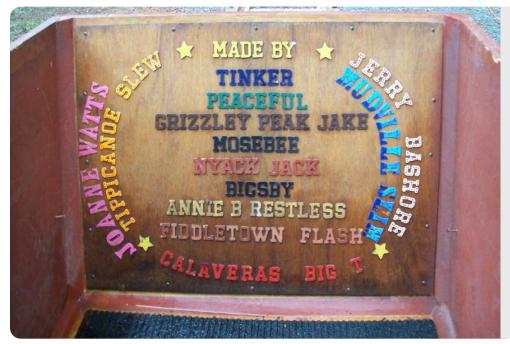
Peaceful's Legacy . . .

(Continued from page 31)

fire ignited and burned more than 70,000 acres of forest lands in Calaveras County and was finally stopped about two miles west of Railroad Flat, sparing the towns of Mountain Ranch, Railroad Flat, our shooting range... and our ore cart.

Our prayers for rain were untimely answered with predicted rain for the weekend of October 17, during our End of Track annual match. After starting our second day of main match shooting, a thunderstorm swept in on us with heavy rains and a nearby lightening strike, forcing the cancellation of the rest of the match. Even though the storm subsided within a couple of hours, the firing line was a muddy mess. We still held our traditional pot-luck BBQ Saturday afternoon, along with the awards ceremony (we had to resort to rank-scoring since half of the shooters completed one half of the stages, and the other half of the shooters completed the other half of the stages).

Our ore cart is now in storage and awaiting setup in May 2016 for our next annual High Sierra Shoot Out (May 26-29, 2016). The legacy of



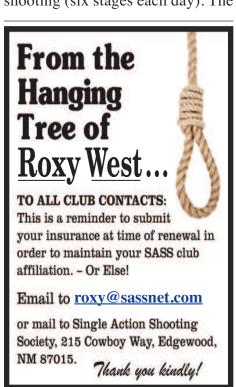
The thirteen people who helped build the ore cart.

Peaceful's Legacy ...

Peaceful continues.

If you are interested in attending either of our annual matches, go to California Gunslingers website (www.californiagunslingers.com), click to Annual Matches and click to High Sierra Shoot Out (in May) or End of Track (in October).

Each match week includes a day for early arrivals and RO classes as offered, a day of side matches, two days of main match shooting (six stages each day). The evening of the second main match day includes a BBQ provided by the committee and pot-luck side plates by the attendees and the awards ceremony. The fifth day features the closeout "Two Thorns and a Rose" team shootout. There is plenty of open area for tents and no-hookup RV camping under the stars. ...







Guns & Gear

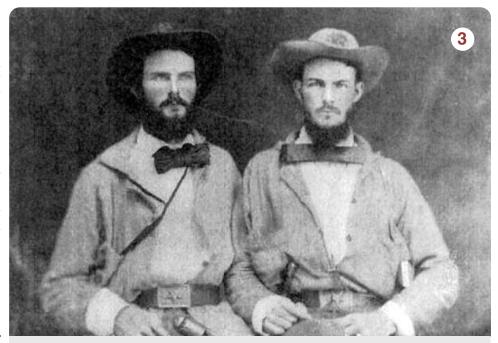
DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR **Building a Military** Costume

By Captain George Baylor, SASS #24287 Life/Regulator

t END of TRAIL last year, I decided to do something different for the Best Dressed Costume Contest. I decided to make my 8th Texas Cavalry Captain's outfit, which I shoot in sometimes, into one suitable for the evening contest even though it wasn't a "full dress" type of uniform but a combat uniform. I considered this risky because it's not an eye-catching uniform. It is also considerably more difficult to prove its authenticity than uniforms with more information available. And, of course, the devil is in the details.

A Brief History of the 8th Texas Cavalry, CSA

On Monday, September 9, 1861, in a warehouse in Houston. Texas, 1170 Texans were sworn in to a cavalry regiment formed by Benjamin Franklin Terry, one of the two or three richest men in Texas. Ten company commanders had spread through Texas recruiting. The recruiting posters read, "None But Texians need apply." Recruits were required to provide



Two cavalrymen wearing 1851 Texas buckles. They weren't wearing them upside down. This is "right side up."

double barrel shotgun or a carbine, a bowie knife, and their own tack, saddle, and mount. In Houston many were given Texas star hatpins and sword belts from the Federal Arsenal in San Antonio (which the Confederates had taken over), and 1851 Texas militia belt buckles. Photographs of the unit members during the war are quite scarce, but at least three of those

their own Colt's pistols, either a | buckles are visible in one photo. This is not to say other buckles weren't used.

> They were not issued uniforms in Houston. Colonel Terry and his staff and company commanders had regulation officers' uniforms they had purchased. At least one officer was photographed wearing a kepi and a complete officer's uniform, with frock coat with cavalry yellow cuffs and collar and

Dispatches From Camp Baylor...



Capt. Baylor at the END of TRAIL Best Dressed.

sleeve braid. Confederate officers were required to purchase their own uniforms. Yellow cloth quickly became virtually unavailable in the south, so not all cavalry uniforms had yellow trim.

The unit went east, reluctantly leaving their horses in Beaumont, Texas. They traveled by train, including boxcars, and boat, and eventually by foot.

In New Orleans the sight of 1200 armed, rowdy Texans in civilian clothes caused consternation, and the locals mistook them for Texas Rangers. Some of the young men liked the idea, especially because of the effect it had on young

women, and they began calling themselves Terry's Texas Rangers. This has caused confusion ever since.

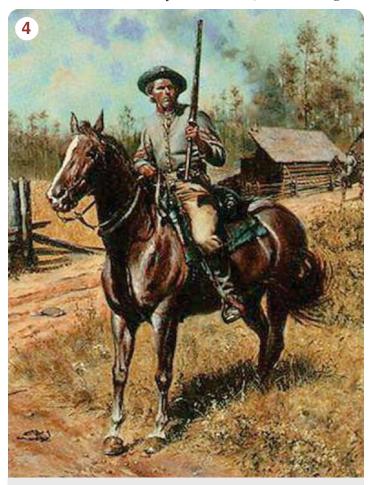
In New Orleans more equipment was issued. Confederates had taken over the Baton Rouge Arsenal and were making CS marked leather gear.

The unit was recruited to fight in Virginia, but Texan General Albert Sydney Johnson ordered them diverted to his command in Kentucky.

It wasn't until they got to Bowling Green, Kentucky that uniforms started to be issued. Photographs show they were generally wearing shell jackets, but considerable variety existed. What few wartime photos there are of officers show both officers' double-breasted coats and plain single-breasted coats with rank on plain collars.

Three different references on the unit have three different stories about how they got horses. Suffice to say, when they went into combat they were mounted. As you would expect of a unit made up of young Texans, their horsemanship was legendary.

Some had as many as four revolvers they carried on their belts and in their coats. Some, in New Or-



Artist Don Troiani's painting of one of Terry's Texas Rangers.

leans and Nashville, had paid as much as \$50 or \$60 for a Colt revolver. An audit showed they had 20 different calibers of arms, making a logistical nightmare for armorers. But they were better armed than most units. The most popular pistol, according to the audit, was the Colt Navy, with 597. The Army Colt was a distant second at 92. A count of 597 double barrel shotguns made it the most popular long gun.

Other than Colonel Terry, what the men didn't (Continued on page 36)



Dispatches From Camp Baylor...

(Continued from page 35)

carry or want was a sword. They were Texans and they fought with Colt revolvers and Bowie knives. Every farm had a shotgun, so most recruits showed up with them, and these proved considerably more effective than carbines in assaults, firing heavy loads of buckshot against massed troops. Conversely, when the unit was forced to fight as infantry, they were no match for Yankee rifles.

Their first contact with the enemy proved costly. At Woodsonville, Kentucky, on December 17, 1861, Colonel Terry was killed during the assault. He wasn't the last casualty by any means. In all they fought in more than 200 engagements. As the war went on the losses in men and horses continued, but reinforcements stopped

coming. As with all Confederate units, supplies were inadequate. At least one member, Ephraim Shelby Dodd, was captured and hanged as a spy for wearing a blue coat.

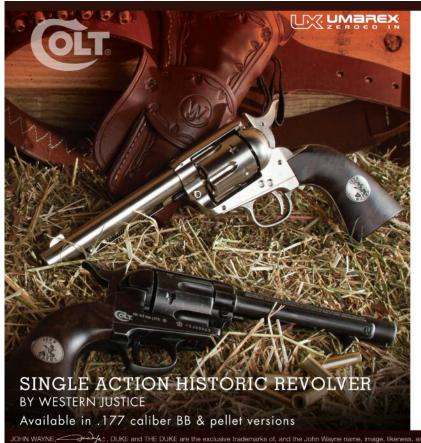
On March 19, 1865, they made their last charge of consequence at Bentonville, North Carolina. Here they lost the last of their senior officers. A young Captain, J. F. "Doc" Matthews, was the senior officer remaining.

