

TW

DECEMBER | 2017



Cowboy CHRONICLE

Inside...

**A SASS® TOUR DE
FRANCE
TWO MATCH REPORTS
FROM THE *HEXAGONE***

**THE GREAT
NOR'EASTER 2017
NORTHEAST REGIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**NORTH MOUNTAIN
SHOOT OUT 2017
PENNSYLVANIA STATE
MATCH REPORT**

Mr. Squeak – SASS #104373 –
shows off his hardware at
Gunsmoke 2017, the Midwest
Regional Championship near
Morristown, Minnesota.





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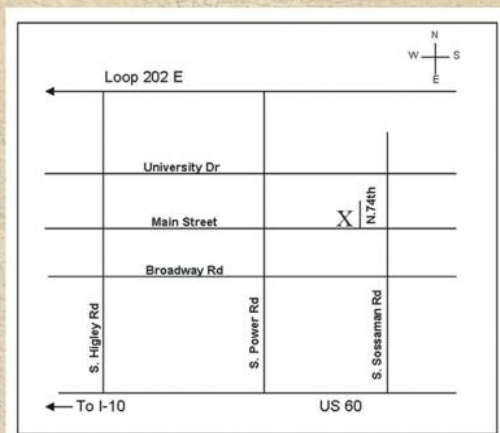
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check your firearms before firing.

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New SASS®
member
Shortcake
(SASS #105517),
on left, shares a
laugh with
Saddle Vamp
(SASS #100186).
At the final
monthly match
for 2017 at the
River City
Regulators,
Chillicothe,
Illinois.

From The Editor

SKINNY'S SOAPBOX

By Skinny, SASS #7361

Winds of Change

After a two-month hiatus during which I turned this space over to other capable SASS® members for their insights, I find myself returning to my editorial duty amidst some significant changes.

Total Time Scoring

Thanks to the scoring analyses of Texas Jack Daniels and others, total time has now replaced rank time as the standard scoring procedure at SASS sanctioned matches (regional and above). This will be a welcome change to some and a disappointment for others, but I believe the end result will ultimately be beneficial to SASS members. It makes it easier to calculate place positions in a competition and is globally fairer to shooters—especially at larger matches with many shooters.

Seven-Round Magazines

The Wild Bunch committee has agreed 1911s were originally designed to carry seven rounds, so it makes sense to allow seven rounds in magazines at Wild Bunch events. Upon first hearing this, I recalled my first-ever Wild Bunch match at which I unthinkingly loaded up my magazines with seven

rounds (that's what they hold, right?) and wound up with a safety on my very first stage. Now, even if I inadvertently load five instead of seven, the worst that will happen to me is I'll have to perform more magazine changes. Wild Bunch has never been intended to be exactly like Cowboy Action Shooting™ and basing pistol stages around seven-round strings rather than five-round makes it all the more unique and fun. This is a rule change I believe we'll all come to enjoy.

New Shooters Handbook

Misty explains this in more detail elsewhere this issue but the bottom line is, all *apropos* CAS rules have been rolled into a single *Shooters Handbook*. As a Territorial Governor and as a frequent posse leader, I can say this is a welcome change for me. Previously, I would sometimes have to look through two or three (or four) handbooks to find a specific rule or regulation referenced. Now there's only one.

And that makes up our triumvirate of changes. Are there more to come? Yes, most probably one more, but we'll get into that next issue.

Comic Book Corner

You'll note this month's Comic Book Corner section is larger than usual—a whopping 21 pages as opposed to the usual eight to ten. The Broncho Bill story was a book-length adventure when first published by Nedor Comics in 1949 and my original thought was to serialize it over four issues. But input from various sources has caused me to reconsider and so contained herein are the final three chapters. They accompany chapter one, which was presented last issue. As always, the scans used are courtesy of Comic Book Plus. You can visit their web page at www.comicbookplus.com to read other comic books, Westerns as well as many other genres.

—Skinny 



Skinny, SASS #7361



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News



Opens Applications 2018 Young Guns



*Young Gun
Morguns Ann
Ammo.*

“We are proud to be a part of the Young Guns program to motivate young people to take part in Cowboy Action Shooting™.”

Applying to become a Cimarron Young Gun is easy. First, log on to <https://form.jotform.com/jamiewayt/application-form--young-guns> to fill out the application form. Applicants of every skill level are welcome to apply. Create a video about yourself, make it entertaining, and be yourself! Tell Cimarron Firearms why being a Young Gun is important to you, why you love the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™, and what your future aspirations are as a sport shooter and citizen of this world. Keep the video between 3.5 to 5 minutes long and upload the completed video to a video sharing site, such as YouTube, Dropbox, or Vimeo. Include the video link in your application and make sure your video is public and not password protected. Please visit <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLy5BBRUq7qFpOasNbGgmLhuugS1aEBKMI> for some examples of previous applicant videos.

To round out the application process, two to four letters of recommendation from local SASS club officials or other sport shooters must be included with the application.

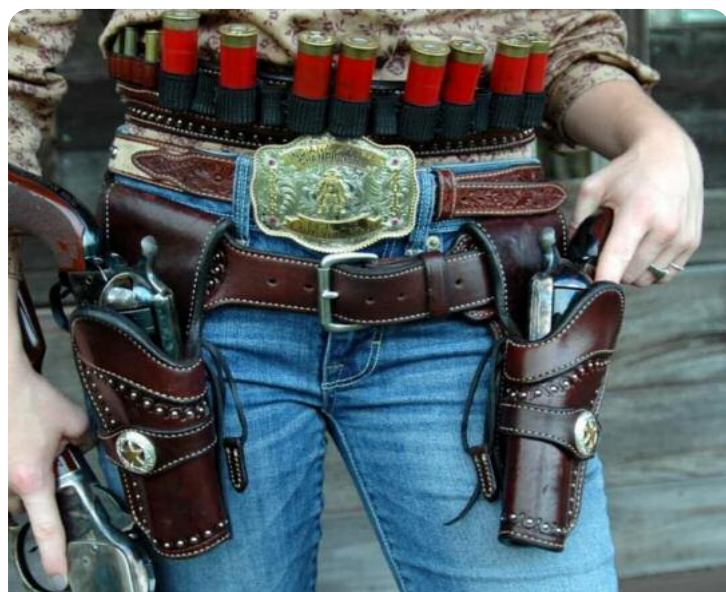
Applicants must be between the ages of 13 (turned 13 by application deadline of December 31, 2017) and 18 (no high school grads) and must be a member of SASS® and participate regularly.

For more information on Cimarron Firearms and accessories, visit www.cimarron-firearms.com.

Fredericksburg, Texas. Cimarron Firearms, recognized as the leader in quality and authenticity in Old West replica firearms, is proud to announce the opening of the fourth annual Cimarron Firearms Young Guns program and application process. The program for youths between the ages of 13-18 years old and members of the Single Action Shooting Society, will provide each of the four chosen Young Guns with a pair of Cimarron Uberti® Thunderstorm revolvers as well as plenty of mentoring and opportunities as part of the Cimarron Firearms family.

Jamie Wayt, Vice President of Media for Cimarron Firearms said, “Cimarron Firearms is thrilled to once again encourage our youth to discover and participate in the shooting sports as part of the Cimarron Young Guns program. For 2018, we are especially excited to have Uberti as our sponsor. Uberti has been producing finely crafted Old West replicas since 1959, much to the enjoyment of collectors and Cowboy Action Shooters™ the world over. We’ve worked closely with Uberti on many exciting projects since 1984. This is Cimarron’s way to give back to our youth through a program that helps kids grow in their sport while having the best possible shooting resources at their trigger fingers from Cimarron Firearms.”

Giacomo and Angelo Merlino, managing director and production manager respectively of A. Uberti S.p.A. added,



2015 Young Gun Little Red Sure Shot's gear.

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CIVIL WAR HERITAGE PRESERVATION



Confederate skirmishers prepare to fire their Smith carbines for the opening volley in the carbine team match at the North-South Skirmish Association's 136th National Competition held in October. N-SSA Photo by Ericka Hoffman.

The North-South Skirmish Association held its 136th National Competition October 6-8, 2017 at Fort Shenandoah near Winchester, Virginia. Member units competed in live-fire matches with original or authentic reproduction Civil War period muskets, carbines, breech-loading rifles, revolvers, mortars, and cannons. It is the largest Civil War event of its kind.

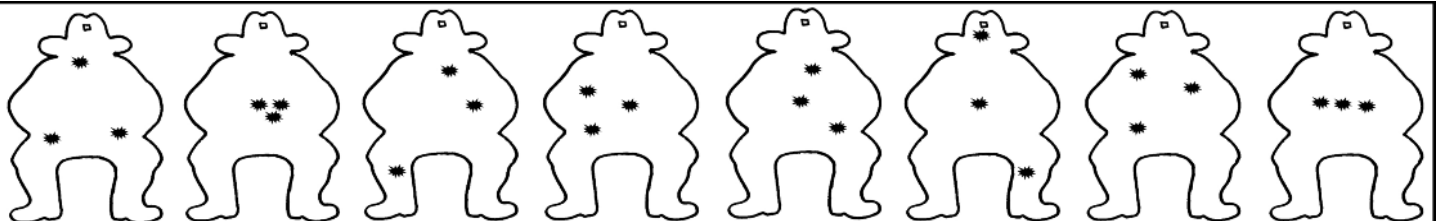
Having won two team matches at the spring national competition, the consistently excellent 110th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (OVI) won three team matches at this fall national. They won the musket match with a

time of 449.0 seconds for the five-event program, beating the next closest unit by almost 20 seconds. Tropical storm Nate put a damper on participation, but 107 soggy eight-member teams participated in this N-SSA signature competition. Beautiful fall Shenandoah Valley weather preceded Nate and the 110th OVI triumphed over 139 other teams in winning the carbine company match and also won the smoothbore musket match. The 2nd Maryland Artillery won the breech-loading rifle match for the second consecutive national by a healthy 30 seconds.

The Nansemond Guards won the four-event revolver team match and the 149th PVI scored their third consecutive gold medal in the single shot rifle match. The 46th Illinois Volunteer Infantry won the Spencer class match, also for the third consecutive national. In the artillery competition, 49 guns participated in the cannon matches. The winners included Hardaway's Battery in the smoothbore class; the 3rd U.S. Infantry in the rifled class; the Rowan Artillery in the howitzer class; and the 1st Maryland Cavalry won the rifled howitzer class. A total of 57 mortars competed in that match with Hardaway's Alabama Battery, gun #1, taking the gold medal.

The N-SSA is the country's oldest and largest Civil War shooting sports organization with more than 3,000 individuals making up its 200 member units. Each represents a particular unit or regiment and proudly wears the uniform they wore more than 150 years ago.

The 137th National Competition is scheduled for May 18-20, 2018 at Fort Shenandoah, just north of Winchester, Virginia. For more information about the N-SSA, contact Public Information Officer Bruce Miller at (248) 258-9007 or spartan70@sbcglobal.net or visit our web site at www.n-ssa.org.



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Cover Feature

Gunsmoke 2017

SASS Midwest Regional Championship



By Amen Straight SASS #77595

Photos by Swegian Lady, SASS #86024



The Ladies of Gunsmoke 2017.

There are a lot of great places in Minnesota where you could spend a weekend in September. However, you may never enjoy your experience at a higher level than your weekend with those Cowboy Action Shooters™ at the Midwest Regional Championship, Gunsmoke.

Hosted by the Cedar Valley Vigilantes, Gunsmoke, located in Morristown, Minnesota, has earned the recognition as one of the top shooting venues in the country – 284 shooters, 24 percent of which are women, enjoyed the unexpected but highly appreciated “balmy” Minnesota weather.

The Cedar Valley Vigilantes, who host this annual event, had activities planned for shooters and their fam-

ilies throughout the full week leading up to the Championship scheduled to begin on Friday and continuing Saturday with six fast and furious stages each day.

The Vigilantes along with 68 (yes, 68!) “Smokies” (event helpers) worked feverishly in preparation over several months to provide an entertaining experience to fill all the requirements of a regional championship shooting event.

On Monday, the parking areas were open to allow participants to get settled in for the week ahead. Later that day Wild Bunch RO1 training was provided to anyone interested.

Tuesday, a Wild Bunch safety briefing started the

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Gunsmoke 2017 • SASS Midwest Regional Championship . . .



– The Wild Bunch Hombres –
Tank Captain Jake, Back 40, Shell Stuffer, and O.E.

day early, with the first day two days of Wild Bunch shooting following right behind. Later in the day, the Wild Bunch RO2 training class filled in the early evening hours.

By Wednesday, event excitement was starting to build as Deuce Stevens (SASS #55996), along with his trusty saddle pal, Cowboy Carty (SASS# 86059) spent the first half of their day teaching interested shooters how to improve their technique and ultimately shoot faster. Also, Lassiter (SASS #2080) provided a training class on stage writing followed by a second class on gunsmithing. Later that afternoon, Evil Dogooder (SASS #91557) continued this classroom forum with an intriguing class on shooting Gunfighter. Along with these classes, for those interested, a “Buffalo Hunt” event filled part of the afternoon. By mid-afternoon Wednesday, the highly anticipated Vendor Row opened to the public. Many vendors have a long history of attending Gunsmoke. They continually sing the praise of the Vigilantes who year after year provide a fine-tuned shooting event that runs smooth and near trouble-free. They say Gunsmoke is a first-class event and one of the first dates they block out on their calendar when doing their planning come January.

As Thursday rolled around, it would have taken teams of wild horses to hold the shooters back. To say they were ready would have been an understatement. There wasn’t a place you couldn’t find shooters having the time of their lives! Two waves of warm up matches, one early and another in the afternoon, kept the shooters busy. In addition, there were speed

matches, team matches, and Cowboy Clays, plus, continuation of the Buffalo Hunt and a special “Wild Bunch – Try It” stage hosted by the two SASS regional WB Ambassadors, Back 40 (SASS #23910) and Shell Stuffer (SASS #33146). All a shooter needed to do was mosey over and give shooting a 1911 and a ’97 12 gauge shotgun a try. Back 40 and Shell Stuffer provided the guns, the ammo, and the expertise. It was a great way to get introduced re-acquainted with the Wild Bunch format. Altogether, Back 40 and Shell Stuffer, along with their two sidekicks, Tank Captain Jake (SASS #95186) and O.E. (SASS #102375) worked with 55 participants who went through 900 rounds of .45 ACP and 300 rounds of 12 gauge. Not a bad day’s work for those four hombres. By 6:00 p.m. most all had fulfilled their shooting day requirements and now were settling in for a meet and greet potluck hosted by the Vigilantes. Another great way to establish new relationships and revisit old ones. Was there any more you ask? Well yes, as a matter of fact there was. The Vigilantes climaxed the evening with an entertaining after dark Black Powder night exhibition. It was awesome! As the evening closed, tired yet excited contestants fell asleep with visions of blue, red, gray, and pink(?) targets dancing in their heads.

Friday morning, the anticipation continued to grow as contestants now focused their thoughts on the 9:00 a.m. main match safety briefing and the match to follow. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the safety briefing, then nearly 300 shooters made their way to their respective first stage of competition. To say you could cut the air with a knife would be an understatement. With days of mental,

(Continued on page 10)



The pink targets of Stage 11.

Gunsmoke 2017 • SASS Midwest Regional Championship

(Continued from page 9)



“And I tell you, the targets were that big!”

***Duece Stevens, Tucker McNeely, and Cowboy Carty
sharing ideas about transitions and speed.***

physical, as well as emotional preparation, the highly anticipated Gunsmoke event was about to begin.

Twelve stages of intense shooting over two days can bring many highlights and a few lowlights for the contestants. But that is one reason competitors love to compete. To experience the proverbial “thrill of victory and/or the agony of defeat.” To create an experience they can draw from, and a memory for themselves.

So, Gunsmoke 2017 is now history. However, there were wonderful special interest stories shared, that could fill the pages of additional articles on their own.

Such as, Dakota Drifter (SASS #71219), of Dickinson, ND, who was competing in the speed pocket pistol match on Thursday with a pis-

tol that originated with his great grandfather—and won the event.

Or how about Mr. Squeak, (SASS #104373) a 12-year-old buckaroo who has been shooting nigh on four years. Mr. Squeak shoots .22 caliber revolvers, a .22 caliber Henry rifle and a '97 12 gauge shotgun in competition. As a side note, all the men and women competitors at the Cowboy Clays event Thursday had at least one miss, except the winner. Yep, you guessed it, Mr. Squeak! Mr. Squeak participates in many other sports back in his sixth grade class in Volga, SD, including football and soccer, but he says his favorite sport of all is Cowboy Action Shooting. He, along with his father Volga Vigilante (SASS #102531), traveled from their home-



***Lassiter—teacher, gunsmith
and champion Gunfighter.***

town to make some history of their own at Gunsmoke 2017.

Yes, everyone who attended “Gunsmoke” 2017 came away with their own piece of history. Thoughts to keep their dream alive until next year.

Come create your own history, at Gunsmoke 2018. Visit our website at <https://sites.google.com/site/cedarvalleyvigilantes/gunsmoke> for information and for match results. We'll see you there! 🤠



***Dakota Drifter marking his score
at the pocket pistol side event.***

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Annual Reports



Loinville (Chateaufneuf en Thymerais – France) is the SASS region managed by Rio Coronado (SASS #89201), who organized the fifth annual Buffalo Valley competition, June 8 to 11, 2017, which SASS recognized as the year's French Championship.

Thanks to Rio and his team for all their hard work!

For the occasion, SASS provided two engraved buckles to be awarded to the Top Overall Man and the Top Overall Lady.



The French Cowboy Action Shooting™ Associations CAS France and Old West French Shooters also sponsored the match, as well as Tandy Leather, GK Prod, La Sellerie du Thymerais, and the magazines, Cibles and American Legend, among others.



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Around thirty participants from thirteen French clubs (including five Cowgirls) participated in the four-day of contest.



Shooters gather in front of the *American Legend* banner and appropriate flags.



Cowgirls after the awards.





"COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING"

Chateaufneuf en Thymerais

"The Buffalo Valley Shooting Contest V"

8, 9, 10 & 11 Juin 2017

Jeudi 8 Juin
 Petit déjeuner
 Visite de sécurité
 Enregistrement des tireurs for the « Wild Bunch Contest » et remise des book
 9.00 Wild Bunch (3 stages)
 12.00 Repas
 14.00 Wild Bunch (3 stages)
 Side match, speed "rifle"
 Repas du soir

Vendredi 9 Juin
 Petit déjeuner
 8.30 Enregistrement des tireurs Main Match » et remise des book
 9.00 Départ sur les ranges (3 stages)
 12.00 Repas
 14.00 départ sur les ranges (3 stages)
 Side Match speed « couch gun »
 Affichage résultats mi-match
 Repas du soir

Samedi 10 Juin
 Petit déjeuner
 9.00 Départ sur les ranges (3 stages)
 12.00 Repas
 14.00 Départ sur les ranges (3 stages)
 17.00 Long Range « Tatanka » 50m
 A partir de 19h : Awards WB-C.A.S Remise des prix , Tombola , Lots
 Repas du soir

Dimanche 11 Juin
 Petit Déjeuner
 9.00 Side Match "El Presidente", puis "Jack DANIEL" by Josey
 Formation et Passage ROI by RO Instructor : Curly RED RYDER
 12.00 repas
 14.00 Initiation C.A.S
 Formation et Passage ROI Passage ROI by RO Instructor : Curly RED RYDER

« The Buffalo Contest » est un événement sur invitation et le match director se réserve le droit de refuser l'entrée à quiconque »



Thursday — Six stages Wild bunch, morning and afternoon plus one warm up stage.

At the end of the day — Speed Rifle side match.

Friday — The first six main match stages.

All participants received a Shooters Handbook, along with a SASS pin, SASS pen, and SASS sticker.