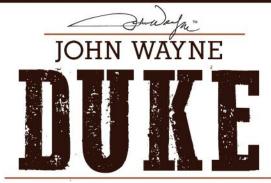
In April the Confederate army lay at Greensboro, North Carolina. General Joseph Johnston was in command while a surrender was negotiated. On April 19, instead of ordering his men to surrender, Captain Matthews resigned his command and turned each company back to its commander with authority to surrender or leave as

it saw fit. On the day before the surrender the command counted 248 men present for duty. At the surrender, April 26, 1865, Captain Tom Weston commanded 90 members of the regiment. The other 158 members chose not to surrender but melted into the countryside and made their way back to Texas. Some made it to Texas without ever surrendering or accepting parole. At least one group, in proper Texas fashion, forged their own letters of parole and bluffed their way through Yankee lines and kept their arms.

Presentation

SASS costume contest regulations allow but do not require presentations. The purpose of a presentation is to explain various points about your costume. It's not





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Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .



Five scouts from the 8th Texas Cavalry. On the left is thought to be Peter L. Kendall wearing an officer's uniform, with a frock coat with yellow cuffs and officer sleeve braid, and a kepi. His boots have knee protectors on the front. The second cavalryman—unknown—is wearing a black telescope crown hat with a curved and dipped brim with a rolled and bound edge, Texas star pin, shell jacket, fringed leggings on boots. The third man is Felix Grundy Kennedy. Hat is similar, but not exactly the same. Shell jacket is open with a white (or natural) shirt. High-topped boots. The fourth man is William A. Lynch. Texas star pin holds his hat's brim to crown. Confederate Cavalry greatcoat over a shell jacket. Around his neck is a cavalry yellow scarf with crossed sabers embroidered on it and carefully centered on his neck. Gun belt with an 1851 Texas Militia buckle. On his right side is a Colt revolver, butt forward. His trousers are tucked into his boots. Fifth man is unknown. He is wearing a porkpie hat with a Texas star pin, shell jacket, and tall boots with fold down tops.

there to show your acting or public speaking skills. There are people who are so afraid of public speaking they won't enter costume contests. They shouldn't be. If you don't want to do a presentation, just ask the judges if they have any questions about your costume. Then answer the questions. Generally, as you do this, you will relax some and can expand and explain the costume. Most judges don't bite. (Those that do have had their shots.)

Clearly this costume needed some explanation.

This is my presentation from END of TRAIL (I started with a Confederate cavalry greatcoat over my uniform):

"It's April 19, 1865 near Greensboro, North Carolina. The 8th Texas Cavalry has been ordered May 2016 Comboy Chronicle Page 37 to formation. Here are a couple of photographs of us in uniform (Photo 2).

"You will note that the fourth man in the first photo is wearing a cavalry greatcoat... like the one I'm wearing. I'll start by taking mine off to reveal the rest of the uniform.

"In 1861 I enlisted as a private in what became the 8th Texas Cavalry. We called ourselves Terry's Texas Rangers.

"Recruits were required to provide our own Colt's pistols, a carbine or double barrel shotgun, a Bowie knife, and our saddle, tack, spurs, and mounts. 1170 of us were sworn in at Houston on September 9, 1861. Except for the original officers, we were issued private's uniforms after we got to Bowling Green Kentucky.

"You will notice that no two men in this photo dressed alike. The man on the left with the kepi

(Continued on page 38)



The belt started life as a San Antonio Arsenal Federal sword belt.

Buckle replaced with 1851 Texas buckle.

Left to right: Spare cylinder pouch, left side pistol holster,

Bowie knife (a copy of one once displayed at the Alamo),

cap box, cartridge box, right side holster.

Background—Terry's Texas Rangers flag.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

(Continued from page 37)

is wearing an officer's frock coat. But the other men are wearing shell jackets with one row of buttons. Some have cavalry yellow cuffs and collar. I'm wearing one with captain's insignia on the collar. When I was first promoted, the quartermaster handed me rank insignia and told me to sew it on, and he handed me a yellow officer's sash and told me to wear it so troops could recognize me as an officer from a distance.

"I'm wearing a hat similar to the one the second man from the left is wearing. We were given Texas star pins for our hats in Houston.

"The trousers were not what I was issued. These came from Yankee supply when mine wore out. They are held up with Yankee issue canvas and elastic suspenders. A lady I had to leave behind gave me the scarf, much like the one worn by the man in the great coat. She had embroidered crossed cavalry sabers on it.



1851 Texas Militia belt buckle.

8

San Antonio federal arsenal (Photo 5). The buckle is from the Texas (Photo 6). None of us wear swords. We carry Bowie knives instead. And we carry as many pistols as we can.

"I carry two pistols, a Colt Army .44 in the right holster and a Yankee colonel's nickel-plated Remington in the other (Photo 7). The holster on the right was issued in New Orleans, and it is stamped "CS Arsenal, Baton Rouge, LA" (Photo 8). The cap box and car-

"My sword belt came from the | tridge box came with it. The other holster doesn't match. I got it from gear we picked up on a battlefield



"CS Arsenal Baton Rouge."

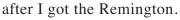


Holsters opened. Left side—"Yankee colonel's nickel plated Remington." Right side—Colt 1860 Army .44.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor...



Worn cavalry boot with worn spur straps and US-issue enlisted spur.



"Along with the pistol, I got a spare cylinder pouch from the Yankee colonel. It holds spare cylinders for the Remington.

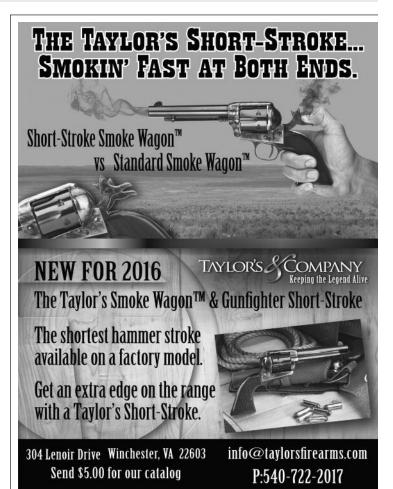
"I'm wearing cavalry boots similar to the third man in the top photo. These have Yankee enlisted spurs (Photo 9).

"Lastly, I keep my last \$10 in my cartridge box (Photo 10). I don't think it will be worth much. We were just told General Lee surrendered and our commander, General Joe Johnson was going to surrender. 248 of us were in formation when it was announced outside Greensboro, North Carolina. On April 26, 1865, 90 surrendered. The rest of us never did."

Hat made by <u>D Bar J Hat Co</u>. Uniform made by <u>Coon</u> <u>Creek Old West</u>. Scarf embroidered by <u>Chickaroo</u>. Buckle by <u>Hanover Brass Foundry</u>. CS Arsenal Baton Rouge Holster, cap box, and cartridge box—Coon Creek Old West. Boots, <u>C & C Sut lers</u>. Remington by Uberti (Taylors). Colt by Pietta. Bowie knife, spurs and straps, gauntlets, and belt "from my collection."



Texas Confederate \$10 bill kept in cartridge box.



History

THE MEDICINE MAN

By Col. Richard Dodge, SASS #1750

The historical Col. Richard Dodge ended his thirty-three-year military career as General William Sherman's Chief Adjutant and was perhaps the most knowledgeable white man in the country about the life of Native-American Indians. In the late 1880s, Sherman commissioned Dodge to write a book that would enlighten those in government about the Indians and encourage transfer of control over the Indians



from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Army. Though the effort failed, Dodge's book, Our Wild American Indians, provides remarkable insight into the life and mind of the Indians who, in his time, were still firmly entrenched in their ancient Stone Age culture. It is from this source and others that we will examine the role of the enigmatic and misunderstood character Westerners have labeled "medicine man."

The faint glimmer of a spark of religious sentiment is no sooner aroused in the breast of the savage, than there immediately appears one 'clothed with authority' to tell him all about it." Dodge's cynical comment on the role of Indians' religious leaders was not limited to the Indians, but unlike modern "politically correct" definitions of the "medicine man," his statements were derived from close observation and perexperience over decades in close contact with the Plains Indians of the Old West.

To understand the role of the medicine man, one must understand the basic religious mindset of the Indian—a religious system developed



This monument succinctly tells the story of the Battle of Adobe Walls.

over hundreds, even thousands of years, shaped by the mysterious forces of the Indians' world and obviously very different from that of "civilized" European cultures, in spite of many remarkable similarities.

An almost universal belief in a supreme being is present, sometimes referred to as "the Great Spirit," a mysterious force responsible for all creation. There are also "good" and "bad" spirits (Dodge refers to them as "good God" and "bad God"). Every Indian's constant concern, men and women both, was to avoid the constant threat of the latter.

The major difference between the Indian and Western religions is the lack of morals—the concept of



The Medicine Man...

"good" or "bad." To the Indian, the good God was anything that aided him in achieving any goal to which he aspired; the bad God was anything that blocked or hindered.

The life of the Indian male, from childhood to old age, was one of self-indulgence. He was free to become whatever he wished, his behavior limited only by few well-understood rules within his tribe. His major avenue to fame, fortune and respect was that of the warrior, the major occupation of most of the Plains Indians, and from childhood he was engaged in mastering the skills required to succeed in the warrior's profession.

Warfare was largely an individual effort to gain fame and a reputation for bravery; each man was his own advertising agency and newspaper. Every meeting of the warriors was a continuous round of strutting braggadocio, each man describing his wondrous deeds in battle, or what deeds he would accomplish in the next. It was understood that stretching the truth was an accepted and admired practice.

Since avoiding or overcoming the efforts of the "bad God" was of utmost importance to the aspiring warrior, it was necessary to discover his own personal "medicine," an object that would provide special powers to guarantee success or ward off the dangers posed by the evil spirit. He discovered his medicine in a sleep- and food-deprived delirium, frequently enhanced by some form of self-torture, and it could be anything—a feather, a special rock, a bit of colored dirt, a lock of hair from an enemy scalp. Visions brought forth in that "dream" were gifts from the man's "good God" and they were sacred beyond all else. Whatever the little collection of items might be, it was kept in a small leather bag and was carried constantly, its contents of utmost secrecy never to be revealed to anyone. They were subject to change and replacement at any time if the medicine were to fail and the quest for more perfect medicine revealed another object. There are medicine bags held in museums to this day, the contents unknown and respectfully preserved.

Into this mysterious spirit world came one "cloaked with authority" who assumed the path to religious leadership, taking advantage of the peoples' firm beliefs in the good and bad spirits to his own benefit. Any warrior could aspire to and even achieve the status of "medicine chief" by the conspicu-

(Continued on page 42)

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The Medicine Man...

(Continued from page 41)

ous display of the power of his own medicine by heroic escapes from sure death at the hands of the enemy, success in counting coup or stealing the enemy's ponies. Repeated spectacular accomplishments that displayed the perfect power of the man's medicine became qualifications that enabled one to slide into the accepted role of "medicine chief," as others begin to recognize the power of his medicine.

Rev. J. J. Methvin tells in his biography of Jose Andres Martinez, a Mexican lad captured by



Jose Andele Martinez

the Apaches in 1866 and adopted by the Kiowas and called "Andele," who aspired to become a medicine man and nearly succeeded before being recovered by the Indian agent at Fort Sill and returned to his family in 1886.

In addition to verifiable bravery in battle, the medicine man had to be many things far beyond that of the average warrior. Ambition, of course, was most important, with a deep understanding of human nature, something called

"charisma," great oratorical skills, the sleight-of-hand skills of a magician, a fertile imagination, a quick mind, a readiness to take advantage of any opportunity to enhance his reputation, unshakable dignity, and confident leadership; all were necessary components of a successful medicine man.

Frequently sharing authority with the war chief, the medicine man was responsible for much of the mischief during the Indian Wars. Their influence could override the judgment of the chief's and often did.

One of the most notable incidents of a medicine man's faulty leadership came in June of 1874. A famed Comanche medicine man, Isa-Tai, of the fierce Quahadi



Isa-Tai

Comanche, coaxed famed war chief Quanah Parker to gather warriors from several allied tribes to drive out the hated buffalo hunters in the quickly waning years of Comanche power. The origin of Isa-Tai's name is shrouded in mystery; it is the vulgar term for "coyote vulva." In spite of that, he was a respected



Ouanah Parker

medicine man among the Quahadi, the most savage of the five Comanche tribes, led by Parker.

Gathering a group of some 250 Comanche, Kiowa, Cheyenne and Arapaho warriors, Isa-Tai convinced them that his medicine would make them invincible to the white man's bullets. They appeared on the ridges around a small settlement in the northeastern part of the Texas panhandle, every man stark naked, both he and his horse covered with an ochre-colored clay powder—Isa-Tai's bulletproof medicine. One can only imagine the sight. This was a time when the power of the Plains Indians was being severely destroyed by depletion of the buffalo herds and the relentless efforts of a determined U.S. Army. It was a last-ditch effort for survival, desperate for any effective leadership that might drive the hated white man away and bring back the old way of life.

In the ensuing Battle of Adobe Walls, the Indians' frantic attack was badly repulsed, the ochre clay ineffective against the white man's bullets from within the heavily for-

The Medicine Man...

tified trading post. Many irreplaceable braves were lost in the two-hour assault. Quanah Parker was observed lifting more than one dead body from the ground with one arm while still mounted and carrying it away. Finally the surviving warriors withdrew out of range of the white man's repeating rifles, hoping their withdrawal would bring the defenders out into the open. Some curious scouts rode to an overlook to watch. It was then that buffalo hunter Billy Dixon made one of the most famous shots in Old West history; after two ranging shots with a borrowed Sharps .50-90 buffalo rifle, he knocked one of the scouts off his horse at some 1,300 yards. The discouraged Indians withdrew and scattered; Isa-Tai's medicine had failed him and them. His reputation was essentially ruined and the Plains Indian wars ended shortly thereafter.

Not only was the medicine man required to be of admirable bravery, he was responsible for calling on the good spirits to overcome the effects of the evil spirits, especially in the event of any mysterious illness. Here was when sleight-of'-hand became useful. If incantations failed, the "healer" would pretend to actually probe into the victim's body and withdraw an object, sometimes a stone, perhaps a squirming lizard kept handy for just such a purpose, maybe a piece of cactus. Holding the offending object aloft, he would proclaim the victim healed. Sometimes it even worked and the victim recovered. If the victim did not, it simply meant the evil spirits had not been driven away yet. The process would be repeated until the victim recovered or died.

In some tribes the medicine man was paid only if the patient recovered; in others, payment was up front and many medicine men were quite wealthy, owning large herds of fine ponies, their lodges decorated with the finest articles paid by desperate patients. He was a favorite of the women, who would bring choice servings of food or fine ornaments to gain his favor. All women had free access to his teepee, while only a select few men were admitted.

Methvin tells of Andele's efforts to heal his adopted Kiowa father at Fort Sill. His realization after impoverishing himself by hiring a series of medicine men, all of whom failed to heal the dying man, was the Indian's medicine was worthless. The thought jolted him to turn to a white man's doctor—and "the white man's road."

Today, medicine men and women are recognized and respected members of the many tribes, spiritual leaders of significant influence in tribal matters. They are keepers and strong believers of tradition and knowledge of the old ways, even though they may have full confidence in the value and effectiveness of modern medicine. The old beliefs have value even in our modern world, for they indicate the natural evolution of the human mind in the absence of modern technology, as humans did for millennia. They reveal innate human urges in religion, relationships, artistic expression and adaptation. They reveal to us the wonderful diversity of our own species, which we are wise to know and understand and respect.

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Law and Disorder in a Mining Town



By Big Dave, SASS #55632



Big Dave, SASS #55632



Many of Bodie's gunfights were alcohol related.

odie, California is a ghost town now, but during the 1870s it was home to between 5,000 and 7,000 people. A substantial amount of gold was taken from the area surrounding Bodie, which drew all sorts of questionable characters to the town. It soon acquired a reputation for being a pretty rough place,



even for a "boom" town.

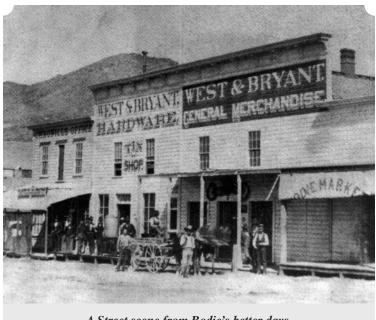
A group of prospectors discovered gold in the area in 1859. Among them was a fellow named W.S. Bodey. The spelling of Bodey's name got lost in the mix and the town that grew up in the area became known as "Bodie." Nine years later, two stamp mills were established nearby but they both failed. In 1876, the Standard Company (not to be confused with Standard Oil) found a large enough deposit of gold-bearing ore to warrant a "gold rush."

Mining was and continues to be a back-breaking, dangerous occupation. If there was a stamping mill nearby, it was also extremely noisy. The stamping mills crushed quartz into small pieces and ran morning, noon, and night. Huge cams powered by steam (and later electricity) drove the stamp downward into chunks of quartz, pulverizing them so gold could more easily be extracted. If a town was located near a stamping mill, its residents would live with the constant pounding noise. Every few seconds would be interrupted by a crashing sound. I suppose people eventually got used to it, but the noise must have made them pretty edgy.

Another problem with Bodie was it was located 8,000 feet above sea level in the harsh environment of the Eastern Sierras. Once winter set in, it was difficult to get in or out of the place, so you were stuck there in the middle of nowhere. Assuming he can still speak coherently, Lamar Odom might attest to the fact that "A fool and his money are soon partying."

There was entertainment to be had in the form of saloons, brothels, and opium dens, but if you mixed that sort of thing with firearms—as was frequently the case—someone was going to get hurt. People got into stupid arguments, which quickly

Law and Disorder in a Mining Town . . .



A Street scene from Bodie's better days.

escalated into gunfights. The "law" in Bodie was only intermittently enforced. Sometimes the townsfolk took the law into their own hands. The following story is an example.

On Jan 13, 1881, Thomas Treloar and Joseph DeRoche got into a dispute when Treloar found his wife dancing with DeRoche during a ball at the Miner's Union Hall. There had been rumors of a romantic connection between Treloar's wife, Johanna, and DeRoche in the past. Sources vary in their accounts of what happened over the next few hours, but at around 2:00 a.m. DeRoche shot Treloar in the head as he was walking down the street. Treloar died almost instantly and DeRoche was arrested soon afterwards.

Joseph DeRoche was handed over to the town's deputy sheriff, who was drunk. DeRoche quickly escaped and eluded the local vigilantes until he was captured three days later. The vigilantes and townsfolk had a meeting and decided enough was enough. DeRoche was taken to the place where he'd shot Treloar and hanged from a hoisting frame. It wasn't a swift death—they pulled him off the ground with a noose around his neck.