At the end of the day — Speed Shotgun side match.



Saturday — The final six stages.

Evening — Long Range Buffalo, then Awards.

Sunday — RO1 Class taught by Curly Red Ryder (SASS #83495), along with “El Presidente” and Speed Revolver side matches.

Afternoon — Initiation of newcomers to Cowboy Action Shooting™, RO2 class taught by Curly Red Ryder.

As usual, the Buffalo Valley Club fitted out the stages decorations at its own expense.

Stage decorations have always a point of honor for this event, and they have improved with each year.



The target placement and distance, as well as shooting scenarios, were very appreciated by the competitors.





The Buffalo Valley staff consisted of:



Rio Coronado —
Match Director,
RO1, RO2, and
TG for Buffalo
Valley and Bull
Run Valley clubs.

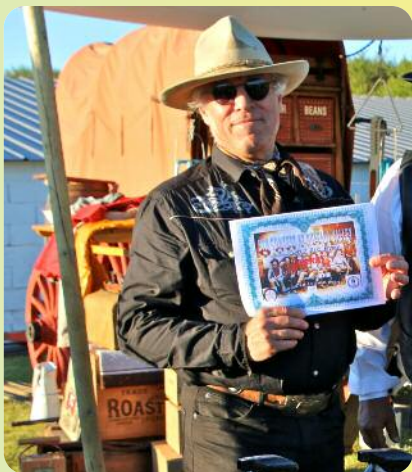
Josey W. Waller
Range Master.

Jim Bear
Posse Leader

**Marshal Tom
Oneida**
Posse Leader.

**French Erik
Cochise**
Long Range and
Buffalo side
matches.

Curly Red Ryder
RO Instructor



Competition, camaraderie, safety, and “Spirit of the Game” were always in evidence at Buffalo Valley.



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Slye Buffalo (SASS #89200) managed behind the scenes details, while “José” the cook concocted diverse meals for all to enjoy and **Trusty Phil** (SASS #28720), editor-in-chief of *American Legend*, manned the chuck wagon.



Top Guns Overall
Elliot Belt and
Kathleen Fraser-Gilead,
with Rio Coronado
and Reverend Oakley.



Winners in the Main Match, Wild Bunch, and Side Matches received a handsome certificate of achievement.



Photos and videos of the contest will be compiled in a video, as last year, and will soon be on sale.

More than 10,000 cartridges were fired during the four days of Buffalo Valley. The match received numerous letters of congratulations from France, Europe, and The United States.

There will be new surprises for next year's event. Forward !

The locale doesn't matter, as long as we find ourselves on a good range with our friends... 🤠

Annual Reports

JUNIOR WINS Headquarters 2017

By Grey Fox, SASS #223 and Miss Mary Spencer, SASS #55147

Photos by Grey Fox



Top Gunfighters

The twenty-sixth edition of Headquarters August 18, 19, and 20, 2017 was a rousing contest between three competitors. For the three front runners, the difference in times from first to third was 38.42 seconds, and from first to second was 14.6 seconds. In the end the two seasoned pistoleros (Hawewater Hal, second overall and Victoria Diamond, third) were bested by Whistlin Will (SASS #88382). Will is sixteen years old and his fastest stage was 18.08 seconds.

Whistlin Will has been a competitor at Headquarters since 2011, when he was 10. By 2015 he had developed into a serious shooter, fueled by Cheerios and a winning spirit. Today he has the makings of a champion.

Headquarters 2017 had a number of very special moments. Saturday,



Grey Fox, SASS #223 and
Miss Mary Spencer, SASS #55147

August 19 commemorated the 90th birthday of our oldest shooter, Jingle Bob (SASS #51499). Sunday, the awards banquet acknowledged the Spirit of the Game Award to Montana May (SASS #95820), plus special recognition awards to Walter Ostin, Al Page, and Patrick Licciardi for their long term contributions to Cowboy Action Shooting™. Iron Horse Awards went to Hawewater Hal (SASS #55287), Cornelius O'Keefe (SASS #60577), Buffalo Creek Roby (SASS #40165), Teacher C (SASS #72703), Black Ashley (SASS #89886), and Saskatoon



Headquarters 2017



Posse 1

JUNIOR WINS • Headquarters 2017 . . .

Barry (SASS #70295) for overcoming grave health issues and yet competing at HQ 2017. The Western Canadian Frontier Shootist Society Legacy Award went to Wild Horse Jack (SASS #64334). A highlight was the B-Western contest, entrants had to identify 10 B-Western stars' images. The contest was a four-way tie – Grey Fox, Montana May, Saskatoon Barry, and Captain Will Turner (SASS #92899). Some of the younger contestants confessed they had sought help. However, the Grey Fox re-

membered them all because he is old!

The shooting costumes were adjudicated by an independent costume authority, his comment, “Whistlin Will’s B-Western look and swagger reminded the judge of Ricky Nelson in the movie *Rio Bravo*.”

The event was a rousing success due to the Master of Ceremonies performance by Wild Horse Jack (SASS #64334) and his humorous delivery during the awards; Mon-

(Continued on page 22)



Posse 2

JUNIOR WINS • Headquarters 2017 . . .*(Continued from page 21)*

tana May for her tireless contribution in arranging many details for HQ and her catering abilities; Renegade Ron (SASS #103541) for organizing awards and trophies; and Haweater Hal and Victoria Diamond (SASS #60952) for their valued support in many areas. Grey Fox SASS supplied all the

façades, signs, and props; Cornelius O'Keefe handled the long-range/mid-range match and supplied the much coveted Scheutzen Target. Finally, thanks to Black Ashley for his untiring efforts and to all the unnamed who contributed time, muscle, and energy for the entire match.

Headquarters, the oldest SASS affiliated match in Canada closed another action packed event at the Victoria Fish & Game Protective Association – 2018 is already being planned. 🐾

Side Match Winners

Mid-Range Pistol Caliber Rifle
Whistlin Will (SASS #88382)

Mid-Range Single Shot Rifle Pistol Caliber
Prairie Buck (SASS #52033)

Long-Range Rifle Single Shot Rifle Caliber
Killshot Kenny (SASS #91136)

Long-Range Rifle Lever Action Rifle Caliber
Whistlin Will

Long-Range Rifle Lever Action Pistol Caliber
Neut Reno (SASS #51654)

Ladies' Mid-Range Rifle Lever Action Pistol Caliber
Miss Beadazzled (SASS #72424)

Men's Speed Shotgun
Whistlin Will

Ladies' Speed Shotgun
Saucy Sadie (SASS #89135)

Men's Speed Rifle
Single Action Sheriff (SASS #94449)

Ladies' Speed Rifle
Ricochette ReRe (SASS #94451)

Men's Speed Pistol
Haweater Hal (SASS #55287)

Ladies' Speed Pistol
Ricochette ReRe

Men's Speed Stage
Haweater Hall

Ladies' Speed Stage
Saucy Sadie SASS

Scheutzen Target
Captain Will Turner (SASS #92899)

Main Match Winners

Top Gun	Whistlin Will	
Junior Boy	SASS #88382	BC
49'er	Preacher Man John	
	SASS #87098	BC
Buckarette	Ricochet ReRe	
	SASS #94451	BC
B-Western	Wild Horse Jack	
	SASS #64334	BC
C. Baron	Saskatoon Barry	
	SASS #70295	BC
C. Baroness	Miss Mary Spencer	
	SASS #55147	BC
Classic CB	Slim Delgado	
	SASS #85279	BC
Cowboy	Captain Will Turner	
	SASS #92899	BC
E. Statesman	Teacher C	
	SASS #72703	BC
Gunfighter	Black Ashley	
	SASS #89886	BC
Junior Girl	Hurricane Hayley	
	SASS #94450	BC
Lady 49'er	Montana May	
	SASS #95820	BC
Lady Duelist	Saucy Sadie	
	SASS #89135	BC
Lady Senior	Victoria Diamond	
	SASS #60952	BC
Senior	Doc Richards	
	SASS #101125	BC
S. Duelist	Little Edgy	
	SASS #64366	BC
S. Gunfighter	Killshot Kenny	
	SASS #91136	BC
Silver Senior	Haweater Hal	
	SASS #55287	BC
Wrangler	Single Action Sheriff	
	SASS #94449	BC



*– Ricochette ReRe, age 12 –
a budding champion.*

Costume Contest Winners

Best Dressed Lady
Salal Sal (SASS #101126)

Best Dressed Man
Black Ashley (SASS #89886)

Best Dressed Couple
Preacher Man John (SASS #87098) and
Saucy Sadie (SASS #89135)

Dance Hall Darling
Karen

Best Dressed Junior Boy
Whistlin Will (SASS #88382)

Best Dressed Junior Girl
Ricochette ReRe (SASS #94451)

Best Dressed Classic Cowboy
Saskatoon Barry (SASS #70295)

Best Dressed Shooting Costume Lady
Hurricane Hayley (SASS #94450)

Best Dressed Shooting Costume Man
Whistlin Will (SASS #88382)

JUNIOR WINS • Headquarters 2017 . . .



Haweater Hal, second place and Victoria Diamond, third place.



Grey Fox presenting Legacy Award to Wild Horse Jack.



Cornelius O'Keefe presenting Scheutzen Target to Captain Will Turner.



– Whistlin Will – Headquarters 2015.



– Whistlin Will – 10 years old.



Whistlin Will, Top Gun – Headquarters 2017.



Whistlin Will – Headquarters 2011.



Costume Winners



Jingle Bob's 90th birthday.

Annual Reports

THE GREAT NOR'EASTER 2017

SASS Northeast Regional Championship

*By Nanny Oakley, SASS #85920
and Pauly the Kid, SASS #103092*

As many New England and north-eastern Cowboys know, there was no Great Nor'easter in 2016. After 10 years, it was gone. I suppose it was just an ill wind that blew it on by, but it was surely missed.

Well, many folks around these parts just didn't want to let it die. So, Preacher Ben Pray'n, (SASS #85919) along with his wife Nanny Oakley and a posse of folks from the northeast region worked real hard and brought it back. Pelham Fish & Game

kindly agreed to host the event again at their range in Pelham, New Hampshire. It's a good location for a match this size and offers lots of spaces for those who want to dry camp. It's also fairly close to hotels, shopping, and restaurants.

Match Director Preacher Ben Pray'n and his Waddie crew circled the wagons on Saturday July 15, pitched camp and rested up for a tough week of setting up for the Great Nor'easter. At daybreak on Sunday,



Overall Match Winners
*Spinning Sally (SASS #89526)
and James Samuel Pike (SASS #53331).*



Many excellent outfits were in evidence at the Costume Contest.



Eleven of the twelve stalwart shooters who managed to shoot a clean match this year.

The Great Nor'Easter 2017 . . .

July 16 work officially began, lead by Range Master Chelsea Kid (SASS #47400) and his wife Emma Goodcook (SASS #49743). The weather was oppressively hot—in the low 90s—so moving steel targets was physically draining. Emma Goodcook saved the Waddies by insisting cowhands Doc McCoy (SASS #8381), C.G. Cooke (SASS #101700), Matchlock (SASS #85826), Deadhead (SASS #29768), Nutmeg Ryder (SASS #74966), Leadslinger Lesky (SASS #88669), Windjammer (SASS #35984), Eagle Eye Doc (SASS #104173), and Pauly The Kid take frequent breaks, and there was *no* arguing! She also insisted the cowpokes drink lots of water, rest in the shade, and remove hats when possible. Those

steps really helped.

Iron Horse Pete (SASS #45955) previously delivered most of the steel, and Callous Clyde (SASS #4677) from the White Mountain Regulators with brought in additional targets from the Connecticut Valley Bushwhackers. Once the targets were approximately positioned, Chelsea Kid expertly directed the crew on prop construction and placement. Final touches were made by Chelsea Kid and Nutmeg Ryder to ensure safety and “shootability” of each stage was achieved. The test (and final tuning) of all the hard labor was on Wednesday when four cowboys, Leadslinger Lesky, Matchlock, Deadhead and Windjammer, shot all ten stages so they could be available to run the back

show during the main competition. Leadslinger Lesky, to his amazement (and ours), shot clean!

Thursday morning, side matches began with a four-stage Wild Bunch Mini Match. Lucky Boy (SASS #11530) was really lucky, winning the Wild Bunch Modern category. Doc McCoy managed to edge out friend and rival Dakota Joe (SASS #3471) by almost 30 seconds in Traditional. Not to be outdone, Dakota Joe made a comeback, beating Doc McCoy and taking first place in the Plainsman Mini-Match. Long range, speed events, and a three-stage warm-up known as The Squall were all well attended.

Boy Scout Troop 610 from Pelham set up in the air-conditioned club

(Continued on page 26)



The Great Nor'easter 2017

(Continued from page 25)

house and provided breakfast and lunch throughout the event, this year offering some lighter fare for lunches, such as salads, fruit, and chicken and veggie pitas. The troop also provided the much needed service of picking brass during the main match and running an Ice Cream Social on Friday night during the showing of an old Sam Elliot cowboy movie.

Leadslinger Lesky did a fantastic job of getting vendors and sponsors for the match and by Friday afternoon, a plethora of vendors had set up their tents and were open for business. One vendor I spoke with had set up selling jerky, pickles and sauces. He said he was getting a big kick out of selling jerky to cowboys so they could take it with them on the trail, so to speak, as they went off to shoot. Professor PT Litewell returned, offering professional photos and Deadhead was a master with his camera, capturing images we all will cherish.

This year's theme was Headin'



West. It incorporated historical facts illustrating some of the challenges faced by settlers, miners, and cowboys. Early saloons served "whiskey" made of raw alcohol, burnt sugar, and chewing tobacco. Sawdust was spread on the floor of the saloon to hide any gold dust that might fall off a miner's clothing. Before the invention of barbed wire, the livestock would simply push the fencing out of their way. Water was as valuable as gold during the journey across the open prairie. Lucky for us, we had waddies bring out nice cold water in insulated jugs to quench our thirst and keep us well hydrated during the match.

Although it was warm, there wasn't much bellyaching about the weather this year as Friday morning was a balmy 80 degrees. We began the main match with Tom Payne (SASS #13115) playing the National Anthem on his harmonica.

As the sun rose in the sky, the weather got a bit warmer, topping out around 87 (not bad for summer in these parts). Black powder smoke hung in the sky as Deputy Short Stack (SASS #81578) took aim at a shot gun swinger. This year's stages featured action targets on four of the 10 stages. A few of the stages were set up on



bays that had been graded with the best New England beach sand you could ask for... if you were sunbathing at the ocean. Unfortunately, we were on it to shoot. Fortunately, a well-crafted boardwalk had been constructed on one of them and moving and shooting were greatly facilitated.

Saturday morning started off with a celebration commemorating the National Day of The Cowboy, which has been a longstanding tradition of The Great Nor'easter. This year we also paid tribute to some of the cowboys/cowgirls who had rode off into the great beyond. Then another action packed day of Cowboy Action Shooting™ began. Costume Contest



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Tom Payne honors the Flag with his beautiful rendition of *The Star Spangled Banner* on the harmonica. His performance has become a tradition at many matches.

It went to Wheat Lightnin (SASS #76672) as a “Cracked Up Cowboy.” 2017 launched a new format for the Shoot-Off, no longer teaming up the top 16 men and women, but



Wheat Lightnin as the “Cracked Up Cowboy.”



Black Jack Daniels (SASS #76541) and Crystal Creek Chris (SASS #64500) – Judges Choice winners of the Costume Contest.

The Great Nor’easter 2017

and Saturday Evening Extravaganza were held in the main clubhouse on the range with dinner catered by Texas Roadhouse. Critter T Longshot (SASS #53188) was spotted circulating “the flask” (another long-standing tradition at the Great Nor’easter). Birdie Cage (SASS #32773) and her group of secret judges selected the costume winners, which this year featured a Bootie Award for most outrageous costume.

opening the event to any competitor who wanted to try their luck. A \$5 fee was charged for entry and the money collected went to support the SASS Scholarship. It was a well received and the start of a new tradition. Early reports deemed this year’s Great Nor’easter a great success and we hope to see ya’ll here for next year’s event! Please visit <http://www.thegreatnoreaster.com/> for information and for this year’s results. 🤠



Annual Reports

North Mountain Shoot Out 2017

SASS Pennsylvania State Championship



By Black Hills Barb, SASS #34171



Eight shooters executed a clean match. Front Row: Goldilocks.

Back Row: Rowdy Bill, Sassy Shooting Sours, Dodge Bill, Jerseytown Kid, Black Hills Barb, Hooligan Howes, The Watchman.

El Posse Grande once again hosted the Pennsylvania State Championship, May 26-28, 2017, at the North Mountain Sportsman's Association grounds in Muncy Valley, PA. The club has hosted thirteen state championships with a variety of themes. However, for the last three years the theme has stayed the same – “My Heroes Have Always Been Cowboys.” Recognizing the similarities in the values of our nation's armed forces personnel and Cowboy values, the Cowboys and Cowgirls who

planned the event chose to build a match around a patriotic theme, highlighting our armed forces.

This year the USO was highlighted. Each of the ten scenarios paid tribute to entertainers that have given selflessly of their time and talents to boost the morale of our troops over the last 75 years. Scenarios were built around Bob Hope, Gary Sinise, Kid Rock, Craig Morgan, Bing Crosby, Ann Margret, and others. Starting lines came from movies and songs by the entertainers. Shooters held a bedpan and an ice cream cone and

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Loco Poco Lobo and Nawlins Kid, our Range Master, can be counted on to instruct our RO courses each year.

North Mountain Shoot Out 2017 . . .

sprang into action at the beep that followed the words "Lt. Dan, I brought you ice cream." We had the Thirsty Monkey Saloon from *Beer for My Horses*, and shot from a train to salute Ann Margret and her role in *The Train Robbers*.

The heroes among us were also honored. The match registration form asked veterans to check a box and note in which branch of the military they served. They were asked to send us a picture of them in their military uniform as well as one in their cowboy duds. Many responded to our request and we displayed the pictures on



One of three displays honoring "The Heroes Among Us." Thank you all for your service.

one of the stages written around Craig Morgan's song *God, Family and Country*. Though all our vets were recognized, perhaps the most recognition went to Wrong Arm, (SASS #3923). At 88 years young, he was our oldest veteran in attendance and the state champ in the Grand Patron category. He received a standing ovation upon accepting his award.

Even door prizes came from several veteran-owned organizations adding even more of a patriotic feel to the event. A fundraiser was conducted for LEEK Hunting and Mountain Preserve – a local organization founded to serve wounded veterans. Wounded veterans are offered guided hunts, fishing outings, and other outdoor experiences in order to help with the healing process, both mentally and physically.

The ceremony opened with an all-veteran honor guard presenting the colors. Tom Payne (SASS #13115) played *The Star Spangled Banner* on his harmonica. Dirt Rider (SASS #46537) offered a prayer. The posses then shot their way through six stages on day one and four more on the second day. At the conclusion of the match shooters were invited to participate in a "Luck of the Draw" shoot off. Badges were drawn from a bucket and teams of three were formed. The first name drawn shot the rifle, the second the pistol, and the third the shotgun. The addition of a trail cam downrange on one the



– Our 2017 Pennsylvania Champions – Alamo and Jerseytown Kid.

stages gave us some great action photos.

It must be mentioned that a great group of young shooters from the Sullivan County High School Shooting Sports Club have served as brass pickers at this match for several years. Other members of the club and their parents also run the concession stand. These young men and women are second to none when it comes to picking up

(Continued on page 30)



Emberado and Wrong Arm were two of our honored vets.

North Mountain Shoot Out 2017 . . .