The Bodie police force wasn't necessarily composed of upstanding citizens. One member, William Withrow, was a saloon owner who got his job after he shot a gambler during an argument. Apparently, he pulled out a pistol and shot the man at

point blank range in the stomach. The gambler died, folks were impressed that the saloon owner knew how to use a gun, and he was invited to help keep the peace in Bodie. This sort of thing wasn't uncommon in the Old West—a lot of lawmen started their careers on the other side of the law.

It could be a difficult job to be a constable in Bodie. There was a lot of drunkenness and mayhem in the place. Sometime after midnight in the summer of 1881, a citizen named George Center, who had been drinking beforehand, was walking (or perhaps lurching) down the street in the middle of town with a pair of Colt Lightnings when he decided to start shooting them. Constable Richard O'Malley was following behind and asked Center to give him the guns before someone got hurt. Center thought it would be a better idea to shoot the weapons at Constable O'Malley.

Fortunately for the constable, George Center wasn't a great shot. (If you've been drinking heavily, it's hard to hit anything at all, especially at night—not that would I condone or recommend such activities.) A bullet passed through O'Malley's coat and a second shot hit O'Malley's pistol, which he had drawn. O'-(Continued on page 46)

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Law and Disorder in a Mining Town . . .

(Continued from page 45)

Malley's gun wasn't damaged, so he was able to return fire, hitting Center in the hand and leg. Center surrendered and was charged with disturbing the peace. Amazingly, the town's newspapers came out with editorials that criticized Constable O'Malley because there weren't any laws against discharging firearms in the street at night.

Perhaps the writers thought O'Malley was being overzealous-maybe they thought he should have left Center alone to have his fun. I wasn't able to find out how the incident was resolved. but it illustrates how citizens sometimes turn against the very people who try to protect them. It isn't necessarily a modern phenomenon. As Joseph Stalin once



The Colt Lightning was a popular firearm in the late 1870s and 1880s.

remarked, "Gratitude is an affliction of dogs."

It didn't always go poorly for the police in Bodie. A (presumably) off-duty police officer named Jack Roberts was having a few drinks in the Comstock Saloon when Jack Myers entered the place. Roberts and Myers apparently didn't like each other very much. When Officer Roberts saw Myers walk by, he shot him four times. Myers fired one shot and missed, then died. The folks in Bodie had a high opinion of Officer Roberts and a low opinion of Myers. No charges were filed against the police officer for shooting Jack Myers, even though there was no immediate provocation for



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Law and Disorder in a Mining Town ...



The ghost town is a must-see for anyone traveling on Highway 395.

the shooting. It's always good to have friends.

A particularly meaningless death occurred in the Dividend Saloon in January, 1881. David Bannon, an employee of the Standard Mine took a "sick" day off and went on a drinking spree. One of his friends, Ed Ryan, recognized him at the bar and grabbed the lapel of Bannon's coat. The lapel tore, Bannon took offense, and punched Ryan. Ryan protested something to the effect that they were friends, but Bannon drew a handgun. A huge fight erupted, Ryan drew his own weapon, and the pair were both shot and wounded. Bannon died and Ryan was charged with no wrongdoing.

It was fairly easy to get an acquittal on the grounds of self-defense in those days. If you shot a person who made threatening remarks toward you, or was armed when the dispute occurred, you had a pretty good chance of being released. Your standing in the community also helped. A shooter who was generally considered a miscreant was more likely to be found guilty. Most juries felt if a person started a fight and lost, then it was just too bad for him, especially if that person was unpopular.

After 1881, the gold began to run out and the population of Bodie began to decline. There were strikes in Montana, Utah and Arizona that drew away the single guys who wanted to get rich quick. As a result, the people left were more family-ori-

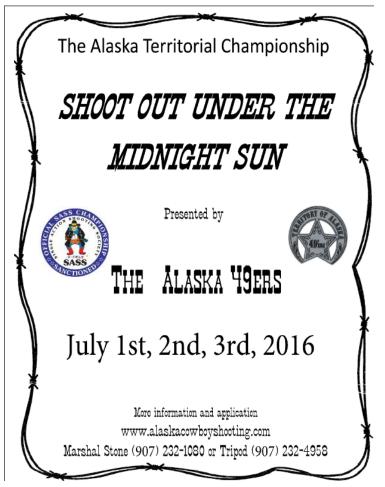


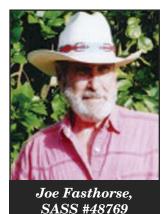
ented. Most of the brothels, saloons and opium dens moved away or closed down. By the late 1880s, there were less than 1,000 people left. Bodie was no longer the wild place it once was.

Bodie continued to limp into the twentieth century, but there wasn't much to bring new people into the area. The town's last newspaper was printed in 1912. Mining continued, but on a very small scale and was mostly made up of independent claims. There was no railroad to Bodie after 1917 and travel by automobile was accomplished by driving up a remote dirt road. The place had long ago been hunted out, so there was nothing to draw sportsmen. A photograph taken in the 1920s shows deserted streets and closed stores. A bar or two remained open for business nevertheless.

In 1932, a fire took out many of the abandoned buildings in Bodie. The structures that survived the fire are what you see today if you visit the ghost town. The last gold mill was closed during WWII when gold mining was suspended in the U.S. for the duration of the war. Ironically, the mill caught fire in 1946 shortly after the ban was lifted. After that, the town was abandoned.

(Continued on page 49)





LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE

-Way Out West-

By Joe Fasthorse, SASS #48769

EORGE SCARBOROUGH was a cowboy, gunfighter and lawman. He was born in Louisiana on October 2, 1859. The Scarborough family moved to Texas when George was a teenager and he worked as a cowboy until appointed sheriff of Jones County in 1885. Scarborough earned a reputation as a gunfighter when he became a Deputy U.S. Marshal at El Paso, Texas in the 1890s. He shot and killed a tough Texan named Martin McRose and two years later he gunned down Constable John Selman. Scarborough claimed both men drew their guns first, but no gun was found on Selman's body. Because a local thief claimed to have stolen Selman's gun after the gunfight, the Scarborough was acquitted. Scarborough had been feuding with Selman ever since the constable shot and killed Bass Outlaw. Bass Outlaw was a good friend to George Scarborough. Prior to being shot by Constable Selman, Outlaw had killed a Texas Ranger named McKirdict, so the Constable was acquitted. Scarborough was also well known as an expert tracker when chasing outlaws. He and El Paso Police Chief Jeff Milton tracked Bronco Bill Walter and his gang of cutthroats to their

hideout in Solomonville. Arizona. Bronco Bill was captured, one gang member was killed and the rest of the renegades scattered. Later that year, the two lawmen caught up to Burt Alvord and his band of desperados in Fairbank, Arizona. In the gunfight that followed, Jeff Milton was wounded and gang members Three

Fingers Jack Dunlop and Bravo Juan Yaos were killed. Burt Alvord was captured. Scarborough then moved on to New Mexico, where he was employed as a hired gunman for the Grant County Cattlemen's Association. While there, he participated in the capture of stagecoach bandits Pearl Hart and Joe Boot. In 1900, Scarborough was in a shootout with George Stevenson and Jim Brooks. He killed Brooks and wounded Stevenson but was shot in the leg in the fight. His leg was amputated and George Scarborough died four days later. 4



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Reviews-Products

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By Blue, SASS #9262, CMSA #64

70W!! Cimarron got it right, riders. I just tested a loaner Cimarron 1889 double barrel shotgun for mounted shotgun shooting. Cimarron listened to what the mounted shooter needed for this sport and they delivered it. When I conceived the sport more than ten years ago, I often wondered if we need a specialty shotgun to support the event. Well, the wondering is over; Cimarron has delivered a superb example that will serve mounted shooters in our very competitive event. The loaner Cimarron sent me (serial no. 021) is in .410 bore, with a 20" barrel, deep blued metal, and 14" length of trigger pull with non-slip butt pad. It has a manual safety and a single trigger. The Schnabel forearm helps keep your hand from

slipping off the front. The Prince of Wales or round knob grip is easy to handle for any competitor (making the overall shotgun easy to handle with one or two hands). The select walnut stock and forearm sport 26-line-per-inch checkering. The balance of the piece is just slightly in front of the hinge pin and there does not appear to be any choking in the bores. The trigger guard has a very large trigger loop so you can get your finger in and out easily. All that in a fivepound package! That adds up to a very well balanced and outstanding shogun for mounted cowboy shotgun shooting.

The numerous comments I received when I showed the shotgun to competitors at the Pendleton Round-Up CMSA Shoot and the Ellensburg Rodeo Shoot-Out ranged from "I want one now" to "it's just the right one for me." Others commented on its "light weight without being 'whippy'" and many said, "I am going to upgrade to this Cimarron as soon as I can."

I fired 50 Circle 'E' and Whitehouse certified blanks in this shotgun with absolutely malfunctions. There was no modification needed to the gun whatsoever. I just started using it right out of the box. I also managed to get in two rounds of skeet shooting while I was testing the shotgun.

The question now becomes, have I been a good enough cowboy over the last year that my wife will buy me one of these superb Cimarron 1889 .410 shotguns for my birthday? ...