(Continued from page 29)

brass. They don't limit their help to just that one chore either. They will often be found setting knockdown targets, repainting targets, pushing/pulling gun carts, or whatever else the shooters need help with. The team holds their practices on the club range. This club has spawned two Olympians. Both Josh Richmond and Morgan Craft, members of the 2016 US Olympic trap team honed their skills at North Mountain. Morgan picked up LOTS of brass over the years and visited the match in 2016, spending time with each posse. We love being able to offer our support to this group of amazing young shooters.

Please visit our website at <http://www.elpossegrande.com/> for complete match results and information. 🤠



WINNERS

Top Gun	Jerseytown Kid #88434
Men's PA Champ	Jerseytown Kid
Ladies PA Champ	Alamo #42496
Buckarette	Goldilocks* #105436
Buckaroo	Bull Biggins* #98051
Lady Young Gun	Blue Mountain Belle* #105409
Young Gun	Quick Whit Bigguns* #80157
Cowgirl Alamo*	
Cowboy	Jerseytown Kid*
Ladies Wrangler	Side Saddle Sue #73023
Wrangler	James Samuel Pike #53331
Lady 49er	Spinning Sally #89526

49er	Yukon Mike #23165
Lady Senior	Annabelle Bransford #11916
Senior	Lucky Boy #11530
Lady Silver Senior	Annie Dote* #84318
Silver Senior	Dirt Rider* #46537
Elder Statesman	Rowdy Bill #9628
Cattle Baron	Flatboat Bob #32310
Gran Patron	Wrong Arm* #3923
Lady B Western	Jewels Cartwright #102470
B Western	Wyatt Hurts #72737
Classic Cowgirl	Black Hills Barb*
Classic Cowboy	Travis Spencer #59583
Senior Duelist	Chilliwack Buck #57645
Lady Gunfighter	Happy Valley Harlot #84435

Gunfighter	Doc Allan Wood* #34170
Lady Frontier Cartridge	Ruby Rose Longshot* #67697
Frontier Cartridge	Slowpoke John* #45304
Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter	Double Tap Taylor #99254
Frontier Cartridge Duelist	Black Mike #91504
Frontiersman	Potter County Kid #67357
Outlaw	Monte #79762
*Denotes Pennsylvania Champion in category	
Luck of the Draw Shoot Off	Tombstone Tex #100028, Ralphie Parker #89214, Quick Whit Bigguns

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North Mountain Shoot Out 2017



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Annual Reports

SASS é France (SASS is France)

By Nile City Slick, SASS #96568 and Lady Doc SASS #96537



When — May 12-13, 2017.

Where — *Club de Tir de la Montagne Noire (Le CTMN)* – Shooting Club of the Black Mountain (or in Texan, Black Mount’n Shootin’ Club)

Le CTMN survived a hail of lead from 40 SASS® Cowboys and Cowgirls. Frenchie Boy invited us to come shoot with the *posse comitias* being formed on May 12 and 13. SASS members from across France rode to rescue from all parts of the Western Frontier (well, maybe the on-screen Western Frontier with subtitles). Lady Doc, Nile City Slick, Frenchie Boy, and 37 other SASS members made valiant contributions by disposing of pesky outlaws and villains (large steel targets) while restoring order to the famous Black Mountain.

We had hoped to shoot with a club while we were staying in France last spring. We had made several contacts using the [SASS France website](#) and we found a match near us. It seems the Transportation Security Administration might let you pack your firearms, on a good day, maybe. But, the French Gendarmes frown on arriving armed. Oh, what to do?

No worries! Frenchie Boy said we could use his. He understood our travel predicament, not having any guns or ammo with us. We did pack our outfits and leather.

So we loaded up our trusty Italian steed (a Fiat-itty-bitty something) and headed north. We were staying in the southern department of *Aude* near the Pyrenees mountains. It is a beautiful area of the country. It took us few hours to drive on the back roads to our B-n-B near the range.

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SASS é France • (SASS is France) . . .

We arrived on Friday morning wearing our outfits and leather, *sans* guns and looking for our host. There were several RVs and trailers with flags flying in the parking lot.

We were more than a little nervous about spending two days lacerating the French language. We were worried we might end up as targets. We speak French (with heavy accents) even though it seems hard for French people to understand us. But we try and they appreciated us for it.

Our nervousness subsided when we met Frenchie Boy in person (Territorial Governor CAS-SASS FRANCE, SASS Life Member #86324, RO Instructor, WBAS RO), unpacking his large black Peugeot sedan.

He had engineered and built a gun cart that when disassembled fit in the “boot” along with long gun cases and other accoutrements. It was a good beginning to a wonderful memory.

The site of this ruckus is a shooting club located north of Carcassonne. Shooting is heavily regulated but encouraged as a club sport. This was Le CTMN’s second major SASS event. It was organized by French Erik Cochise (SASS #85335). He did a masterful job putting it together. We shot four stages each day and SASS rules were followed, just like we do at Thunder River Renegades or Willow Hole Cowboys back home... well almost.

Each stage was read, questions asked, answered, and

(Continued on page 34)



SASS é France • (SASS is France) . . .

(Continued from page 33)

often included some “lengthy discussions” and “extended clarifications” before starting with much waving of hands, arms, and smiling. Watching it happen was an entertainment not usually enjoyed in Texas. No hard feelings prevailed, smiles all around, and the results were always good for the shooters. It was so very “French” and great fun for everyone too.

We just followed along and all of the shooters had a good time. The ringing of targets, the thrill of shooting, the camaraderie, and good-na-



tured joking all played a part. Lots of smiling shooters. It was said over and again, SASS is supposed to be fun and this was. After every clean shooter, the whole posse yelled “Yee Haw!”

with gusto. I cannot explain the friendliness at this match. It was outstanding. I saw true examples from almost all the shooters of the “sprit of the game” everybody talks about.

The stage descriptions were interesting. It was a good mix of fast and thoughtful stages. I enjoyed the “rattlesnake sweep” the most and poured it on as fast as anybody. Well, maybe not as fast as Frenchie Boy or Ranger Wallace, but I gave them a clean good run.

The Texas sun followed us. The predicted rain was only a trace amount. The skies cleared for both days and the sun burned the clouds away. It was bit warm by French standards on both afternoons – 24°-28°C (75°-83°F).

Copies of the stages were not translated, but it was not difficult to figure out what to do. SASS experience helped, and supportive members aided us, especially Doc Manitoba, Cattleman Joe and Marshal Dundee. We shot four stages each day. It took about an hour per stage, which might seem long but it was a comfortable pace.

The second day, we had a long range, 100-meter Buffalo Shoot. Redneck Mike loaned me his High Wall 45-70 fitted with aperture sights. The

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SASS é France • (SASS is France) . . .

target was a range-correct paper black silhouette. Its backside had the scoring rings. I had a nice grouping but shot high. Only the lower part of the group scored.

This private club's range is excavated from a hillside. Bays are separated by block walls and the main building is block construction. One bay with high block walls is dedicated to Cowboy Action Shooting™. For the annual match, the other three stages were adapted from two shooting bays. The 50-meter bay held two stages and the 100-meter held one stage the far end. It was reset for long range on Saturday afternoon. The club did a great job.

The cooking and food preparation was done by Kansas with several able assistants making sure everybody was

served quickly. I mention food because it was an important element of this gathering. We ate before we started preparations, then lunch, then shooting, and ended with dinner. The meals were full-board French. Given this was at a shooting club with a limited kitchen, the food was amazingly delicious.

Mornings started with strong coffee in small cups. Bread or a coffee cake rounded out breakfast. Lunch and dinner were fantastic creations.

Every meal consisted of *charcuterie* (sliced meats and/or sausages) then a complete salad, followed by the main course. After that, cheese and finally a desert. No alcoholic beverages were available until after the shooting stopped. Of course, the evening meals started with *aperitifs* (local Gaulliac wine, beer, whiskey, Pastis, and whatever else—I forget) and continued with several wines at dinner. This is

France after all.

Awards were handed out Saturday evening. We were 13th and 30th overall. Everyone was recognized with a certificate or award, got handshakes, kisses, a photo or two, more handshakes, more kisses, and finally cheers from the crowd. It was interesting to watch and to participate in such a joyous occasion.

We brought a few things to give away as “door prizes” on behalf of Thunder River Renegades. Our French friends were surprised and appreciative. Besides “*Merci*,” it is customary to give and receive kisses on both cheeks. *Bisous* is a great custom. Lady Doc was kissed on both cheeks by every one of the prize winners and several who did not win but wanted to express their gratitude. She never complained. SASS French members are so very friendly. 🇫🇷

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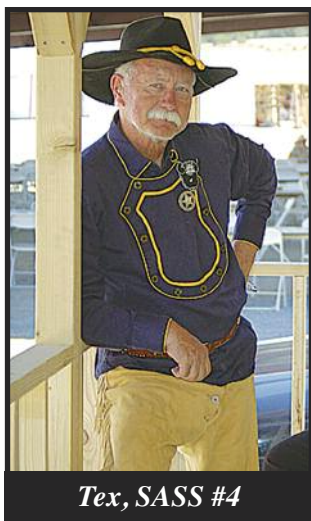
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Tex, SASS #4

Wild Bunch

NEW MEXICO WILD BUNCH STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



By Tex, SASS #4

Founders Ranch, NM. What better place to hold a Wild Bunch State Championship than in the state where the *Villistas* really did “kick the hornet’s nest” and set in motion a glorious little campaign in Mexico. Pancho Villa crossed the border at Columbus, NM March 8, 1916 intent on revenge for a number of supposed indignities. Fortunately, the nearby garrison was fully staffed and quickly began returning fire. After a sharp, fierce firefight, Pancho and his “*trienta-trienta muchachos*” (.30-30 boys) retreated back across the border. Black Jack Pershing and his punitive force spent the next several months chasing Pancho with horses, cars, and biplanes... all to no avail.

While places like Kansas City and Houston are drowning in flood waters

and many inches of rain, New Mexico is basking in one of the best monsoon seasons in decades. The August skies are blue, the landscape is green, and the temperature is mild with afternoon monsoon showers nearly every day. Founders Ranch could not be more beautiful. For the first time in years, there is *NO* drought in New Mexico!

New Mexico’s Boggus Deal, SASS #64218, and J. Frank Norfleet, SASS #93685, Wild Bunch Action Shooting RO Committee member and Wild Bunch Ambassador, respectively, were the sparkplugs behind getting the match SASS sanctioned, organized, and staffed with a committee that made everything run smoothly and efficiently. The match was to be a two-day affair with 12 stages of Wild Bunch Action Shooting.



The overall top man and lady were Boggus Deal and Texas Tiger, SASS #74829.

They made it look easy!
Congratulations!



The New Mexico State Wild Bunch championships played host to some 25 competitors from all over New Mexico as well as Colorado and Utah.

New Mexico • Wild Bunch State Championship . . .



– Lady Modern
New Mexico State Champions –
(1 – r, 1 – 2) Texas Tiger, SASS #74829,
and EZ GZ, SASS #83885

Friday was spent in finalizing the range set up and early registration. Saturday began bright and early with the rest of the registration, shooters' meeting, and lead down range by 9:00 a.m. On Saturday the shooters were organized into one large posse... and it took *all day* to complete the first six stages, wiping out any opportunity for side matches and man-against-man competitions. Actually, there was a choice... stay and shoot some more... or head for the local beer garden for an afternoon with a few brews, brats, burgers, and a fantastic Dutch oven peach cobbler. It was a great close to the first day's shooting!

On Sunday, the group was divided into two posses, and the shooting proceeded much quicker, ending by 1:00 p.m. for lunch and awards.

While it was a State Championship, the objective was to ensure everyone

had a great time... both with the shooting and socializing with their shooting buddies. Competitors came from all over New Mexico and there were even shooters from Colorado and Utah in attendance. Renewing ties with old friends and meeting the out of staters was a pleasant experience.

As for the shooting... this was one of the most enjoyable shoots I've attended in quite a while. The targets were definitely further out than we're used to for Cowboy... but not as far out as many of our recent Wild Bunch matches, making all the targets very "hittable." Yes, there were a few challenging targets and many missed them... but if you used that "bumpy" thing on the end of the barrel and had a steady hand, they were definitely hittable.

Half the stages used all the firearms... five used only pistol and shotgun... and one was pistol only. My favorite stage was the pistol only 40 round (Yep! Eight magazines!) stage. There were eight sets of two knockdowns and a stationary target (one each on the knockdowns and three on the stationary). The targets were not difficult to hit, but fatigue and maintaining concentration were the challenges. The most confusing stage featured a "nasty sweep," six stationary targets shot in a series of sweeps, progressively dropping the first target each time for 21 rounds (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 3, 4, 5, 6, 4, 5, 6, 5, 6, 6). Lots of folks got confused and lost track of where they were. One enterprising shooter used his "Barney Fife" magazine (loaded with one round) first... then the rest was "easy!"

The most difficult stage featured a couple of pistol targets at the back of the berm. They definitely required a steady hand!

New Mexico has justifiably been proud of its Wild Bunch program and competitors. The top dozen or so shooters have been able to hold their place with shooters from across the country and around the world, while at the same



– Lady Traditional
New Mexico State Champions –
(1 – r, 1 – 2) Lawless Lil, SASS #80605,
and Lady Jane, SASS #72857

time mentoring shooters newer to the game and reveling in their progress. It's a very supportive group that never fails to applaud when their rival does well and never lets an opportunity pass to have a little fun at their shooting buddy's expense!

Next year not only all New Mexico Wild Bunch competitors are invited to the State Championships, but we'd love to see shooters from Texas, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona come as well. There are great competitors in every state... and our New Mexico Wild Bunchers would love to test their skills against the other champions. 🤠



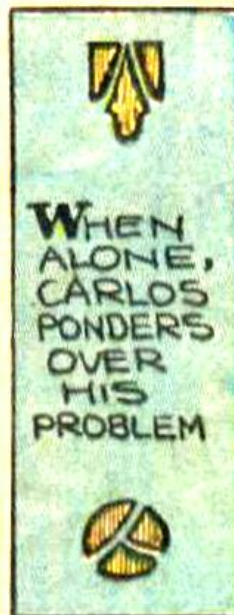
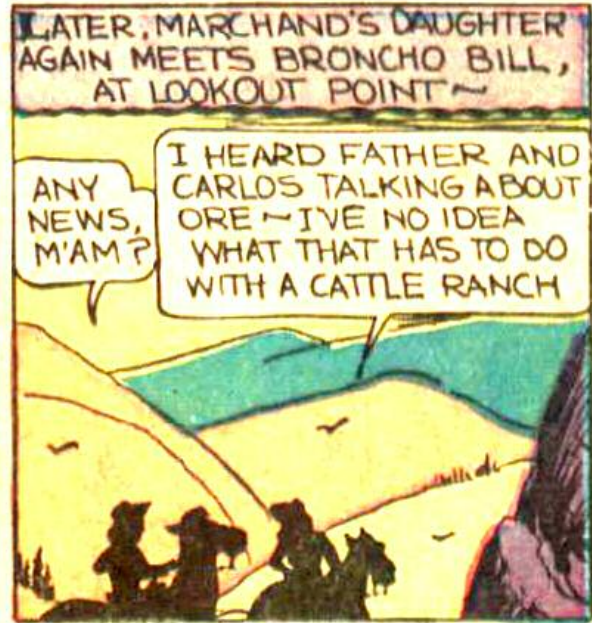
– Modern New Mexico State Champions –
(1 – r, 1 – 3) Boggus Deal, J. Frank Norfleet,
and Gunsmoke Cowboy, SASS #84261

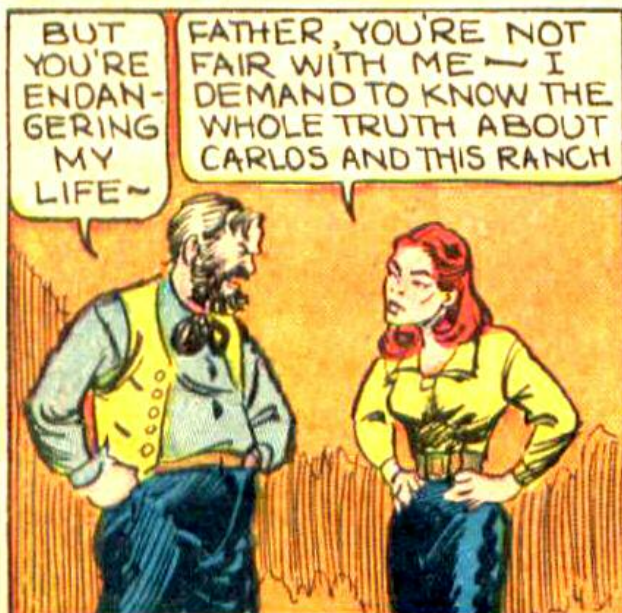


– Traditional New Mexico State Champions –
(1 – r, 1 – 3) Garrison Joe, SASS #60708,
Mica McGuire, SASS #18526, and
Tex, SASS #4. Tex was hoping for a
Senior Traditional Category, but there were
not enough "old codgers" to justify the category.
He was tickled to get 3rd Traditional!

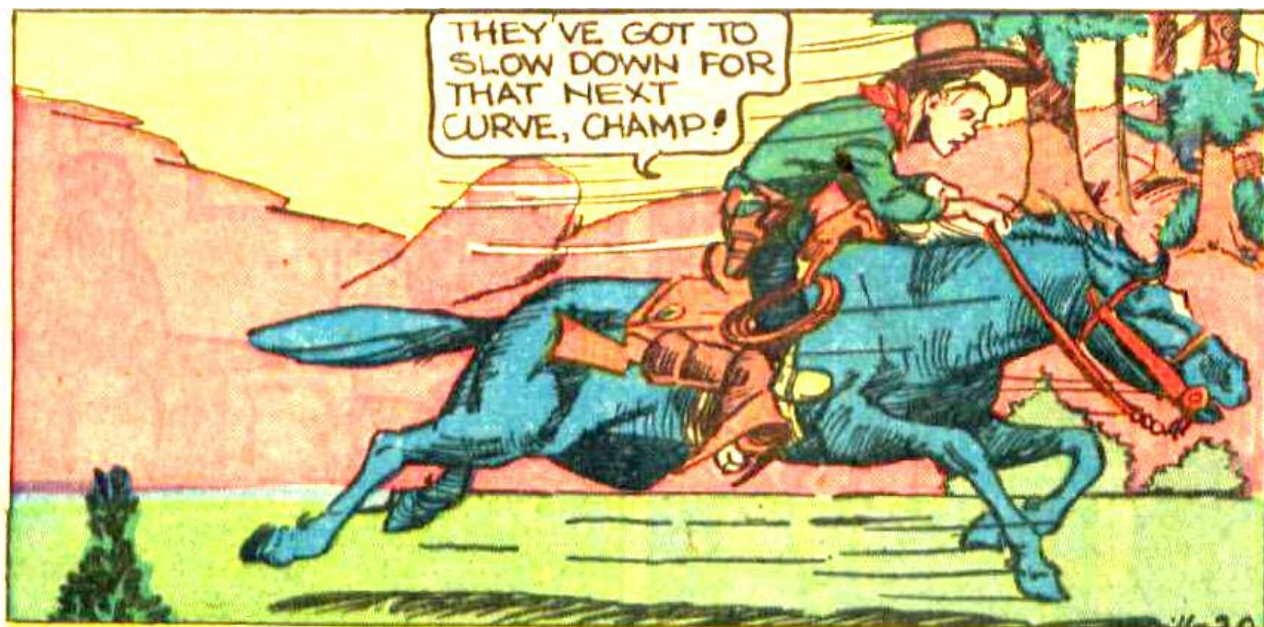
Comic Book Corner

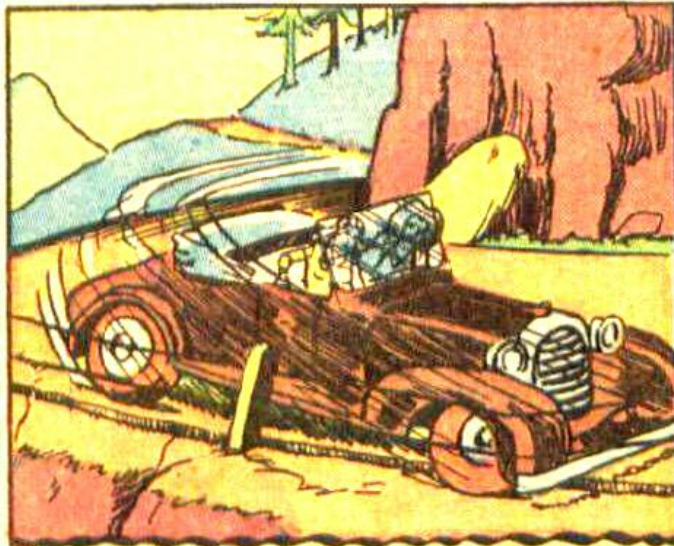










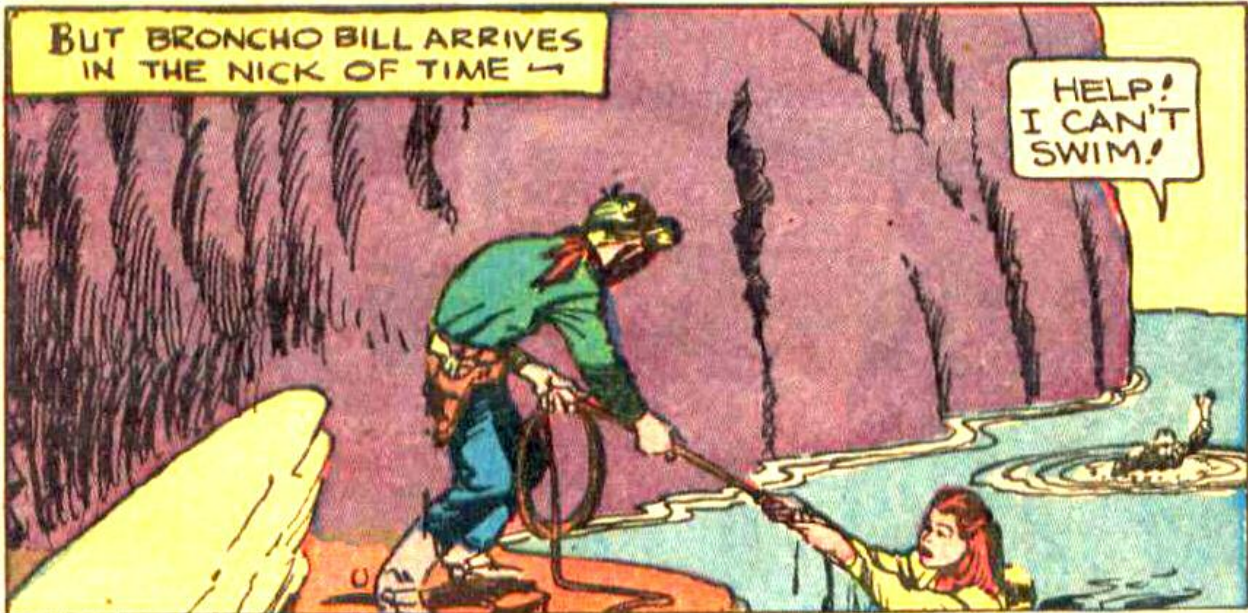


BUT HE IS TOO LATE ~AT THE NEXT TURN THE CAR SKIDS ~



~AND LEAPS INTO SPACE ~
THE OCCUPANTS JUMP FREE

BUT BRONCHO BILL ARRIVES
IN THE NICK OF TIME ~

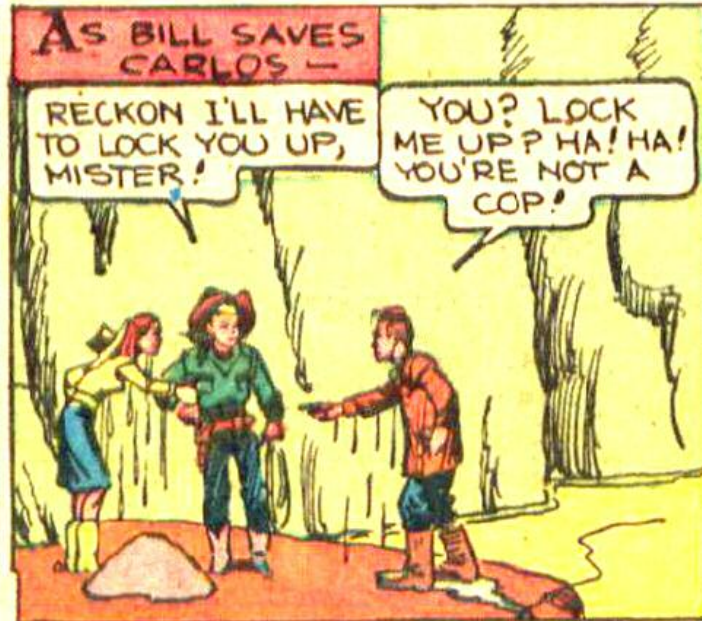


HELP!
I CAN'T
SWIM!

AS BILL SAVES
CARLOS ~

RECKON I'LL HAVE
TO LOCK YOU UP,
MISTER!

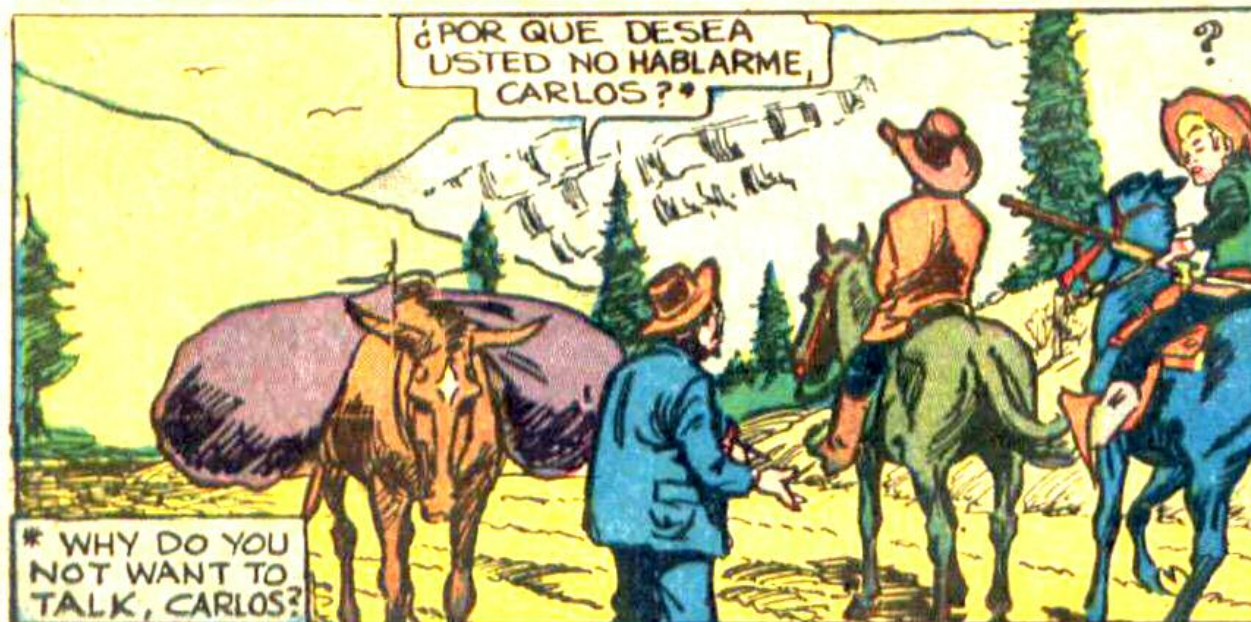
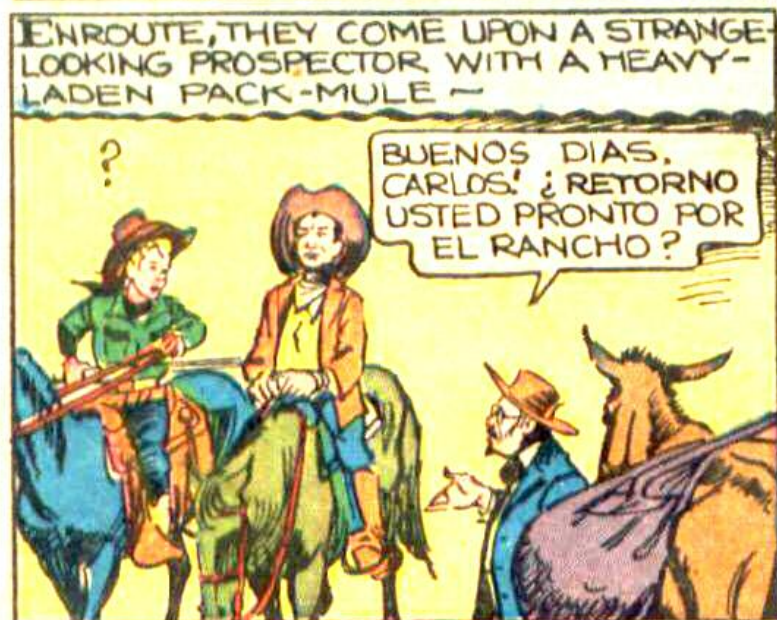
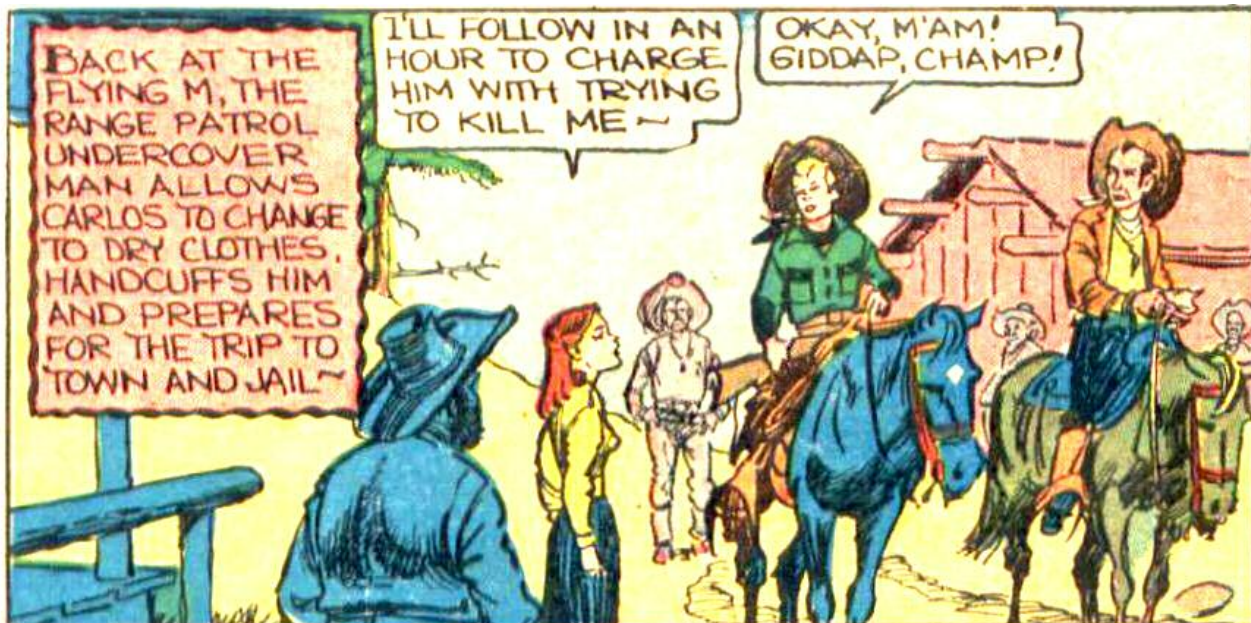
YOU? LOCK
ME UP? HA! HA!
YOU'RE NOT A
COP!



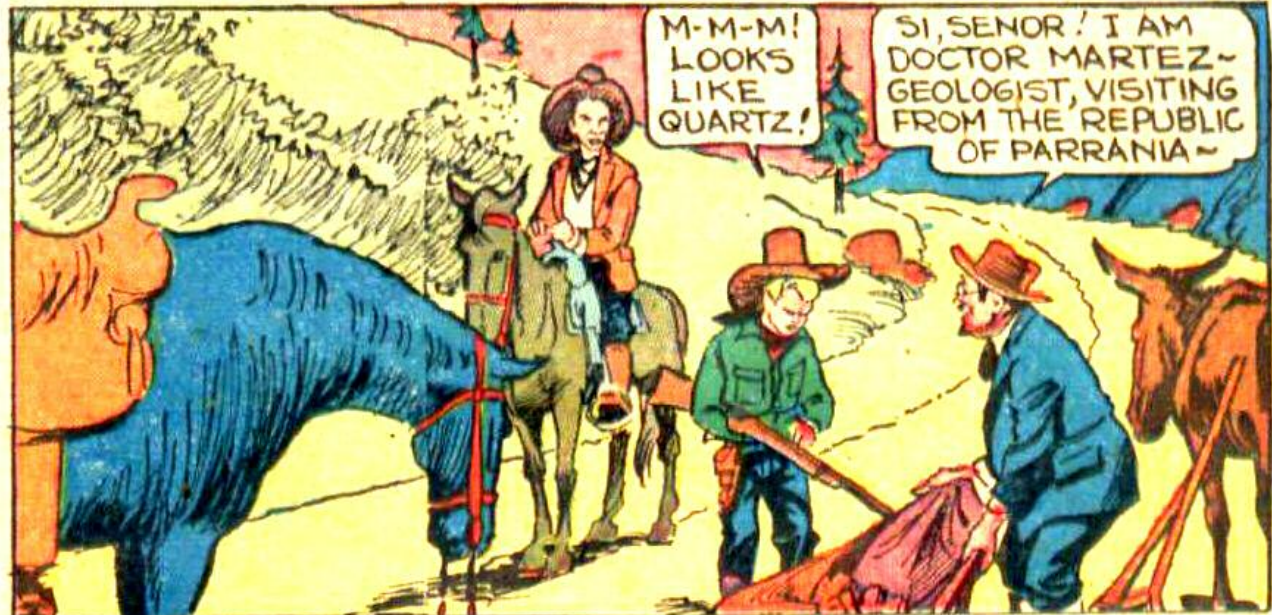
THAT'S WHAT
YOU THINK!
YOU'RE
UNDER
ARREST,
CARLOS!

"RANGE
PATROL!"
SO YOU
ARE A
COP!





WHEN THE MAN NOTICES THE HAND-CUFFS ON CARLOS' WRISTS, HE IS APOLOGETIC AND PRETENDS MISTAKEN IDENTITY!

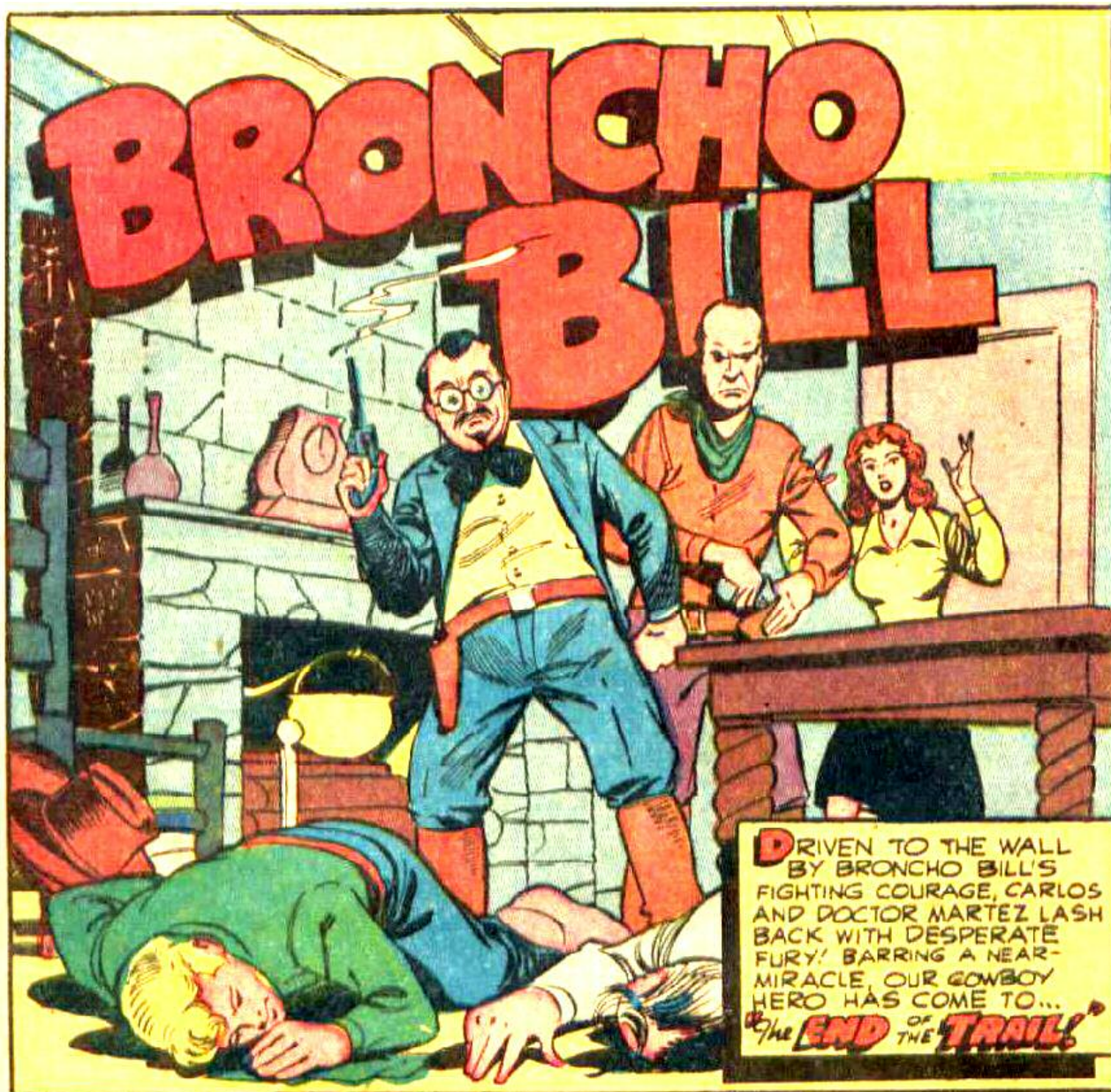


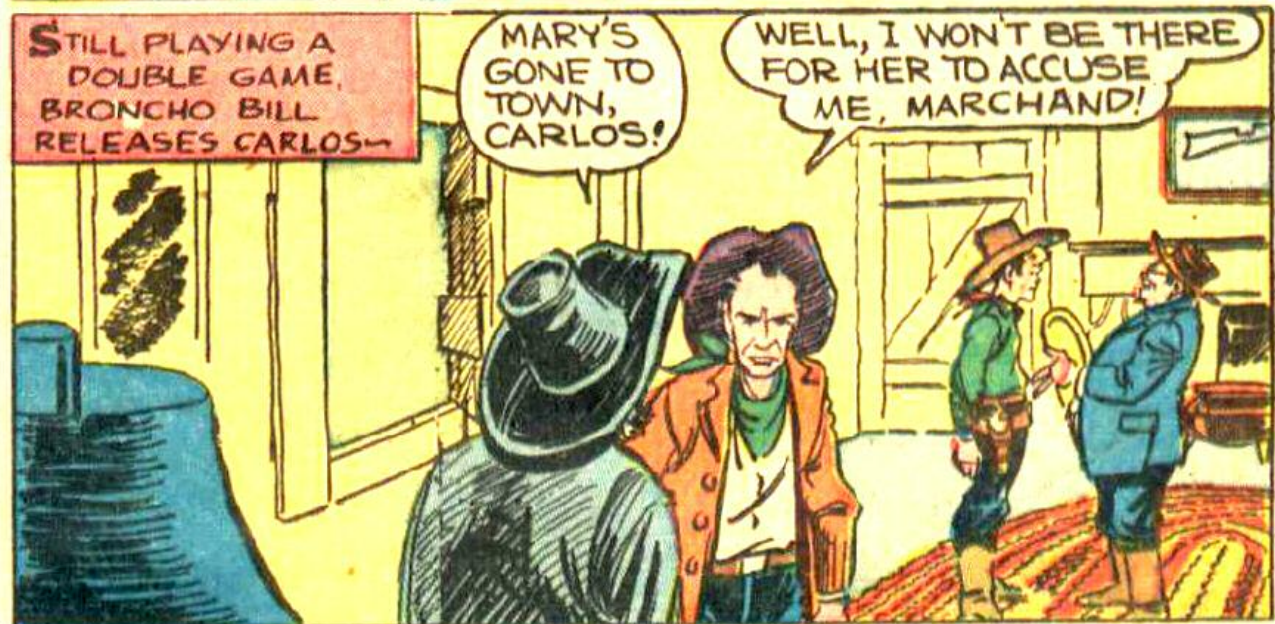
MEANWHILE, MARCHAND ADVISES HIS DAUGHTER NOT TO CHARGE CARLOS WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER, BUT TO FLEE FOR HER LIFE INSTEAD



I KNOW! BUT THIS IS NOT MY TIME TO FLEE ~ WHEN I DO MAKE A BREAK, I'LL EXPOSE THE WHOLE GANG! GO NOW, AND WAIT FOR ME IN TOWN!