Law and Disorder in a Mining Town . . .

(Continued from page 47)

These days, Bodie sees about 200,000 visitors a year. The only ruffians wandering about are the tourists' ill-mannered children. Nobody has been shot or lynched in Bodie for a long time.

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Scholarship Recipient 2015

Sass E. Miss, SASS #78893

Edited & Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000





Howdy y'all! My name is Aubrey Garner (Sass E. Miss, SASS #78893) and I am from Buford, Georgia. My grandpa Ray Smith (Will E. Shoot, SASS #36318) had been taking my older brother Cyle Shelton (Coyot E. Cyle, SASS #56665) shooting for a few years, and I always wanted to go but I had to wait until I was old enough and big enough to carry around the guns. Finally, when I turned eleven I was able to start shooting and I have been participating at my home club, The Cherokee Gun Club located in Gainesville, GA, and also at River Bend Gun Club, in Dawsonville,

GA. When I first started competing I was very shy and quiet, but everyone I met was kind and encouraging. They told me how great I did after each stage and gave me advice on how to improve for the next one. The most important thing I learned was to always have fun. No matter if you win or lose, as long as you have fun shooting, you'll always have a successful match. Over time, I became less and less shy and now I talk to everyone about how school and shooting is going. Within the past couple of years, my younger sister Ashtyn Garner (Lil' Bit E. Miss, SASS #96759) has joined my grandpa and me. This was a great experience for me because I was able to teach her all the tips and tricks I've learned over the years.

I am majoring in Genetics at the University of Georgia (Go Dawgs!) and minoring in Spanish. In the future, I want to be a pediatrician specializing in children with birth defects. I am a freshman this year and with the help of the SASS Scholarship and other academic scholarships, I have only had to pay a small amount out of pocket. This was a big burden lifted off my shoulders and my family's, so thank you to everyone who donates to the SASS Scholarship Fund and the Young Shooters Fund. Hopefully, during the summer of my sophomore year I will be able to participate in a study abroad program in Argentina. Through this program, I will be able to complete my minor in Spanish and will be able to get hands on experience interning at a children's hospital.

My biggest influence and supporter in shooting has always been my grandpa. When I first started, he was always there to coach me and push me to go faster. But now that I beat him he doesn't say anything anymore! We have always had a friendly competition. He had just started shooting outlaw when I began shooting, so our times were pretty similar. Then when I started getting faster, he changed to B-Western so we would be on a more even playing field. Now I beat him, so our

(Continued on next page)

Scholarship Recipient 2015 • Sass E. Miss, SASS #78893 . . .

(Continued from previous page)

competition was fun and it made me faster. He did the same thing when my sister started shooting, and I remember her getting so excited when she beat him for the first time on a stage! He has been our alarm clock, fashion consultant, chauffeur, sponsor, and most im-

portantly, the most loving grandpa two girls could ask for. I have grown so close with everyone with whom I shoot. They really are my family. We always joke that I have a hundred grandparents waiting to see me Saturday mornings. I love you all, and I am excited for all of the matches and good times to come!

Government Gun Bans Will Not Stop Criminals or the Insane!

By Sass E. Miss, SASS #78893 Edited & Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000

nti-gun fervor has increased within the past few decades due to mass shootings like the Columbine High School massacre and the Newtown Connecticut shooting. People do not want to fear for their lives or the lives of their loved ones when they walk into a school or movie theater. Pro-gun control activists wrongly blame the gun for these occurrences and not the real culprit, the person doing the shooting. A gun has never killed anyone, not even a loaded gun has ever killed anyone; victims are harmed only by the person pulling the trigger.

Many people who are for gun control believe if the government limits the number of guns in the country or completely prohibits them, gun related crimes will decrease. This is incorrect because if such a law were passed, it would only punish the law-abiding citizens who legally own guns. It would leave them totally defenseless against criminals who would not give up their guns and still have access to black market and illegally obtained guns. Take Chicago for example, it has some of the strictest gun laws, and yet one of the highest crime rates, in the country.

In 1982, the city of Chicago instituted a ban on handguns and in the few years following crime rates skyrocketed. To prove this whole point, look at the difference between Chicago and Houston. "Houston is very similar to Chicago in terms of socioeconomic factors such as population, density, and segregation. Houston, like Chicago, is a major center for illegal activities such as the drug trade and human trafficking.

Despite all this, Houston has a murder rate two-thirds that of Chicago. This is because the people of Houston are well armed, while innocents in Chicago have been condemned to be sitting ducks" (Charlie Vidal).

Instead of banning guns, there should be better gun awareness and an effort towards improving society. If people were taught gun safety instead of the negative images they see on videogames and the news, there might not be as much gun related violence. If people knew how much damage a gun can do, maybe they would think twice before pulling the trigger.

A start towards ending violence is improving the home lives of kids so they do not grow up hating the world and feeling like they have to take their frustrations out on others. There should be more focus on decreasing poverty and gangs and increasing the availability of help to the mentally ill. By trying to prevent a person from committing the crime instead of banning a piece of metal, there might actually be decreases in these crimes.

As Thomas Jefferson said, "The greatest danger to American freedom is a government that ignores the Constitution." It is our duty to preserve our rights and the Second Amendment so future generations can look to us as a precedent on standing up for what we believe.

Scholarship Essays represent the opinions of the writer and are not necessarily an accurate reflection of the opinions of SASS.

Profiles

Scholarship Recipient 2015

Little Miss Attitude, SASS #78424

Edited & Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000





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y name is Ashley Picht (Little Miss Attitude, SASS #78424). I was born to Daniel and Kelly Picht, (Zane, SASS #19795 and Nora Spect, SASS #21604). I have a younger brother, Lane (Wild Coyote Lane, SASS #78425), who also shoots with us. My grandparents Bill and Ruth Picht (Itasca Bill, SASS #16234 and Anita Nugun, SASS #16235) introduced my parents to shooting which then led my brother and me to start. We shoot at Lookout Mountain Gunsmoke Society in Virginia, MN, which is home to the Squinty-Eye Western Shoot.

Shooting has had a positive impact on my life even before I personally started shooting. The sport has taught me a lot about responsibility, respect, and having fun in a somewhat professional manner. The skills I have obtained throughout my years of involvement will be very beneficial for me as I prepare to leave for college this fall. I will be attending Bemidji State University to pursue a career in chemistry. With a major in chemistry I plan to become a high school chemistry teacher. Having grown up spending a majority of my summers traveling to matches will help me in moving to another city. Along with the traveling came meeting new people, which will also help once I am in college.

I owe my parents and grandparents a huge thank you for all they have done for me throughout the years. I would have never heard of SASS® or Cowboy Action Shooting™ without them and would have never had the opportunities I have been given the past few years. My parents and grandparents, as well as other family, teachers, and fellow shooters, have always been very influential and have encouraged me to always pursue what I want and what makes me happy. I would also like to thank SASS for awarding me this scholarship so I can pursue my future, and all the other SASS members that have been a positive influence on my life. ♣

Benefits of Gun Ownership

By Little Miss Attitude, SASS #78424 Edited & Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000

hy would the government want to make it harder for people to own a gun? There is a simple answer, they do not know enough about the benefits of allowing law-abiding citizens to own guns. As a seventeen-year-old high school senior, I may not know everything I need to know about gun control laws or guns in general, but I do know enough to argue my case and get my point across. With all the violence, crime, and negative stigma revolving around guns, it can be understood why the government would want to take away the rights of gun owners. One must think reasonably and take note that criminals who misuse guns are somehow going to get them whether legal or illegal. Proper education and training makes a world of difference, and not allowing lawabiding citizens to own guns solves nothing.

Gun control laws only take firearms away from individuals who deserve the right to bear arms. While in theory gun control laws have a good intention, they truly don't achieve their purpose. Criminals who cannot legally purchase a firearm will still manage to obtain possession of one illegally. Thirty nine percent of convicted felons who were involved in crimes where firearms were a factor stated they illegally obtained that firearm from a street dealer and only 0.7 percent said they purchased their firearm legally. Illegal street dealers will still manage to sell firearms to criminals even if citizens who legally purchase and properly use their firearms have their rights taken away.

Not allowing law-abiding citizens to own guns takes away more than just a gun. I have grown up

around guns and shooting sports and have not once ever felt unsafe. The reasoning being because all of the SASS members I know have learned that respect and responsibility come with gun ownership. Many of the people I know, including my parents and grandparents, have their permit to carry. I find the carry permit has a great purpose. It provides a peace of mind to not only my family but to myself. Knowing no matter where I am there could be an individual armed and ready to take action to protect is admirable. Taking away gun rights will take that feeling of security away as well.

Proper gun etiquette is one of the most important things the government needs to consider when taking away the right to bear arms. Through the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™ and growing up in an active shooting family, I have learned a great deal about what is right and wrong when it comes to guns. Giving youths and adults proper firearm safety training can help prevent the misuse of firearms. It could also get more people interested in partaking in groups like SASS and the NRA.

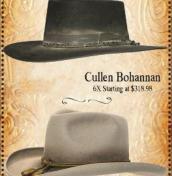
Granted, criminals will always be criminals. But instead of preventing law-abiding citizens from acting on their Second Amendment rights, a better use of resources would be to fund training programs for people who are interested in furthering their firearm education.