HEADING FOR A RANCH CAR IN WHICH TO FLEE, MARY MARCHAND MEETS BILL AND ACCUSES HIM OF SELLING OUT "TO CARLOS"

NOT SO FAST, M'AM! THIS IS PART O'MY GAME

YOU DO SOUND TRUTHFUL!

A man in a green shirt and brown hat (Broncho Bill) is talking to a woman in a yellow shirt and red hat (Mary Marchand). They are standing in front of a wooden building.

BELIEVING HIS STORY, THE GIRL TELLS OF FINDING THE LETTER SIGNED BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY

PARRANIA, EH! DR. MARTEZ'S COUNTRY - I WANT THAT LETTER!

I'LL GET IT FOR YOU

A close-up of the two characters. The man is on the left, looking at the woman on the right. The woman has a determined expression.

THREE PEOPLE NOW THREATEN OUR ENTERPRISE - TOO MANY TO BRIBE - WE MUST GET RID OF THEM

DR. MARTEZ AND CARLOS RECOGNIZE A DILEMMA AND DECIDE TO DEAL WITH IT DRASTICALLY

MARCHAND THINKS WE INTEND TO SHOOT ONLY THE BOY, BUT WE'LL DO 'EM BOTH AS PLANNED

Two men are sitting at a table, talking. One man is wearing a blue shirt and glasses, the other is wearing a blue plaid shirt. In the background, a woman in a yellow shirt and red hat is visible through a doorway.

MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE RANCH HOUSE TO PROCURE A CERTAIN LETTER FOR BRONCHO BILL, MARY MARCHAND OVERHEARS THEIR PLAN

I MUST WARN HIM - AND DAD!

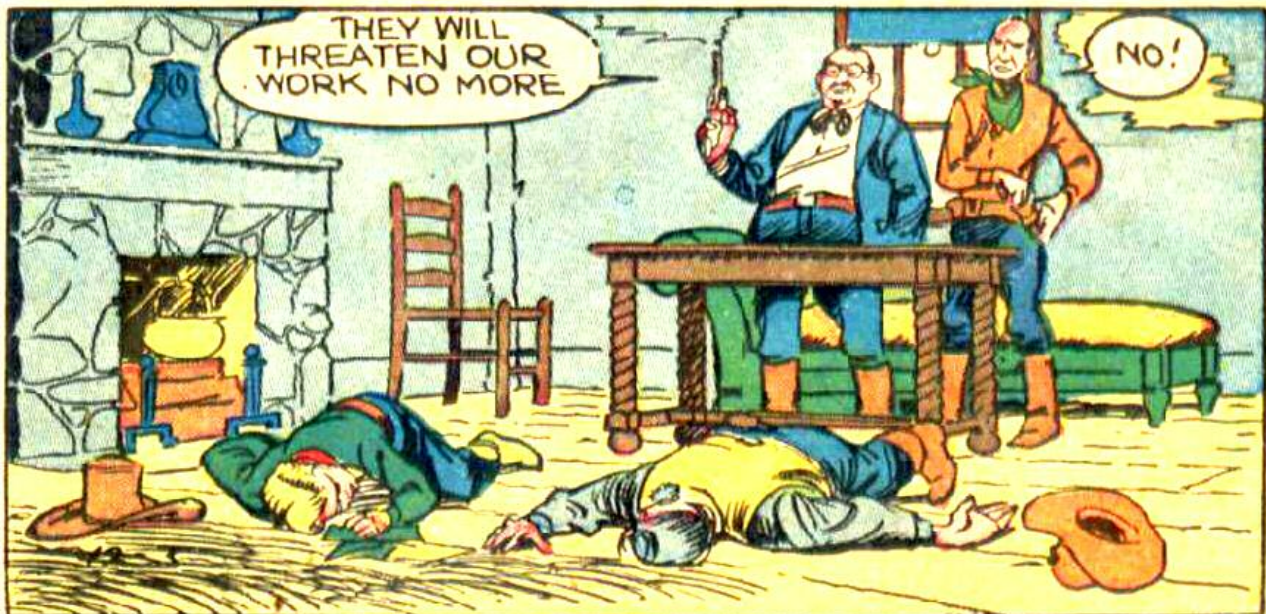
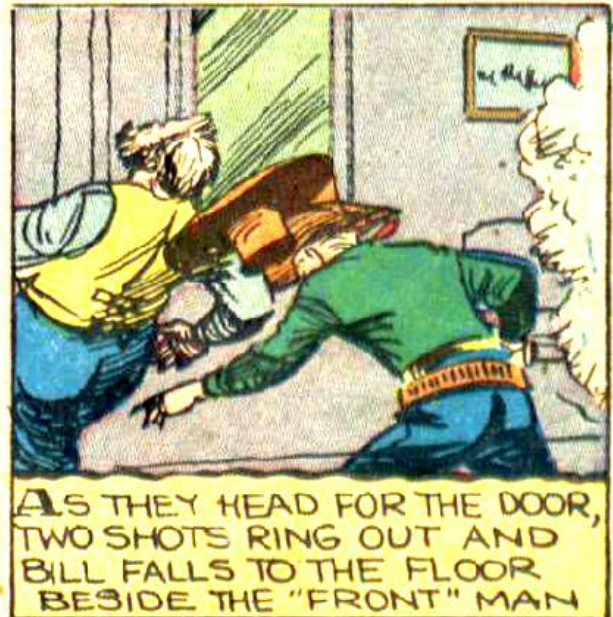
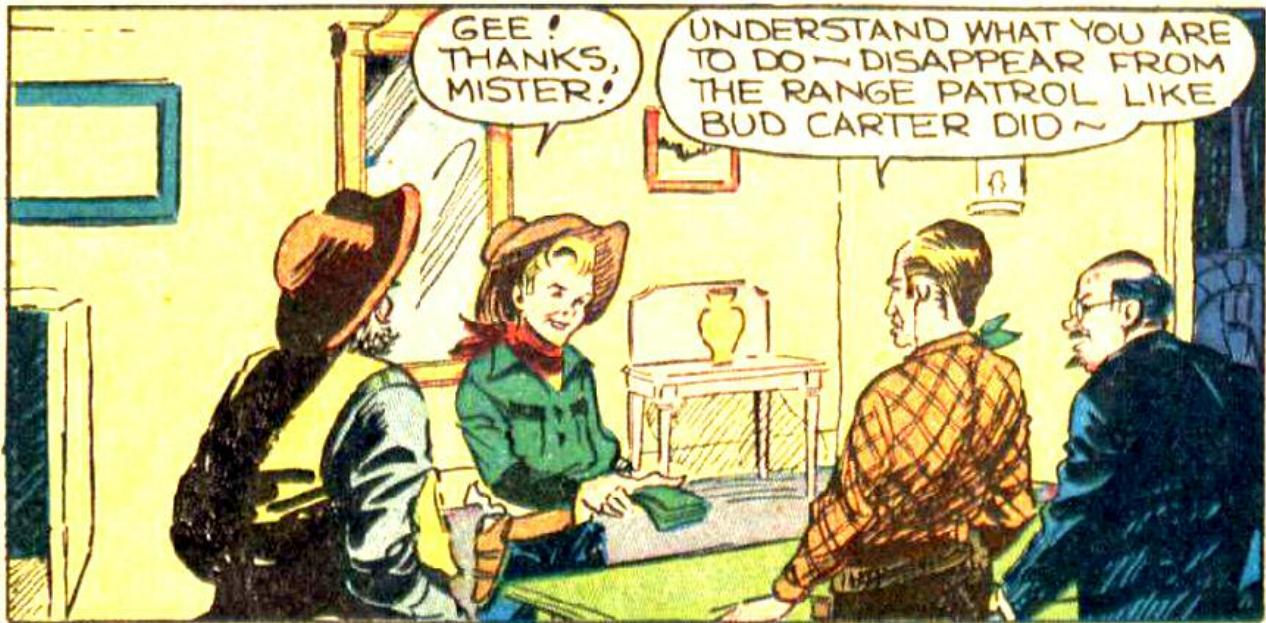
A woman in a yellow shirt and red hat is running through a doorway, looking back over her shoulder with a worried expression.

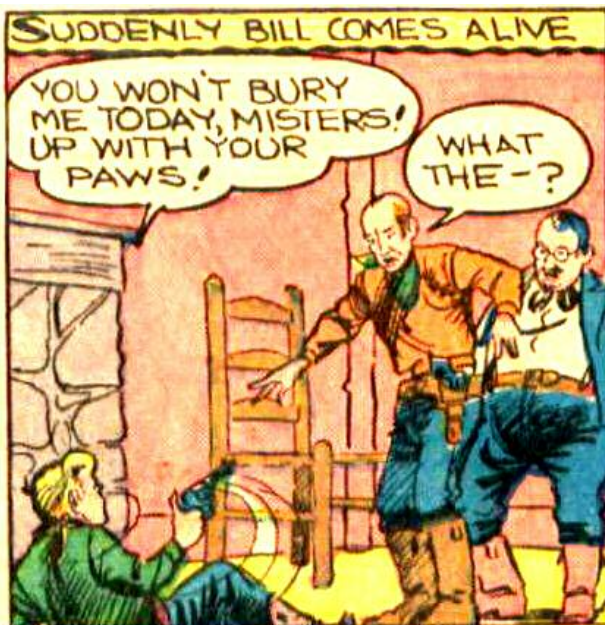
BUT AT THIS MOMENT CARLOS AND THE DOCTOR DIRECT THEIR UNPREPARED "FRONT" MAN

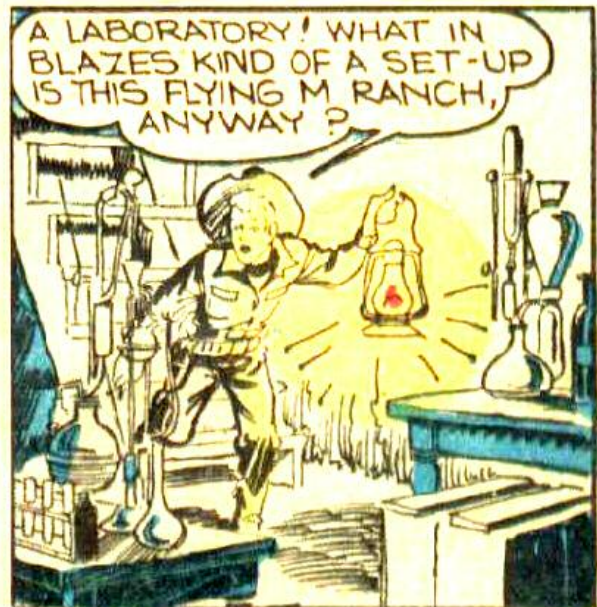
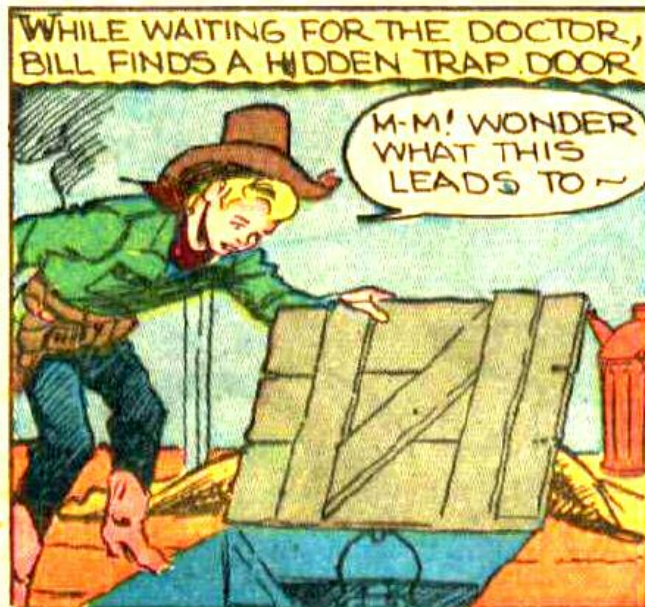
BRING THAT BOY IN FOR HIS MONEY, MARCHAND!

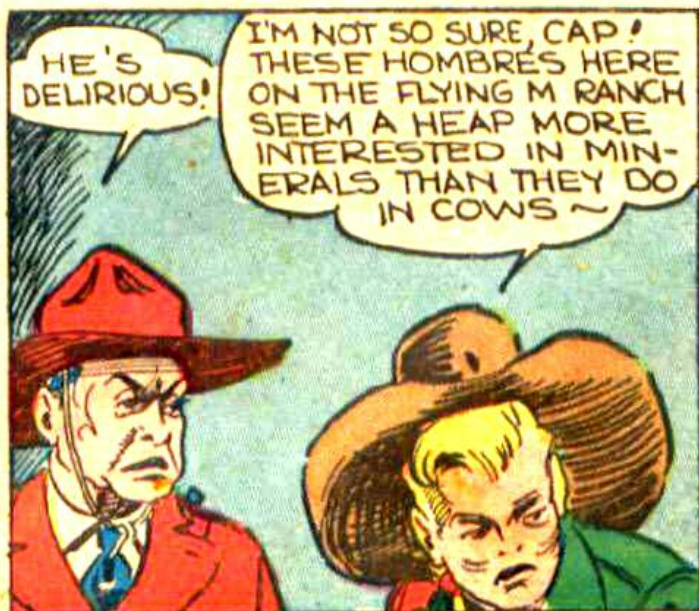
OKAY!

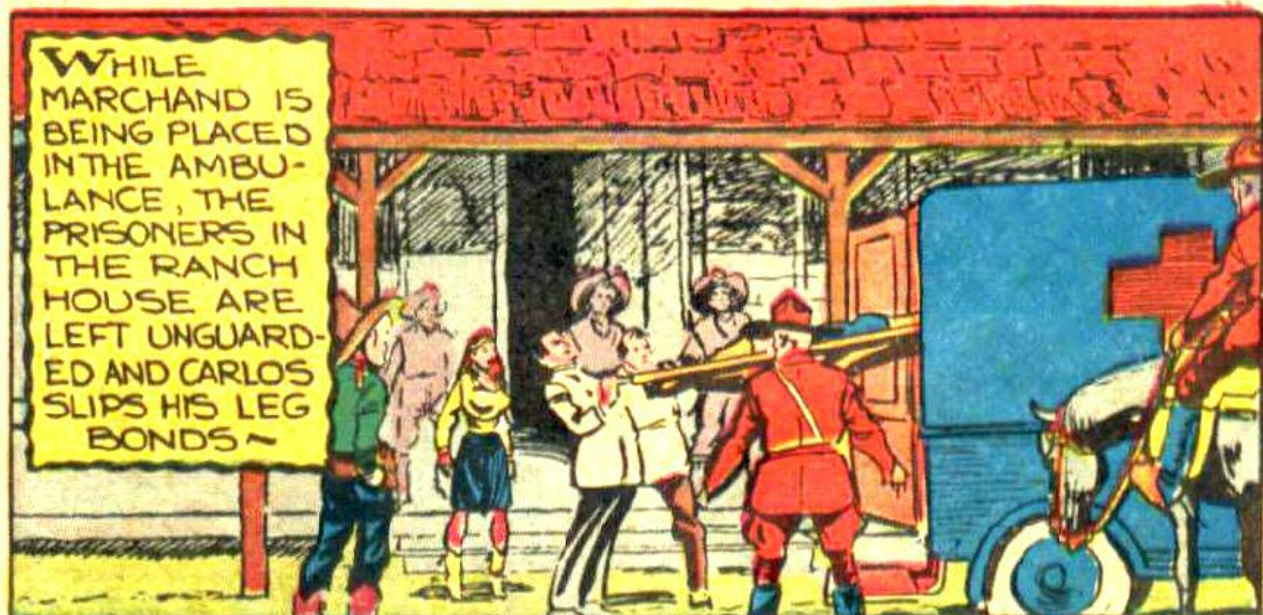
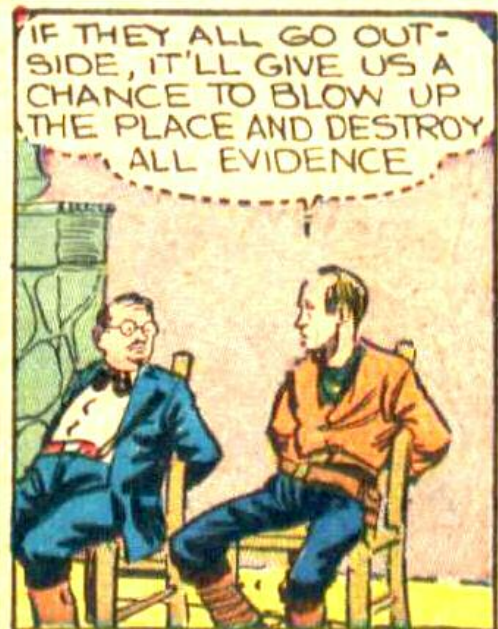
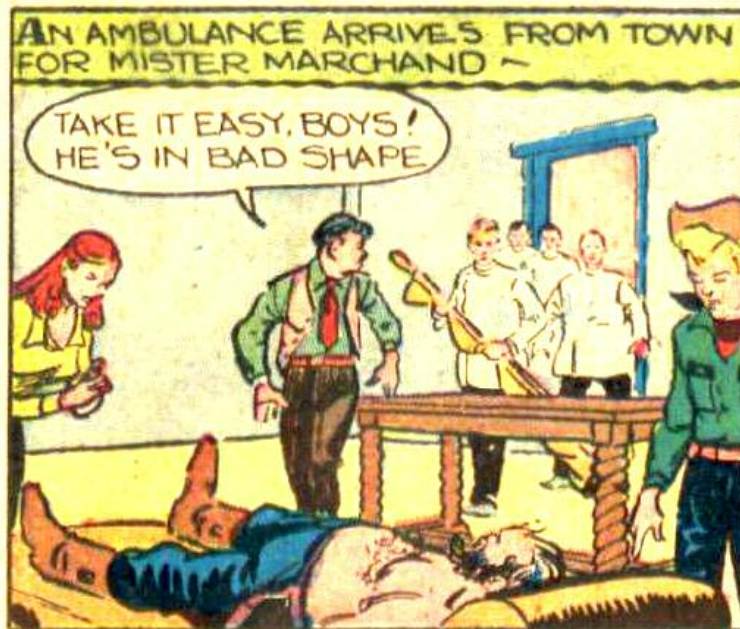
Three men are standing in a room. One man is wearing a plaid shirt, another is wearing a dark shirt, and the third is wearing a yellow vest and blue pants. They are all looking towards the right.





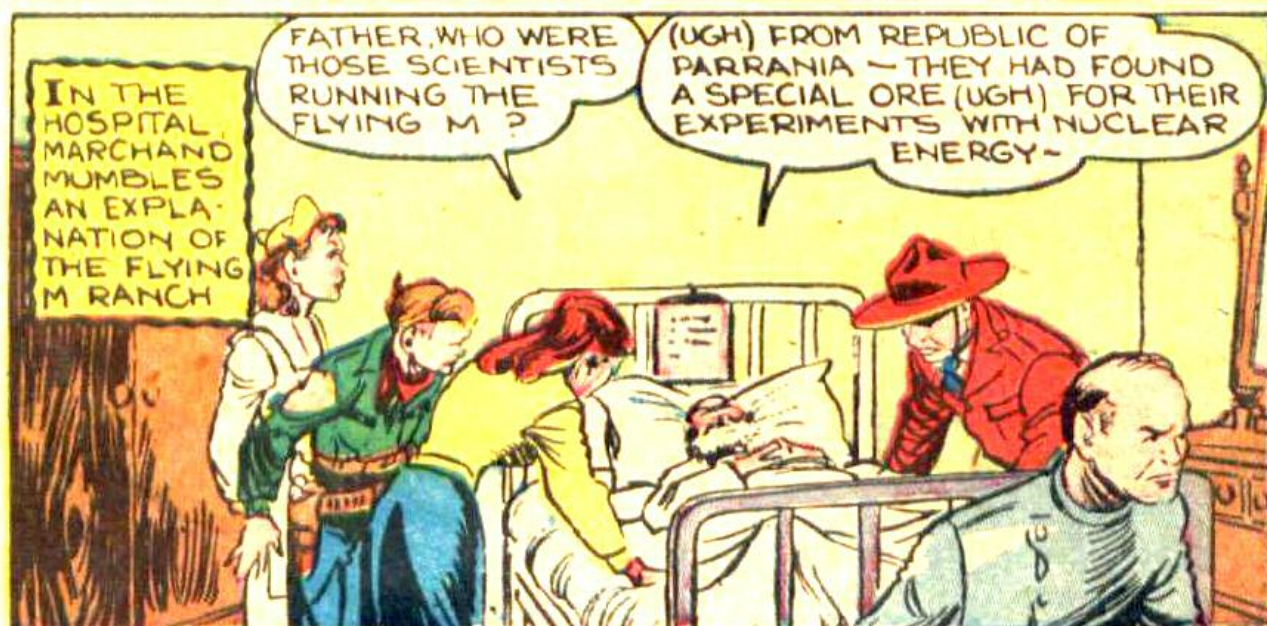
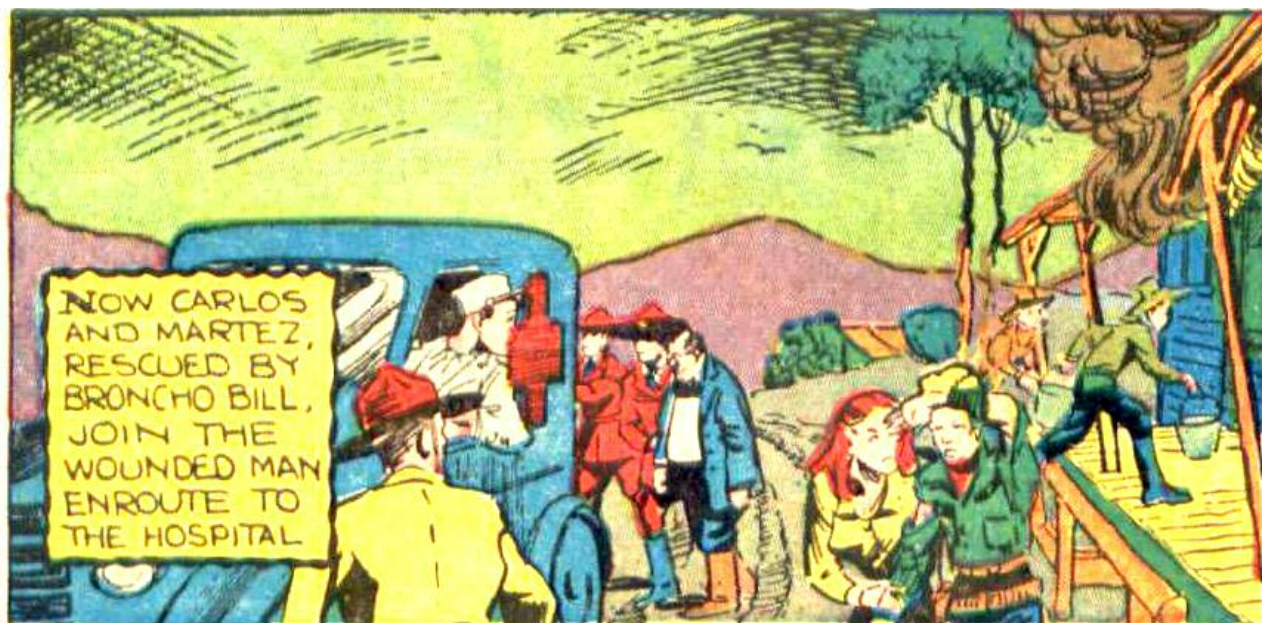


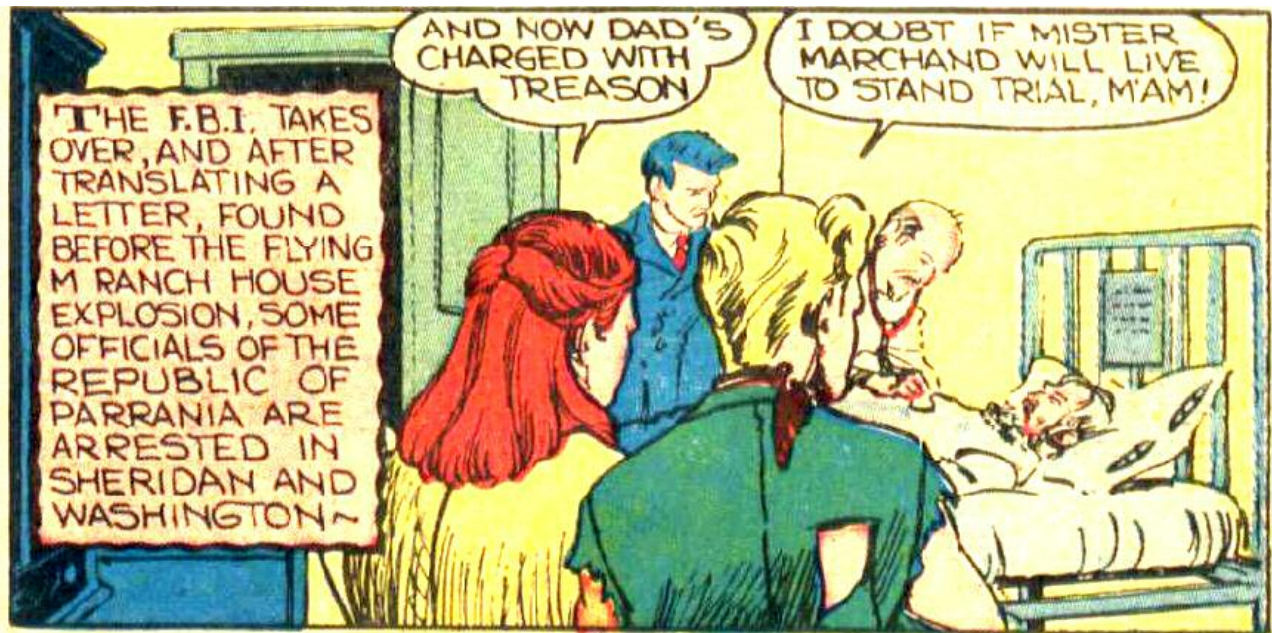


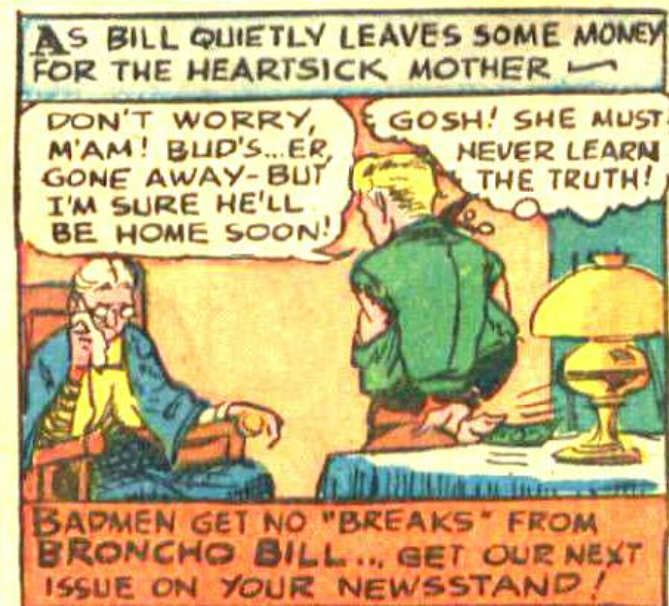
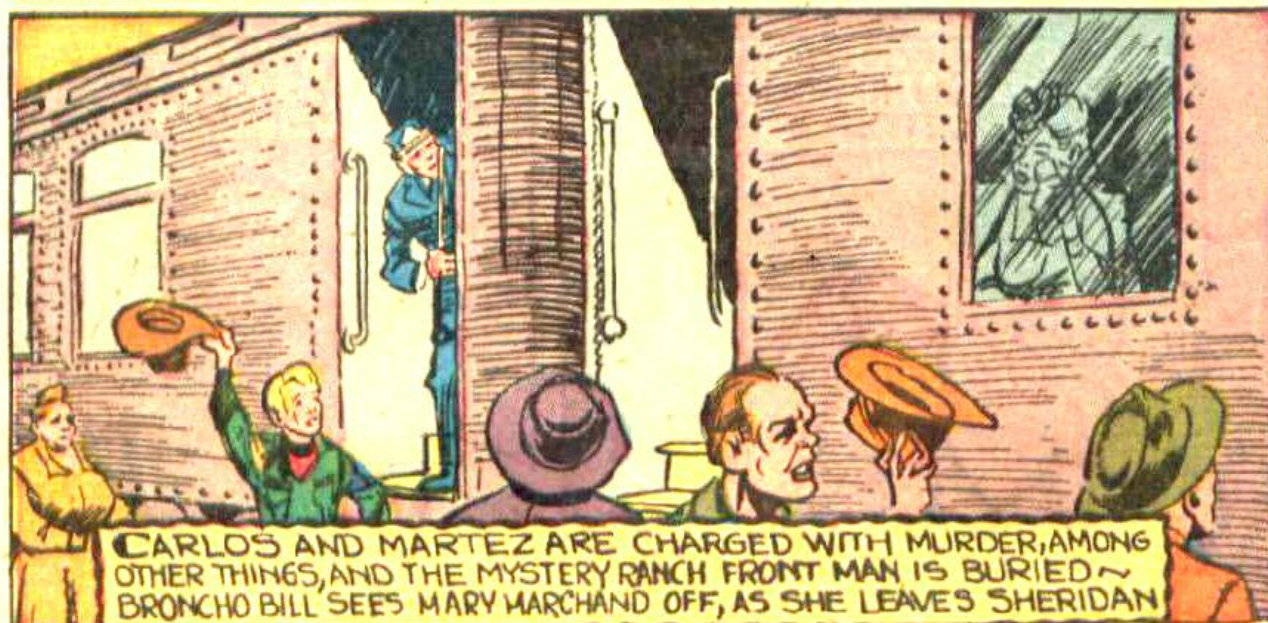
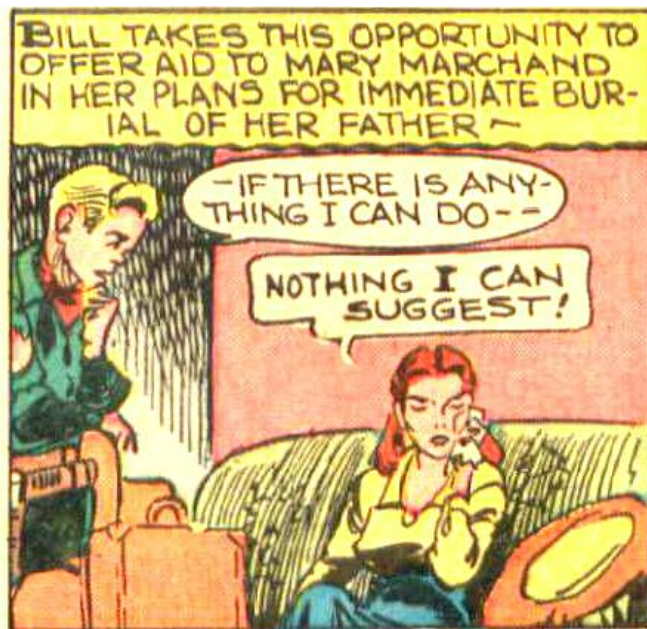
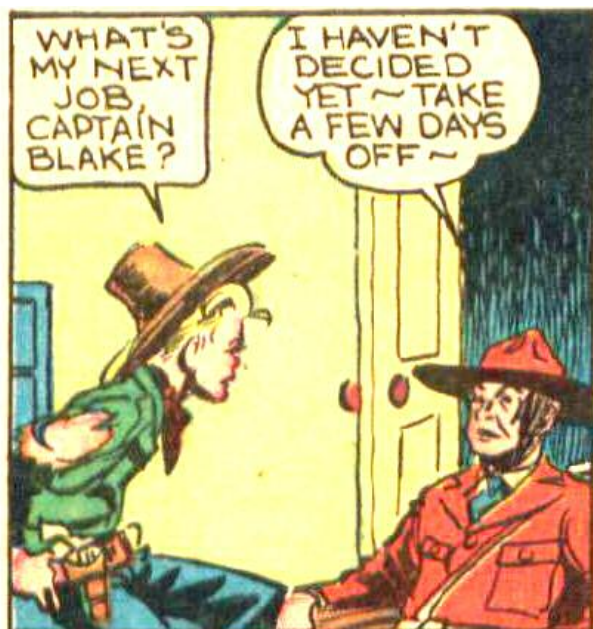














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It's Simple. Become a SASS Supporting Store and we'll refer our members directly to you.

That's right. With our fast growing population of Cowboy Action Shooting™ Members, SASS would like to support you by referring our members to you. Why? Because we need SASS and Cowboy Action Shooting™ knowledgeable Gun Stores, nationwide, to refer our members.

How Does it Work?

SASS supplies you, with:

- SASS Membership Applications
- Informational Brochures
- A listing on our website with a link to your website
- A Listing in The Cowboy Chronicle monthly digital edition with a link to your website
- A Listing in The Cowboy Chronicle quarterly printed edition
- Access to post promotional sales on the popular SASS wire forum merchants corner
- A SASS Affiliated Merchant sticker with year to place proudly in your store
- A Certificate that shows you are a supporting dealer in good standing
- We refer our members to you for related goods & services
- Your Logo and Business info will be added to a flyer which will be included in each new member package. (Please send hi-res logo to amber@sassnet.com)
- Affiliated Merchants will be featured in Email Blasts to all active members with an email address. On a quarterly basis.

What Do You Have to Do to Be A SASS Supporting Store?

- Educate yourself to how SASS functions by reading your SASS Information Packet
- Display our membership application in the supplied counter top display container
- Display your SASS Supporting Sticker where referrals can see it
- Be helpful, friendly and attentive when a customer mentions SASS
- You must be a SASS Member

How Do I Qualify?

If you are a retail store that sells Single Action Firearms, ammo, Cowboy Clothing or other Cowboy products and you are a SASS member, You Qualify! It's that simple!

How Do I Sign Up?

Fill out the application, mail it or fax it in, and we'll do the rest. That's it! SASS believes this is a win-win situation. You benefit by our referrals. We benefit by providing a source our members can count on.

For more information contact Amber Oakley at the SASS Office at (505) 843-1320, or email Amber Oakley directly at amber@sassnet.com.

Thanks!

[Click Here to Download The Official Application](#)



*Captain George Baylor,
SASS Life / Regulator #24287*

Guns & Gear

DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR Oregon Trail® Laser Cast Bullets

By Captain George Baylor, SASS #24287 Life Regulator

Editor Skinny asked me if I'd like to do an article on Oregon Trail Bullets. Answering yes didn't take a lot of thought. I shoot 30,000-plus rounds a year, so yes, I can always use bullets.

Oregon Trail Laser Cast bullets have been around for a long time. I remember doing a comparison on several bullet brands in my IPSC days. They're one of the few still around from that test.

Their "About us" page includes the following, "We began with a simple plan: Set the New Performance Standard by making the finest, most precise hard cast lead bullets possible. This objective is pursued through our endless research and development programs, fanatical quality control, and slavish devotion to the true experts, our customers."

They make Laser-Cast® bullets and TrueShot® Premium Silver Gas Checked Bullets. Their description, "Oregon Trail's® endless R&D and fanatical quality control might be enough to put us at the top, but there's much more to the story: exclusive access to expensive precious metals allowed our engineers to develop the exclusive Laser-Cast® Silver Bearing Alloy and the



Oregon Trail Laser Cast bullets come in 500-1000 round boxes, with internal padding if not full, and are put in an inner two-box container, then in a USPS flat rate box. Shipping is free.

specialized production equipment to exploit it. No one else has it, and no other cast bullet available today can match Laser-Cast's® revolutionary performance. The inclusion of silver in conjunction with our proprietary blend of seven other virgin elements produces an unbeatable hard cast lead bullet of unprecedented toughness, consistency and precision."

There are three schools of thought about lead bullets – soft, hard, and range pick up/wheel weights/scrap lead. We'll ignore the

third, even though it's popular with home casters in SASS. Major bullet manufacturers don't use it, of course. Proponents of soft lead bullets claim greater accuracy and less leading. Proponents of hard lead bullets claim greater accuracy and less leading. I'm not taking sides.

For this test I requested some of the bullets most often used in CAS. All of the delivered bullets shared several qualities. First, the boxes of 500 were put into boxes that held two bullet boxes, then put into large

VISIT US AT SASSNET.COM

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .



Loading 140-grain .358 diameter LTC in .38 Special. They load just like Laser Cast 125-grain LTC. No adjustments needed.

USPS Flat Rate boxes and thoroughly padded. This protects them well from the vagaries of package handling. One internal box cracked open, but the middle box prevented any loss. Shipping is “free.” Keep that in mind when comparing prices.

I loaded 2,000 rounds. No bullets were rejected. This is impressive. Let’s talk about the bullets.

125-grain LTC .358 Diameter

This is an excellent all-around bullet for .38/.357 ammunition. They’re very accurate and work in ’66/’73 actions in .38 and .357. In .38s they load to OAL 1.43-1.44 with the crimp in the crimp groove. I weighed 10 of each bullet design. They averaged 130 grains actual weight.

If you like the same profile but a longer base, you have...

140-grain LTC .358 Diameter

They load without readjusting anything after loading 125s and look and, of course, feed the same. They just knock down “reactive” targets more reliably. Having knock-down loads in your gun cart is always wise. Some people go whole hog and have 158-grain/950 foot-per-second loads for knockdowns but shoot 105s at 700 fps normally. This is probably not wise. Point of impact will change, and there’s the “shock” factor when you feel recoil for the first time in the match. I shot loads made with both of these bullets back to back in rifle and pistol (American Pioneer Powder 3F, 12 grains by weight). Point-of-aim variations



125-grain and 140-grain LTC bullets.

were inconsequential. In the rifle they felt about the same. My conclusion was having these two bullets would work very well. They averaged 140 grains in actual weight.