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Josie Wales

Trail Markers

Whiskey Rivers, SASS #15783

July 12, 1941-January 30, 2016

eid Blake (Whiskey Rivers) passed on at the end of January. His passing was totally unexpected and shocked all of us.

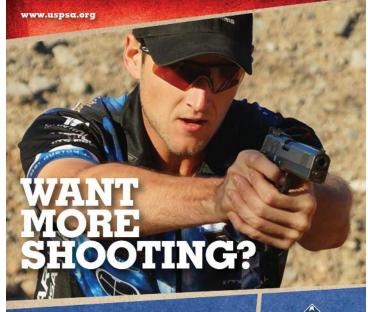
Whiskey was one of the first SASS® members I met when I started shooting with the Richmond Rough Riders in 2001. He was always helpful and always had a great story to tell. Whiskey was an RO for as long as I can remember. Whiskey loved to



design stages and was very fond of sweeps. He loved the "Hop Toad Shuffle," "Bad Jack Abernathy," and "Indiana" sweeps. Whiskey instrumental in bringing back our annual match, the Richmond Round Up. He was always at our monthly practice and bimonthly matches to help set up honored stages. We

Whiskey at our February match with a Cowboy 21-gun salute. Whiskey's wife Gina, sons Scott and Steve, their wives and children attended.

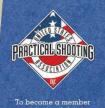
Rest in peace Whiskey, you are sorely missed by all of us. Vaya con Dios and Happy Trails till we meet again. -Leapin Otis (SASS #36646) for the Richmond Rough Riders .



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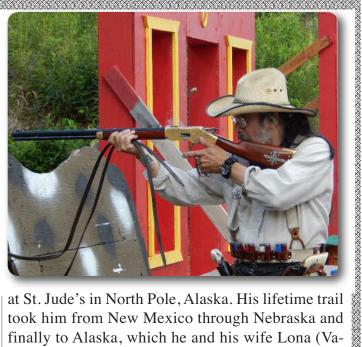
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Poco Loco Louie

September 7, 1947-January 3, 2016

uis Uzueta, aka Poco Loco Louie (SASS →#10587), reached the end of his trail unexpectedly on January 3. One of the original and life members of the Golden Heart Shootist Society out of Fairbanks and Chatanika, Alaska, Poco remained active throughout his membership, serving as Match Director for the SASS Alaska State match for a number of years and most recently accepting a second term as the GHSS Trail Boss while remaining an active shooter. As an RO II, he often served as timer/operator, guiding shooters expertly through their courses of fire.

Not only was he a shootist—duelist at that—but at one time he was the publisher and editor of two weekly Nebraska newspapers, an award-winning photographer and for the last 40 years served as an Episcopal priest in various capacities, most recently



at St. Jude's in North Pole, Alaska. His lifetime trail took him from New Mexico through Nebraska and finally to Alaska, which he and his wife Lona (Valencia Rose, SASS #10588) called home.

A custom firearms engraver, many club members have wonderful and constant reminders of (Continued on page 59)



Miss Silky, SASS #27786

December 29, 1954-July 21, 2015

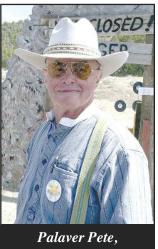
Tiss Silky (Christine Marie Adams) was very enthusiastic about SASS and had a great sense of humor, evidenced by her second alias, Stale Evans (SASS #74626), under which she competed as a Classic Cowgirl. Silky was Lady Duelist Arizona State Champion in 2006. She had other interests related to Cowboy Action ShootingTM, such as being a member of The Yavapai Cowbells of Arizona. She is greatly missed. ...



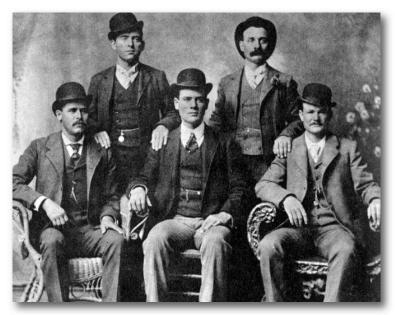
Articles

THE ROAD TO MINNEMUCCA **

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375



SASS Life/Regulator #4375



ver the years, Palaver Pete has written articles about his travels to and from various Cowboy Action ShootingTM matches. These articles received many favorable comments and the demand for more was inspiring. So, to renew old memories, we will be running Palaver's articles again—call it "a nostalgic return to yesteryear" if you will. This is the second and also one of the most popular. Enjoy!

"The Hole-in-the-Wall Gang was a gang in the American Wild West, which took its name from Hole-in-the-Wall Pass in Johnson County, Wyoming, where several outlaw gangs had their hideouts." Wikipedia.

When turning east on Oregon State Highway 140 at Lakeview and heading toward Winnemucca, Nevada, you'd best ensure the gas tank is full and your personal safety firearm is loaded. Prudence would also suggest you carry backup food and water and your cell phone is fully charged. You may travel the next 103 of the 206 miles to Winnemucca before passing another car or seeing a human being. Your only company will be the don-

keys left over from Gold Rush and mining days. The long eared critters were abandoned by miners in the late 1800s and left to fend for themselves... Well they fended very well and multiplied very well, and they are thriving in the solitude Highway 140 and the surrounding area provides.

At the 103 mile point there is a store, gas station, and small motel located at Denio, Nevada. If you sneeze when approaching Denio, there's a good chance you might miss it, so be attentive. After Denio, the next 103 miles to Winnemucca is a repeat of the previous high and low desert type country—it's a lonely and desolate area of this planet, but also very beautiful.

My wife Sandy (Talks Much Woman) and I were on our way to a Cowboy Action match in Nevada. We planned to drive there via all the back roads we could find and highway 140 served as a good start. Winnemucca was our first destination, not only because of its isolation but also for the famous Basque restaurants located there. Basque food is not the only notoriety Winnemucca enjoys—it is considered by many as the premier location for soiled doves and the services they provide. Apparently, weekly busloads of bachelors arrive there and quite often included in that throng is a philandering husband or two. Of course I wouldn't know anything about that, and Sandy took note of my unfamiliarity with the area.

Although not as well known as other historical western towns such as Deadwood or Tombstone. the history of Winnemucca goes back to around 1830. However, the description and history of Winnemucca can best be told by David W. Toll of the Nevada Travel Network located on the Internet at:

(Continued on page 59)

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- · Wild Bunch
- Top 16 ShootOff
- Team Shoot
- Plainsman
- Costume Contest



- Buckaroo/Buckarette match
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Wednesday, Aug 10 11:00 - 2:00: Shooter Check-in

8:00-12:00: Shooter Check

12:45- 4:30: ROII Class 1:00- until: Wild Bunch, 3 stages

1:30- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages

2:00- 5:00: Cowboy Trap* 5:00- 7:00: Shooter Check-in 7:45- until: Black powder night shoot

Thursday, Aug 11

7:00-11:00: Long range, 100y & 400y*

8:00- 2:00: Shooter Check-in 8:00-11:00: Cowboy Trap*

11:00- 3:00: Speed Matches:* pistol, rifle, shotgun

11:00- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages*

1:00- until: Plainsman*

2:00- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages* 2:00- until: Buckaroo/Buckarette match

4:00- 6:00: Shooter Check-in

4:30- until: (Posse leader walkthrough)

5:30- until: TG meeting

6:00- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon

Friday, Aug 12

7:00- 8:00: Shooter Check-in

7:30-8:00: Mandatory shooter meeting

8:00- until: Main Match, Posses 1-12 12:00- 12:30: Mandatory shooter meeting

12:30- until: Main Match, Posses 13-24 5:30- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon

7:00- until: Texas Hold'em Tournament

Saturday, Aug 13

8:00- until: Main Match, Posses 13-24

12:30- until: Main Match, Posses 1-12

5:30- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon

6:30- until: Chorro Valley's Famous 4-Star Dinner and music

Sunday, Aug 14

7:15- until: Cowboy Church

8:30- until: Men's and Ladies's Top-16

ShootOff

10:00- until: Team shoot

12:00- until: Awards Ceremony

Exact times of events subject to change prior to event.

Want to learn what others say about our event?

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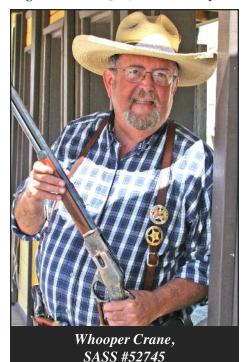
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<u>Camping:</u> Miss Lefty O'Neal - floyburkett@yahoo.com <u>Vendor participation:</u> Roger Rapid - roger@siminoff.net

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



A Neat Way To Pep Up Your Club Shoots

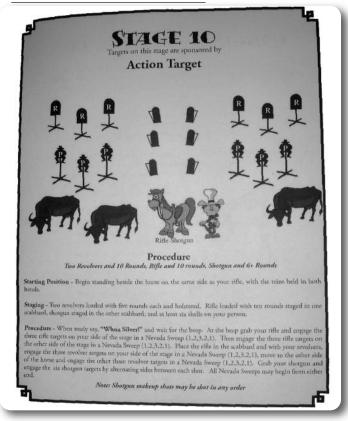
By Whooper Crane, SASS #52745 Photos by Deadeye Al, SASS #26454

Te pointed out previously that our "Catchin' The Next Stage" column is designed to showcase some creative stage scenarios that go beyond what we usually see... and suggested you talk with your club's range master about rustling some of them to add a bit of novelty into your monthly club shoots.