Usually loading lead bullets will result in lube build up in the seating and crimping dies. This will change OAL, pushing the bullet deeper into the case. Normally I have to clean those dies after 500 rounds or so. However, after loading 1000 rounds of these two bullets, I found no contamination in the dies. These bullets work really well for “bulk” loading as a result. Just check your seating dies at 1,000 rounds.

(Continued on page 62)



Consistency

The confidence you need when every shot has to count.



Laser-Cast® guarantees your satisfaction unconditionally.
As shooters, we have absolute confidence in Laser-Cast® bullets, the confidence you need when your shot has to count.

- No leading
- Silver alloy yields extreme accuracy

We've slashed our prices to reflect FREE SHIPPING!



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www.laser-cast.com **1-800-811-0548**

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

(Continued from page 61)



Bulk storage loaded .45 ACP .230-grain RN.



*200-grain LRNFP .452 bullets.
Designed for .45 Colt.*

230-grain LRN .452 Diameter .45 ACP

These are hard-cast bullets. Hard-cast bullets are often lighter using the same molds than soft bullets because the metals added to harden lead are lighter than lead. These “230-grain LRN” .45 ACP bullets averaged about 226 grains. Bullets from different manufacturers using the same mold have run as heavy as 235 grains in previous tests. This, in itself isn’t important. If you’re making ammunition that would be legal with a 230-grain bullet but wouldn’t make Wild Bunch power factor with 225 if your bullet was weighed, you really should use a bit more powder.

I loaded these to about 1.225" OAL. Of course they loaded easily and fed perfectly in my 1911s.



*Loading 230-grain LRN .45 ACP
was easy and straightforward.*

200-grain LRNFP .452 diameter .45 Colt

When I got to these, I looked at my supply of .45 Colt ammunition and realized I had a year’s supply. So I did what a lot of WB shooters do and loaded them in .45 ACP cases. These bullets averaged 205 grains actual weight.

If you’re loading this in a .45 Colt case you load it to an OAL of 1.55 by loading it with the roll crimp on the crimp groove. It will fit in a ’66 or ’73 cartridge lifter and feed smoothly. For .45 ACP you use a taper crimp and adjust it to crimp just behind the crimp groove, resulting in 1.205 OAL. I use an EGW Case Checker, which has a min-spec “chamber” for seven rounds at a time. Specs call for taper to .471 inch. I found it’s simple to just adjust the crimp so when you turn the case checker upside down the round falls out with no more than a light finger tap. This will enable the round to headspace on the case mouth as intended. I still prefer 230-grain .45 ACP bullets, but I admit the people who use the 200-grain for both .45 ACP and .45 Colt have simpler logistics. These fed perfectly in both of my WB Traditional category 1911s.



*Loaded .38 special 140-grain LTC round.
OAL 1.44" with roll crimp in
crimping groove.*



*200-grain LRNFP can be loaded in
.45 ACP. Taper crimp just behind crimp
groove, making OAL 1.205 inch.*



*Loaded 230-grain LRN .452 diameter
.45 ACP. Taper crimp.*

Dispatches From Camp Baylor

Optimizing

I called Oregon Trail and asked for their technical guru. They gave me to Brad. I asked for any tips he had for optimizing his bullets. He emphasized the importance of seating and crimping separately when using cast lead bullets. He recommends Lee Factory Crimp dies (as do I). They crimp and full-length-resize the case. This is very important in .45 ACP because cases get bulges near the base in some popular striker-fired pistols.

.38 Specials and .45 Colt get a roll crimp. A medium roll crimp works very well. A case gauge will help you get it right.


Conclusion

It's absolutely no surprise Oregon Trail Laser Cast bullets are excellent, with outstanding QC. I experienced no leading or any other problems. Everything was first class, starting with the excellent packaging and ending with 2,000 rounds of ammunition with no bullet rejects.

Oregon Trail Bullet Co.

email@oregontrailbullet.com,

techsupport@oregontrailbullet.com,

(800) 811-0548, (541) 523-4697. 

VISIT US AT SASSNET.COM

History

The Wounding of Stonewall Jackson A Dark Day for the South

By Big Dave, SASS #55632

In 1853, when Professor Thomas J. Jackson went on his honeymoon with his first wife Ellie, they traveled to Canada. Jackson insisted on visiting the Plains of Abraham outside Quebec City, where English General James Wolfe had been mortally wounded almost 100 years earlier during the French and Indian War. At the Battle of Quebec, Wolfe managed to defeat the French by attacking them at an unlikely place they hadn't bothered

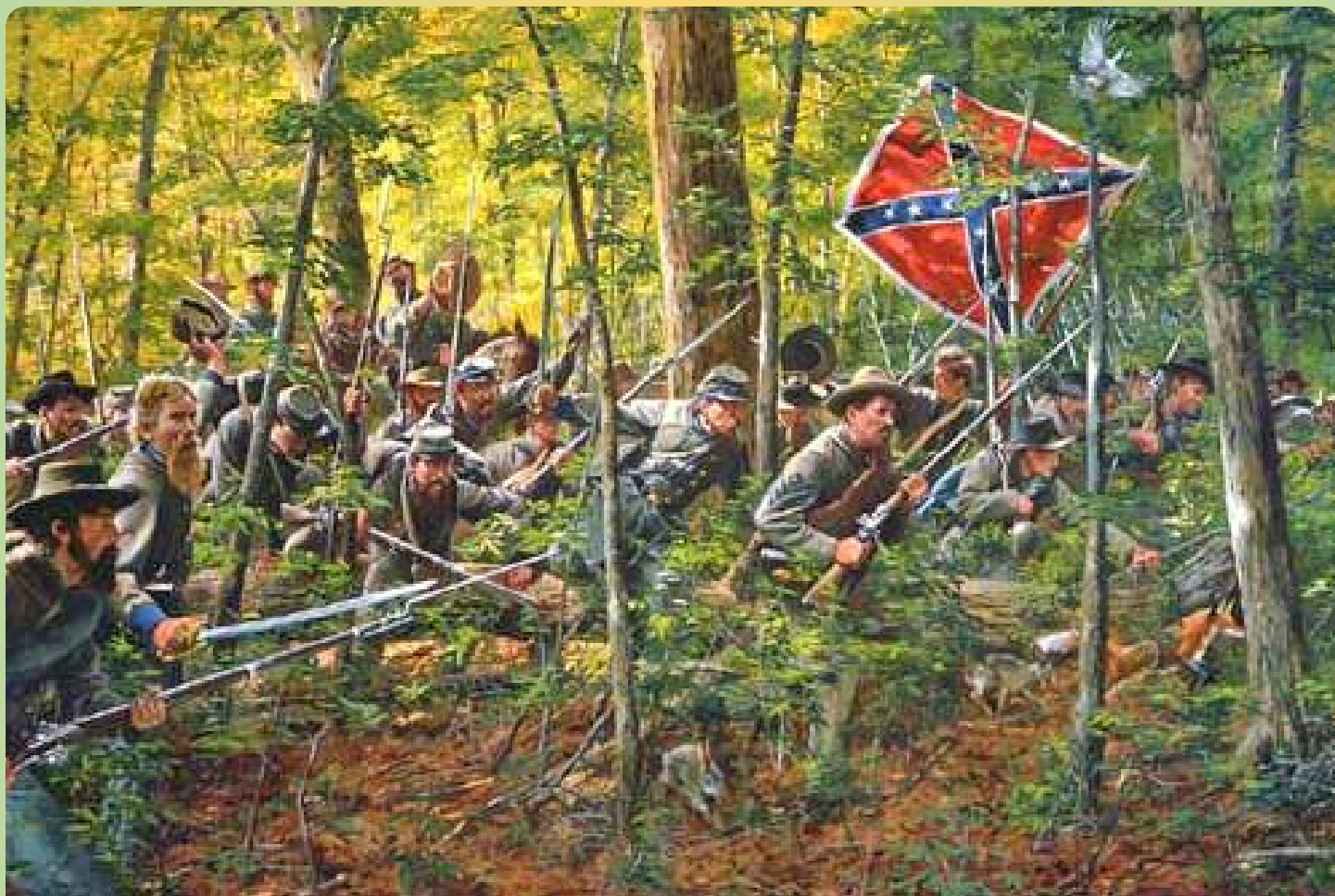
to defend. Sadly, Wolfe was shot during the battle. Knowing he had won a decisive victory, Wolfe managed to utter, "I die content" before expiring. Jackson explained all this to his bride without knowing a similar thing was going to happen to him 10 years later at the Battle of Chancellorsville.

When he visited Quebec, Thomas Jackson was an ineffective and eccentric Natural Philosophy professor who also known as "Tom Fool." By 1863,



Big Dave, SASS #55632

when he was wounded, Jackson was recognized as one of the best generals on either side of the Civil War—perhaps the very best. His nickname was the more familiar "Stonewall" by then.



Jackson's surprise attack crumpled the federal flank at Chancellorsville.

A Dark Day for the South

Jackson had gotten his nickname at the First Battle of Manassas in July 1861. At a point in the battle when things were going badly for the Confederates, Jackson's Virginia brigade managed to stand firm. Bernard Bee, a South Carolina general, trying to encourage his own men called out, "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall! Rally behind the Virginians!" Bee's men took heart, the Union assault was stopped, and Thomas Jackson was forever known as Stonewall Jackson. Sadly, General Bee was killed shortly after yelling out to his men.

Nearly two years later, in the spring of 1863, Jackson was something of a legend. By then, he had teamed up with Robert E. Lee and the two of them seemed nearly unbeatable. In the autumn of 1862 they had been stopped at Antietam, but the next big battle was Fredericksburg, which ended in a crushing Union defeat. In the wake of that disaster, Lincoln had to choose yet another commander for the Union Army of the Potomac. This was Union General Joseph Hooker, who had bragged it wasn't a matter of *if* he could take Richmond, but *when*. Hooker had made this boast to President Lincoln, who replied, "The hen is the wisest of all the animal creation because she never cackles until the egg is laid." Hooker was aggressive enough, and quickly went on the offensive.

Lee and Jackson met Hooker at a place called Chancellorsville, which was in the middle of an unbelievably thick tangle of woods and undergrowth known as The Wilderness. Chancellorsville wasn't even a town... it was a place on a map. Much of the area has now been cleared and turned into the suburbs, but enough of it has been preserved in its original state. A visitor can readily grasp the logistical and tactical difficulties of fighting in such a place—the difficulties can be summed up by the fact you can barely see more than



Like Jackson, British General James Wolfe died at the height of his military career.

50 feet in front of you. Chancellorsville had few roads, paths, or clearings in 1863. It was a place where things could go wrong very quickly. As it happened, things went wrong for both sides.

On one hand, the Battle of Chancellorsville was an unlikely and one-sided victory for the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. Lee and Jackson were outnumbered nearly two to one. To make the victory even more impressive, they had agreed on a plan by which they would split their forces in the face of a numerically superior enemy. Lee would position about 20,000 men in front of Hooker's forces while Jackson, using a little-known path, would march around with about 30,000 men to attack Hooker's right flank. It was a risky gamble because if Hooker discovered what was going on, he could crush Lee and Jackson piecemeal, since he had more than double the amount of the combined Confederate forces. Fortunately for the Confederates, Hooker didn't figure out what was happening.

Jackson hit Hooker's right flank at about 5:30 p.m. on May 2, 1863. It was a complete surprise. The Federals

were cooking dinner in a clearing with their arms stacked when they saw deer, rabbits, and quail running out of the woods. I'm sure a few figured out what that meant, but most of them laughed at the spectacle. Closely behind the frightened animals were Jackson's men, who began screaming the Rebel Yell—a sort of keening battle cry. A large number of the Union soldiers in that sector were German immigrants fresh off the boat who panicked. In retrospect, it was hard to blame them. Though some regiments stood and fought, the majority fled. Those who fought were quickly overwhelmed.

The only good news for the Federals was the Confederate attack had occurred late in the day. Just as darkness was beginning to fall, they managed to reform about two miles from where the attack began. At about 9:00 p.m., Jackson went on a reconnaissance with a few officers in order to find a place to strike the Union line the next day. Even though it was night, every so often gunfire would erupt from either side. Unfortunately for Jackson, his party was mistaken for Union cavalry by a nervous Con-

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federate company and fired upon. I've been to the site; it's easy to see how it happened. Besides Jackson, two of his staff officers were wounded.

Jackson was hit by three bullets. One of his wounds was comparatively minor—he was hit in the right hand and only suffered a couple of broken fingers. The other two wounds were more serious—he was hit below the left elbow and higher up in the same arm. The bone in his upper arm was shattered, which in those days necessitated an amputation.

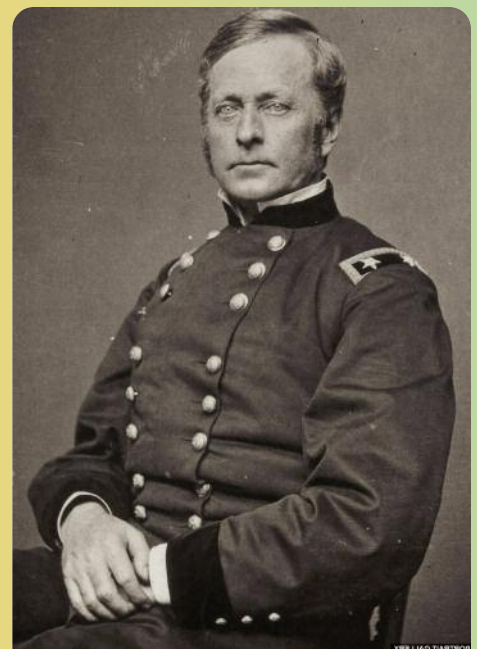
The first problem was getting Jackson back to Confederate lines. Wholesale firing had broken out and the Union artillery had opened up. Jackson was carried in a litter that was dropped twice during the chaos. It must have been agonizing, but Jackson bore the ordeal with his typical stoicism. Once he was back behind Con-

federate lines, Jackson was taken to a field hospital where his left arm was amputated just below the shoulder.

At first Jackson seemed to rally, but within a week his condition took a turn for the worse. Jackson told his doctor he was suffering pain in his side and having difficulty breathing. Between the wounding, the falls from the litter, and the amputation, Jackson's immune system was probably in terrible shape. He had contracted pneumonia. On the morning of May 10, he began slipping in and out of consciousness. Around 3:15, he woke in a delirium and shouted, "A.P. Hill to prepare for action!" Then he calmed down and uttered, "Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees." Those were his last words, he died shortly afterwards.

General Robert E. Lee was appalled when he heard the news of Jackson's wounding. Later, when he heard about the amputation, he commented famously that although Jackson had lost his left arm, he (Lee) had lost his right. This was true—the Army of Northern Virginia was never the same without Jackson. His death was a catastrophic blow to the Confederacy. It almost certainly shortened the war.

Stonewall Jackson was Lee's best battlefield commander by a long shot. He and Lee shared the belief that the Army of Northern Virginia had to make up for its lack of size by boldness and aggression. When speaking with Jackson, Lee only had to voice an idea and Jackson would come up with a plan to execute it. Jackson could quickly analyze a tactical situation without having to be prodded or guided through every step. Though Lee had plenty of high quality generals left after Chancellorsville, none of them were up to Jackson's standard. The two best men left were probably James Longstreet and A.P. Hill, but



Union General Joseph Hooker was soundly defeated at Chancellorsville.

Longstreet could be balky and Hill was often too sick to be one hundred percent effective. Due to a youthful indiscretion, Hill was constantly plagued with urinary infections and the poor guy's prostate was probably the size of a potato.

Chancellorsville had been a great victory for the Confederacy. After Jackson was taken out of the picture, his command was given to cavalryman J.E.B. Stuart, who performed competently for the rest of the four-day battle. Hooker was forced to retreat and Lincoln's comment upon hearing the news was, "My God, my God! What will the country say?" (Soon Lincoln replaced Hooker with George Gordon Meade, who was a different breed of cat from his unfortunate and poorly skilled predecessor.)

However, the victory had come at a huge cost. Besides losing Jackson, Chancellorsville had resulted in the wounding or death of about 13,000 Confederates whom the Confederacy could ill afford to replace. It was a weakened Army of Northern Virginia that would invade Pennsylvania two months later. Chancellorsville was not decisive; there was plenty of fight left in the Union Army.

Even though it is pointless to do

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so, it's hard to resist wondering what would have happened at Gettysburg if Jackson had been there. I think it's safe to say that the battle would have had a different outcome. Instead of a three-day slugfest, it probably would have ended on the first day. Jackson would have grasped the necessity of taking Cemetery Ridge and wouldn't have let up until the position was swept clean of Union forces.

What would have happened then? Who knows? I'm one of the people who believes the Confederacy would have had a difficult if not impossible time winning the war, even if Gettysburg had been a Confederate victory. After all, Vicksburg would still have fallen to Grant even if Gettysburg had turned out differently. No matter what happened in the East, the Civil War in the Western Theater was going poorly for the South. Once he became commander of all Union armies, Grant would have followed the same strategy, regardless of Stonewall Jackson. Even when it won battles, the Confederacy continued to grow weaker; it was literally bleeding to death. A Confederate victory at Gettysburg would have had no effect on the Union blockade of the Confederacy's ports. Foreign intervention wasn't going to happen—Antietam and the Emancipation Proclamation had dashed those hopes. My feeling is, if Jackson lived he would have only managed to prolong the war.

It's a testament to Jackson that, for the most part, the North refrained from gloating over his death. Union brigadier general Gouverneur Warren wrote, "[though] I rejoice at Stonewall Jackson's death as a gain to our cause, I cannot but see him as the best soldier of all this war, and grieve at his untimely end." *The Washington Chronicle* ran an editorial describing Jackson as, "a great general, a brave soldier, a noble Christian and a pure man." President Lincoln praised the editorial as "excellent and manly." If an enemy can manage to say that about you in the middle of a war, it's quite a compliment.

Stonewall Jackson is one of the most intriguing and enigmatic figures of the Civil War. On one hand, he was a kind, loving husband and father. He remained humble and modest even when he became famous. Jackson was a devout Christian who saw every event as the will of God. On the other hand, he was ruthless when it came to warfare—soon after the Civil War broke out, he wanted to invade the North and burn Philadelphia and Baltimore. If he'd gotten the chance, he would have made Sherman's March look like a Victorian tea party. He was a stern disciplinarian who had no problem executing deserters, stragglers, or soldiers who shirked their duties. (A private who served under Jackson commented he'd

have you shot at the drop of a hat and would drop the hat himself.) He detested drunkenness, immorality, and sloth. On the other hand, he was kind to children and effusively romantic with his wife. His personal health regimen was bizarre and included dunking his head in ice water with his eyes open. (This was supposed to improve his eyesight.) He also had a weird quasi-vegetarian diet and the curious habit of raising an arm in the air to achieve "balance" in the blood flow to the limbs of the left and right sides of his body. He avoided pepper because it weakened his left leg. (Who thinks about stuff like that?) Jackson wore a ratty looking uniform and looked more like a farmer inspecting his cattle than a general leading an army.

It almost seems like it was a premonition that brought Jackson to Quebec 10 years before the Battle of Chancellorsville. There are several parallels between Jackson and Wolfe other than the fact both of them died at the height of their military powers. James Wolfe was so odd people called him "Mad Wolfe." He, like Jackson, was socially awkward. Wolfe fidgeted, picked at his clothes, and talked to himself. Like Jackson, he seemed to be off in a different world most of the time. Moreover, Wolfe was a hypochondriac who was chronically disheveled. (He refused to wear a powdered

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An image from the diorama at the battlefield sight shows Jackson being wounded by friendly fire.

yard.” The poem includes a stanza Jackson would have liked. (My bet is Jackson had also read it.) The stanza sums up the transitory nature of fame, fortune, and human life:

*The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth ever gave,
Awaits alike the inevitable hour.*

The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Gray’s gloomy poem provides a fitting epitaph for two military geniuses who died at the apex of their abilities.