We're lifting these stages from some mighty good matches of the past dozen years or so... designed by some popular stage writers.

Today's featured stage is Stage 10 from the 25th Anniversary END of TRAIL Match held at Founders Ranch in 2006. I like the fact that you're required to pick off the three rifle targets on one side of the stage and then swing over to pick off the other three on the other side. You also have to split your revolvers in similar opposite-side-of-the-stage fashion... and you need to alternate sides on your shotgun targets as well! Depending





how far the targets are spread apart in the stage, this scenario offers you lots of shooting challenges!

At END of TRAIL, they set up plenty of props... a horse... three cows. Now, if you set this stage up at your home club, you probably can get by with just the horse (or even a table or fence...) but you'll have just as much fun! Set it up and give it a go!

Next time we'll be catchin' a stage from an Arizona Cowboy Shooters' 2015 match. I think you'll like it. ...

The Road To Winnemucca...

(Continued from page 56)

http://www.nevadaweb.com/cnt/cc/winnemucca/index.html. There, you can listen to the following:

"The most exciting single moment in Winnemucca's mostly calm (except for the homicides) past fell just short of bloodshed, but it has been a source of controversy since the nineteenth day of September, 1900 when, as the story goes, Butch Cassidy and the Hole in the Wall Gang rode into town, put a knife to First National Bank president George Nixon's throat, and made him open the safe. Butch and the boys got clean away, galloping out of town in a hail of bullets with \$2,000 in gold coin. Later on, the story tells us, he added insult to injury by sending the bank a photograph of himself and the boys in fancy new suits, stiff collars and derby hats. With it was a mocking thank you note expressing appreciation for all the Winnemucca money they were spending for their fun."

But perhaps it is not a true story. In fact, Butch Cassidy didn't send that famous photograph and the evidence is not clear that he was ever in Winnemucca. The great robbery took place of course. Butch Cassidy may have known about it — may have even planned it or made arrangements for it. It is almost certain Elzy Lay and some other of his

Poco Loco Louie ...

(Continued from page 55)

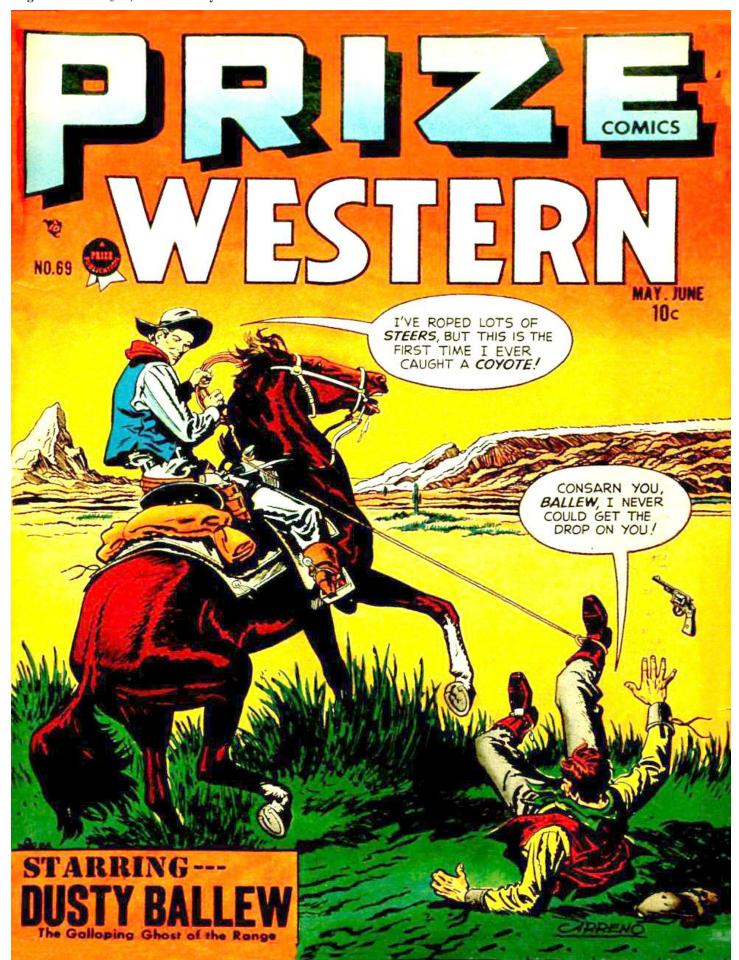
him as they look at the exquisite engraving on their firearms, especially the "mouse" guns tailored to the specific owner.

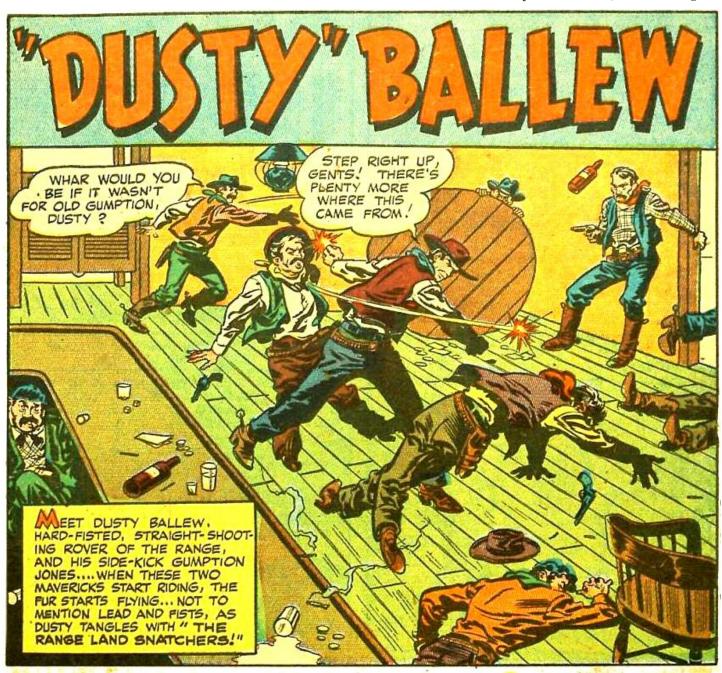
Whatever the title: Poco, Louie, Father, he had a love for life with one of his many gifts being able to meet people and make them feel welcome. Many times on the range, as he took a pipe break behind the firing line, he was observed in conversation with visitors, explaining Cowboy Action Shooting™ and inviting them to participate. One could go on for pages with memories of Poco, but the most important is he was a devoted husband, and father of Anna Lee and Marcos and knew what his priorities were. He will be remembered for his deep compassion and understanding as well as his sense of humor. We miss him but know he has reached the end of the trail receiving a "well done, good and faithful servant."

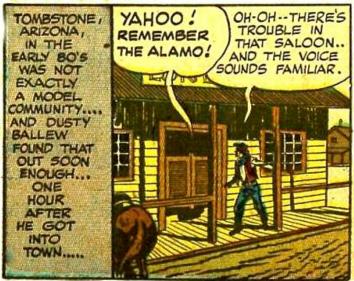
- Sweet Caroline SASS #59309 Photo by Sally Alaska, SASS #88792 **J**. larcenous friends in the Wild Bunch were involved—that knife to the throat was something Harvey Logan (Kid Curry) would do. But it's not clear that Butch himself was there that thrilling day. The famous photograph was actually found by an alert detective in a photographer's display window at Fort Worth, Texas. The Pinkerton Detective Agency sent it to Winnemucca for banker George Nixon to identify. After studying the photo of the six dapper dudes in new suits and neckties, he wrote back, "While I am satisfied that Cassidy was interested in the robbery, he was not one of the men who entered the bank."

So, if he didn't enter the bank, who was it that looked like him? Plenty of people insist it was Butch, including Charles Kelly, author of a definitive history of Cassidy's career, and that's good enough for Winnemucca. Whether he was there or not, Butch Cassidy has been absorbed into the municipal history of the town, and to honor that a Butch Cassidy Day has been established and celebrated annually in mid-September, and according to town leaders, "it's going to stay that way!" So if you are out Winnemucca way in mid-September, strap on your leather and join in the festivities—bringing your wife along is optional. •









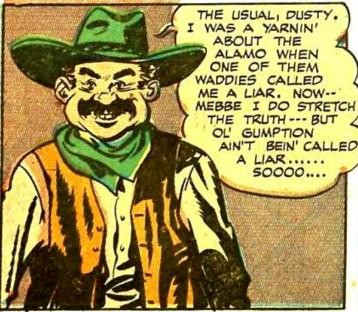






















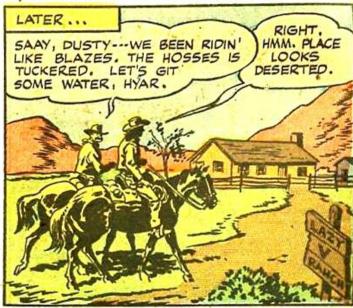












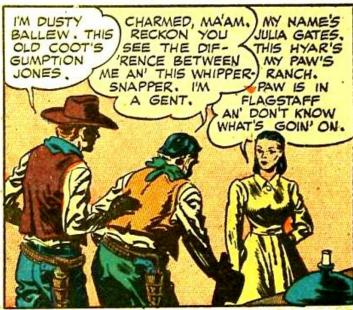




























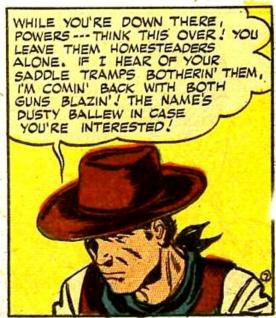










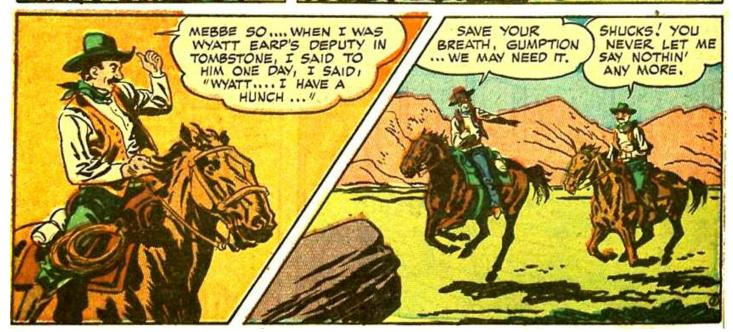




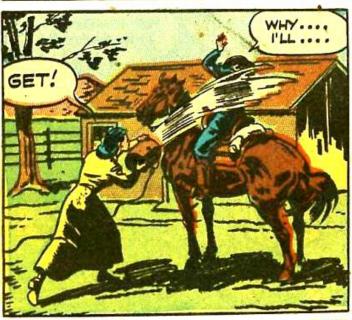




























































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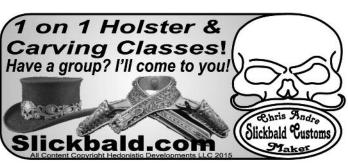
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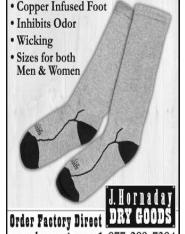
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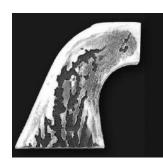
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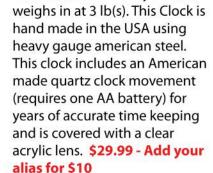
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Metal Sign - Patron

Metal SASS Signs

Proudly designed and made in the U.S.A, this sign measures 12" x 12". Hand made in the USA using heavy gauge American steel. Riveted holes for easy hanging. \$19.95 - Add your alias for \$10

Mew Sass Mewbers

FROM EACH STATE AND COUNTRY

APRIL 1 - 30, 201b

MEMBERS BY STATE

SASS # ALIAS

AL	
104,118	Smiling Possum
104,119	Dallas Fontaine
104,142	Slipshot

104,142	
AZ	
104,072	Jayne Westen
104,125	Crooked Armed
Moose	
104,128	Sheriff Bart
104,136	Dave Stretch Freet
104,159	Fighting Joe Wheeler
104,241	104241
104,246	Lonesome Charlie
	Reynolds
104,250	James Cody

104,240	Reynolds
104,250	James Cody
CA	
104,067	Copper ed
	Grandpa Bear
104,097	Colt Hammer
104,098	
	PJ- Paniolo Joe
104,111	Dukes Up Dan
104,112	
104,114	Moe "T" Vader
104,129	BlueBob
104,132	Tex Creek Drifter
104,168	Will B. Gunnin
104,172	Don D Bear
104,185	Dancing Rose
104,202	Humerus Al
104,221	Thimble Lena
104,223	Melody Rider
104,235	Shadowlands Ride

104,248	T-Bone Brett
104,255	Brownwater Bill
104,256	Red Rob

CO	
104,077	Bishop
104,156	Copper Owl
104,161	Tyrel Sackett
104,175	Rusty Nail
104,176	Kalispell Kid
	Salida Slim
104,193	MavRac
104,194	Left Foot Bob
104,237	Plinkerton

•	
104,066	Bob Steele
104,070	Clay Watcherman
104,150	Curly Whiskers aka CW
	Blacksmith Charlie

FL	
104,152	Cash Box Willie
104,169	Max Dillon
104,170	H. W. Tumbleweed
104,171	H. W. Sagebrush
104,226	Niles Eastman
104,227	Niles West
104,228	Blaz'n Diamonds
104,229	Bessie Coleman
104,230	Lead Duster
104,231	Rick Grimes
104,249	Double Dimple
	Dueler

GA	
104,071	Live Ammo
104,079	Moonshine Mike
104,089	Six Crows
104,105	Malcolm Reynolds
104,117	Rev Masters
104,145	Cole Montana

104,220	Hickory Jack Smith
104,262	Kid Canick

104,160	Sharp Shooter Wyar
	Doc Powderburn
104,197	Clay Thornton
104,240 ID	Lilac Lejla
104,100	Bwaa

IL.	
104,130	Frog Rothschhild Jr.
104,154	Shillelagh

KS	
104,108	Quick Draw Dick
104,201	Claude Dirtbank
104 245	Owl Crook Slim

104,192.....Outlaw Nick

KY	
104,074	S. J. Slick
104,109	104109
104,259	Cheyenne Bodie
LA	

104,155.....Bee Haven

104.178

MA	
104,065	104065
104,095	Hank Slade
104,173	Eagle Eye Doc
	Widow Maker
	Wayno

Bayou Bandit

.45	
MD	
104,102	Grizzly Adam
	Mumma

104,143Fayetteville Kid	NY	104,166Alexander The Kid
104,252Juanita Wallenda	104,069Pb Slinger	104,189The Usual Suspec
	104,115Iron Horse Rebel	104,190Big Elle
ME	104,116Irish Rose	104,198Sharpshooter Litt
104,139Lobster Bisque	104,200Iron Horse Gebby	104,207Texas Terror
	104,214Texas Hill Ranger	104,208Ruby Reheart
MI	104,224Righty	104,209Hillside Hannah
104,076Old Dude	104,232Grave Digger Tony	104,253Calico Kay
104,137Stone Cold	ОН	104,254Sheriff Sawyer
MO	104,144Kodiak Jack	UT
104,099H.C. Sloughfoot	104,162Menacing Mike	104,177Doublin Jack
104,133SaloonKeeper Bulldawg	104,164Mustang Josh	
104,219Deadly Drifter	104,233Sodbuster Joe	VA
	104,244Anvil Annie	104,210Mohawk Mac
MT		
104,080Lil-Horsethief	OK	WA
104,124Preacher Steve	104,075Hard Nikkel	104,078Juan Balista
104,182Montana Bob Melrose	104,113Maddie Atwood	104,086Slick Henry
104,195Two Fat Phillips	104,146Buffalo Water	104,087Hellfire Hattie
		104,147Clackamas Cak
NC	OR	104,174Tall John
104,103Loan Gun Pete	104,101Trask River Todd	104,205Rock Ridge Ron
104,180Cow Patty Kid 'The'	104,106Lottie Dinero	104,206Prickly Pear Claire
	104,158Lil Beaver	104,258Reb Court
NH	104,183Lady Abbygayle	
104,084Cillbeast	104,184Major General	WI
104,085Goodwing	Shagnasty	104,090Gowan "Buck" Schiessen
NJ	PA	104,091Colleen "Kit" Schies
104,203Whispering Tom T	104,060Rats Eye	104,204White River Stan
104,216Nineteen Delta	104,093Ricochet Rojo	104,236JoJo Blaste
104,247One-Eyed Ollie	104,094Texas Johnson	
	104,211Duncan Disorderly	
NM	104,217Stone Cold Kane	MEMBERG
104,104104104		MEMBERS
104,122Preacher Boy	RI	DV COUNTRY
104,123104123	104,092104092	BY COUNTRY
104,131Buster McGee		
104,134Lady Daisy Jane	SC	SASS # ALIAS
104,186104186	104,225Collin Wildfire	
104,187104187		BC
104,188Randingo	TN	104,062Buffalo Hump
104,191Cononcito Mikey	104,059Arizona Willy	104,063Miss Fairly Often
104,212 Andrew Jackson	104,061Copper Creek Bill	104,096Ladyn Peace
"Aforesaid" Bates	104,068Hard Knox 45	104,140Misses Steel
104,213104213	104,120Konawa kid 'The'	104,141Stewie Sixguns
104,215Rooster Roberson	104,222Carver Knife	104,238Eight Bit
104,251104251	104,222Carver Kille	10 1,230Eight bit
104,257104257	TX	NSW
104,260Rattlesnake Frank	104,083Cheno Cortina	104,242Blinky
104,261104261	104,088Buck Damn Born	104,243Drake von Dagge
107,201104201	104,126Rupert Linsey	104,243Diake von Dagge
NV		SK
	104,127Lost Arrow	
104,081Imus Often	104,135Kilkenny Jim	104,121Old Toad
104,196Fletch Kid	104,148Texas Slim Pickins	
104,234Shotgun Cassidy	104,151Marley Wesson	
	104,157Thomas Longshot	
	104,165Texas Buschwacker	

CAN'T GET ENOUGH SHOOTIN'? FIND A WIONTHLY OR ANNUAL MATCH NEAR YOU.

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Monthly Mounted Matches