The Battle of Chancellorsville took place in a tangled forest.

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wig—a major fashion *faux pas* in the eighteenth century.) Like Jackson, he was a strict disciplinarian who had the habit of attacking his enemies at unexpected places.

Even though he was a fierce and determined warrior, Wolfe had a gentler side. Shortly before the Battle of Quebec, Wolfe’s aides heard him muttering something. Wolfe had just memorized a poem and was reciting it to himself. The poem was Thomas Gray’s “Elegy Written in a Country Church-

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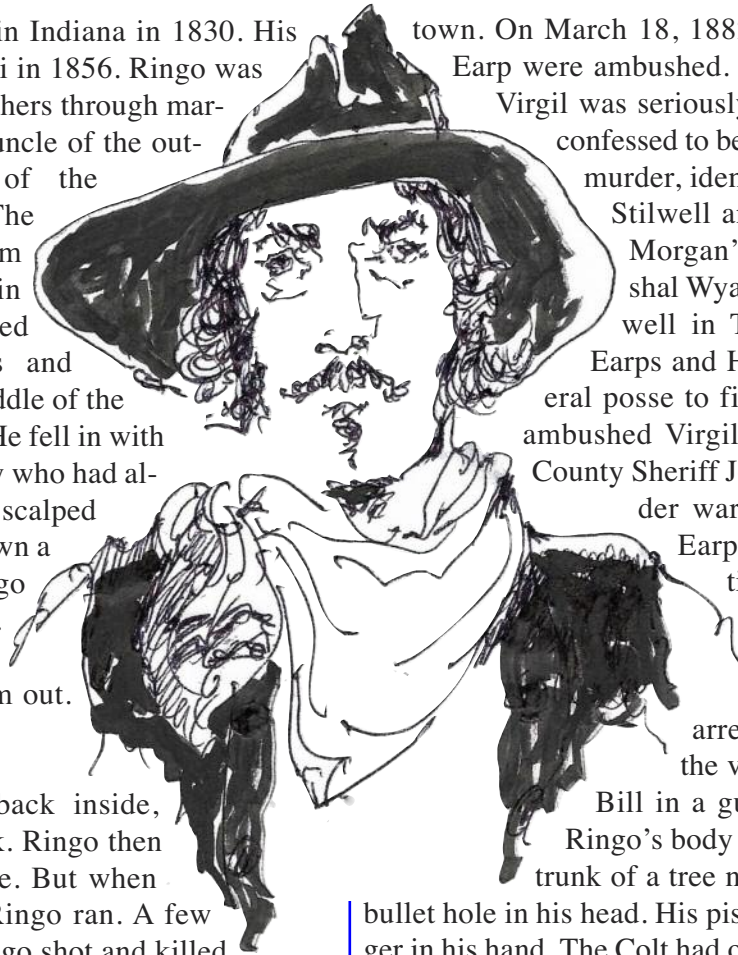
*Joe Fasthorse,
SASS #48769*

LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE

- Way Out West -

By Joe Fasthorse, SASS #48769

Johnny Ringo was born in Indiana in 1830. His family moved to Missouri in 1856. Ringo was a cousin of the Younger brothers through marriage. His aunt married an uncle of the outlaw brothers, members of the James-Younger gang. The Ringo family moved from Missouri to California in 1864. In 1875, Johnny drifted from California to Texas and landed smack-dab in the middle of the Mason County Range War. He fell in with a fellow named Scott Cooley who had already shot a deputy sheriff, scalped him, and tossed his body down a well. It was here that Ringo committed his first murder. He rode up to the home of Jim Cheyney and called him out. Jim came out unarmed and invited Johnny in. When Jim turned to go back inside, Johnny shot him in the back. Ringo then rode to Dave Doole's house. But when Dave came out shooting, Ringo ran. A few weeks later, Cooley and Ringo shot and killed Pete Bader. By 1876 the range war had ended, Cooley was dead, and Ringo was in jail. One of Johnny's cellmates was the famous pistolman John Wesley Harden. Ringo was acquitted and appointed constable of Loyal Valley, Texas. Johnny showed up in Cochise County, Arizona in 1879 where he earned a reputation as having a bad temper. He was suspected of having a hand in several robberies and killings committed by the Cochise County Cowboys outlaw gang. In 1882, Ringo and Doc Holliday had a heated argument that almost ended in a gunfight. Both men were fined for carrying weapons in



town. On March 18, 1882, Morgan Earp and Virgil Earp were ambushed. Morgan was murdered and Virgil was seriously wounded. Bill Cruz, who confessed to being the lookout at Morgan's murder, identified Johnny Ringo, Frank Stilwell and "Curly Bill" Brocius as Morgan's killers. Deputy US Marshal Wyatt Earp killed Cruz and Stilwell in Tucson on March 20. The Earps and Holliday then formed a federal posse to find and kill the others who ambushed Virgil and Morgan. Meanwhile, County Sheriff Johnny Behan received murder warrants for the arrest of the Earps and Holliday. He deputized Ringo and 19 members of the Cochise County Cowboys gang, who formed a county posse, to arrest the Earp posse. During the vendetta, Wyatt killed Curly Bill in a gunfight. On July 14, 1882, Ringo's body was found lying against the trunk of a tree near Chiricahua Peak with a bullet hole in his head. His pistol was hanging by one finger in his hand. The Colt had one round expended. A coroner's inquest officially ruled his death a suicide. Ringo is buried near the base of the tree under which his body was discovered. Despite the coroner's ruling, alternate theories about Ringo's cause of death have been proposed over the years. Take your pick: There's The Wyatt Earp Theory, which is different from The Doc Holliday Theory. There's the different Michael O'Rourke Theory. And there is The Frank Leslie Theory, which is, After Frank Leslie shot Billy Claiborne in a gunfight in November 1882, Claiborne's last words were supposedly, "Frank Leslie killed John Ringo. I saw him do it."

History

The Broderick–Terry Duel

And How it Affected America's History

By Col. Richard Dodge, SASS #1750



*Col. Richard Dodge,
SASS #1750*



Stockton, California is an agricultural town located in the middle of California's great fertile Central Valley at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers. Today it is an important shipping port for California's abundant crops, but in the 1850s it was the location of David Smith Terry's farm.

Terry was Chief Justice of the California State Supreme Court and on a mid-September day in 1859, he was in a hurry to get there from San Francisco. His political and legal careers were over and he was not welcome in the "City by the Bay."

Terry was typical of politicians and other government leaders of the new state's first decade – rough, opinionated, hot-tempered, corrupt to the core, armed with pistol and bowie knife and ready to use either at the drop of a hat. He had once thrust his bowie knife into the neck of the leader of a group from the San Francisco Vigilance Committee and was only exonerated after the man survived. Now he had pushed his aggressive tendencies a bit too far. Stockton had suddenly become a far safer place than San Francisco.

California in the late 1850s was charged—as was the rest of the country—with the troubling issue of slavery.

Passions ran high on both sides of the issue to have California declare for one side or the other; each coveting the immense riches of California's gold and the wealth created by her ports and natural resources. California would have inestimable influence on the future of the nation, regardless of which side she took, even from her remote location.

There were two political parties of note in California, Republican and Democrat. The Democrats far outnumbered the Republicans who were in support of Lincoln's nomination and election.

The Democrats, however, were seriously divided internally over the slavery issue. Judge Terry was a passionate supporter of the pro-slavery faction of the party. Opposing him was United States Senator David Broderick, likewise a Democrat, but an ardent abolitionist. Like Terry, he was a hot-tempered and violent man not above the urge to pummel any whom he felt had wronged him – or disagreed with him.

The two men had once been friends and colleagues, but the issues separating them began to grow and fester, neither man being loathe to expressing his opinions, and it began to get dangerously personal. Backers of both men began to use them, urging them on as respected spokesmen of each side. Eventually, it boiled over with tragic consequences.

The Broderick – Terry Duel . . .

William Gwinn, California's other US Senator, was a Southerner and a devout pro-slavery voice in support of Terry. Gwinn was as corrupt as the best of them. He connived to obtain lucrative political posts throughout his life and flouted his political patronage by pro-slavery President James Buchanan. The political situation brought both Terry and Broderick on hard political times.

The pro-slavery Southern sympathizers, including and led by Gwinn and Terry, were members of a casual but close-knit organization known as the "Chivalry." Eschewing the values and customs of the Old South's aristocracy, the Chivalry was a powerful and influential voice in California politics.

Supreme Court judges were elected at that time and Terry lost the 1859 election. He blamed the loss on Broderick's published remarks against his pro-slavery views, even though Broderick at one time had suggested Terry was the only honest judge on the Supreme Court. As accusations flew, Broderick publicly stated he withdrew that opinion of Terry. And finally, Terry sent a note to Broderick claiming to have been personally insulted, demanding an apology.

Broderick chose to let Terry decide if the remarks were personally offensive and reluctantly agreed to the "duel of honor," an accepted practice in 1850s California.

Their first attempt to stage the duel was thwarted by the San Francisco police and had to be postponed. On September 13 the men met, with their seconds and supporters, in a ravine just off the southern tip of Lake Merced, just outside the San Francisco city limits in present-day Daly City. (A state historical marker today marks the spot and two concrete pylons identify the spots where the two men stood.)

They tossed a coin for choice of weapons. Terry won and chose his personal .58 caliber Belgian dueling pistols. Both men were accomplished marksmen, though Terry had practiced with the hair-trigger pistols and Broderick had not. Broderick chose the spot with his back to the rising sun, theoretically a position of advantage. Terry had demanded a change in the traditional rules of the duel. The command was to be, "ready, one, two." All shots had to be fired between the counts of "one" and "two," a very unusual arrangement that Broderick almost casually agreed to.

As the men took their positions, Broderick was obviously the more troubled. His body was rigid, his grip on the heavy pistol awkward and unnatural. He had to use his left hand to position his right arm in the correct position, pointing the muzzle to the ground. In so

doing, he had rotated his body to the right, exposing his torso to his opponent.

At the command of "one," Broderick's right arm lurched upward. His trigger finger touched the sensitive trigger and the pistol discharged into the ground halfway between the two men. Just as the command "two" was given, Terry calmly fired.

At first, only a slight flinch by Broderick indicated he had been hit, but seconds later he sagged to his knees and was caught by his seconds as he collapsed. Terry opined he was satisfied "for the moment" with the affair of honor and left the scene. Broderick was carried from the field and lingered for three days before expiring from the ball through his lungs.

Broderick's death roused a great outcry among the state's citizenry. Many of them were Northerners and abolitionists. Broderick had been their loudest and most prominent voice. His funeral was enormous and gave great impetus to the abolitionist cause. And it caused Terry's hurried departure for his home in the Central Valley.

A warrant for his arrest was issued and lawmen were dispatched to serve it. They were met with a barricaded Terry,

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The Broderick – Terry Duel . . .

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shotgun muzzles protruding from the farmhouse windows. Wisely, the officers did not approach, but obtained a promise from Terry to turn himself in – which he did later as agreed. The case was dismissed.

The Abolitionists made full political advantage of Broderick's death. Passions were raised to fever pitch; the Chivalry was vilified and began to swiftly lose whatever influence it had. And with the election of 1860 came the most powerful impact of the duel. Aside from causing a quick public outcry to outlaw the practice, the duel managed to split the vote of the Democratic Party. The abolitionists were not about to cast votes for the pro-slavery Democratic candidate, giving the election to Abraham Lincoln. The rest is history.

Terry quickly left California for Texas where he served in the Texas Confederate Army. As a veteran of the Mexican-American War, he was commissioned an officer and reached the rank of colonel by the end of the war. It has been noted he was a universally unpopular officer. He married there and eventually returned to Stockton to practice law.

In one notable case, he represented a "Widow

Sanchez," one Maria Encarnacion Ortega de Sanchez, widow of a wealthy rancher who was being cheated by local politicians in collusion with the local sheriff. Terry kidnapped the sheriff, intending to hold him until he agreed to release the widow's gold. The sheriff, however, managed to get word to his family in Monterey to hide the gold. His brother-in-law dutifully buried the gold somewhere in Carmel Valley and proceeded to get himself killed in a barroom brawl. To this day, no one knows where the gold was buried and Terry, realizing the gold was lost, soon lost interest in the case and abandoned his client.

But the irascible Terry's life still had a dramatic chapter left. When his wife died, he remarried a pretty young woman named Sarah Althea Hill, twenty-five years his junior, who claimed to have been married to and divorced from silver millionaire William Sharon. Sharon denied the marriage and her right to a share of his fortune. Terry filed suit in the Federal Circuit Court with Supreme Court Justice Stephen J. Field presiding. Field, a friend of the slain Broderick, ruled against them and even jailed them for contempt of court for their behavior in the courtroom. Terry, in typical fashion, vowed vengeance and attempted to attack Field in the little town of Lathrop, just south of Stockton. Field's bodyguard, Deputy US Marshal David Neagle shot and killed Terry on the spot, ending the career of one of California's more notorious political leaders. Sarah Hill Terry eventually was committed to an insane asylum in Stockton and died in 1936.

One wonders "What if...?" If the duel between Terry and Broderick had ended in any other way, if Broderick had survived, even if Terry had been killed, the split within the Democratic Party probably would not have happened, Lincoln would not have carried the state and probably would not have been elected President in 1860. The Civil War would have not begun then, if ever. It is interesting to think about what course the nation might have taken, what would have happened with the slavery issue. Perhaps the war was inevitable. But it was this one event between two belligerent and forceful men in California that triggered the beginning when it did.

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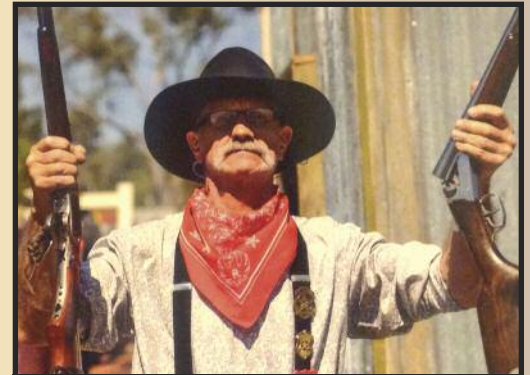
The Spirit Of The Gambler

By Deslaredo, SASS #91085

The Spirit of The Gambler breezed into town
With an itchy finger and a faraway frown.
They called him a "dark horse" because he didn't say a lot
But his guns did the talkin' every time he fired a shot.

He walked up to the line and took his stance
He was steady like a rock as he stood there in a trance.
But then he opened fire like a demon straight from hell
And the steel began to chime like one gigantic bell.

He'd fired two-dozen shots, but the crowd had heard just one.
He'd emptied all his guns like lightning on the run.



Deslaredo, SASS #91085

The Spirit of the Gambler was running true and straight.
He'd cut his teeth with two old friends... Destiny and Fate.

When the smoke had finally cleared, he was nowhere to be seen.

The folks all gathered round and wondered if he'd really been.

But he had long departed and had gone back to his roots.
And all he left behind was a dusty pair of boots. 🐾

Silverado

By Deslaredo, SASS #91085

Headin' out west to Broken Hill
Where the dust is red and the heat can kill
Where The Barrier meets The Silver City
And the local lads are wild and gritty.

Over the plains and far away
To the land of fortune from another day
Traveling true with the eye of a crow
Just one aim in mind... Silverado.

Across the desert and into the sun
With a wandering heart and a restless gun
Gotta be early, can't be late
For when the nerves are steady, the nerves can't wait.

Into the distant shimmering light
Gone with the wind in a full-on flight
Off with the eagles, wherever they go
Far and beyond... To Silverado. 🐾

The Cowboy

By Deslaredo, SASS #91085

The Cowboy stood like a statue in time.
He walked through the west without a nickel or a dime.
His eyes were on the future, but his heart was
from the past.

He knew his days were numbered
For his days were falling fast.

He stood upon a sunset with a shadow in his eye.
He was never gonna win a bet
But he was never gonna die.
So he stood just like a cowboy
Like a memory in the dust
And his attitude was...

See ya later...
Do or Die or Bust... 🐾



*Tuolumne Lawman,
SASS Life #6127*

Reviews - Product

Taylor's & Company Firearms Brings Back the Early West

Part 3

Uberti 1866 Sporting Rifle .44-40

By Tuolumne Lawman, SASS #6127

We think of 1873 Winchesters in .44-40 as the rifles that tamed the West. Consider, however, that the critical period of expansion in the West was from the end of the Civil War in 1865, until the late 1870s.

With this perspective, consider now that the 1873 Winchester was not readily available until 1875 (by the end of 1874, only 126 rifles had shipped) and by 1878, only about 22,000 of the 1873 Winchesters had been manufactured! Even as late as 1883, only 81,000 had been produced and distributed. That was less than half the number of the approximately 185,000 total of 1860 Henry and 1866 Winchesters in circulation by that time. In fact, the .44 rimfire 1866 Winchester (and

its older brother the Henry), was arguably the most popular and plentiful rifle during the time period of 1865 to 1885, followed closely by the surplus military .56-56 and .56-50 Spencer repeaters. Homesteaders, travelers, cowboys, lawman, bandits, and the Indians hunted, protected their homes and businesses, and fought with 1866 Winchesters until the turn of the century, and even beyond.

Fortunately for us, Tammy Loy at Taylor's & Co. Firearms is offering a complete line of fine Uberti made reproductions of the

1866 Winchester. Original .44 rimfire ammunition being hard to find and worth as much as \$50-\$70 per single round, Uberti makes them available for today's "New West" Cowboys and Cowgirls in modern centerfire calibers like the .38 Special, .44-40, and .45 Colt.

1866 Winchester History

In 1860, Oliver Winchester coupled the .44 rimfire cartridge designed by B. Tyler Henry with a modification of the old Volcanic rifle and marketed the first successful repeating rifle to use self-contained metallic cartridges. The



Taylor's 1866 Sporting rifle in .44-40.

Taylor's Firearms Brings Back the Early West . . .

Henry Repeating Rifle was born. The 1860 Henry was a heavy weapon, tipping the scales at almost 9½ pounds! The majority of this weight was in the barrel and magazine, which was machined out of a single solid forged bar of steel, more than two feet long. The Henry rifle had a revolutionary toggle link action, with an exposed hammer and finger lever like the earlier Volcanic. Operating the lever ejected the empty round, loaded a live one in the chamber, and cocked the hammer so it could fire immediately. Rather than a cartridge loading gate on the side of the receiver like later designs, the Henry loaded from the muzzle end of the magazine tube. Another distinctive feature of the Henry is the absence of a wood forearm.

Though incredibly successful

for a revolutionary new design, there were two major complaints about the 1860 Henry rifle. First was the lack of a wooden forearm. As I can testify, after cranking rounds through the Henry (especially black powder loads), the barrel gets quite hot! I wear a glove on my off-hand when shooting the 1860 to prevent getting the "Henry Finger Sizzle." The second complaint was the magazine.



The Taylor's Uberti 1866 is an eye catching piece of Old West weaponry.

The open slot in the bottom allowed dirt, grit, dust and leaves into the magazine tube, and loading from the muzzle end was quite cumbersome. Loading just a couple rounds to replace rounds that were fired was not simple. The one-piece forged barrel/magazine tube was also excessively expensive to manufacture.

In 1866, Oliver Winchester reorganized his New Haven Arms Company into the Winchester Repeating Arms Company. Thanks to patents for a loading gate system in the Henry Rifle's receiver, acquired in 1866 from Nelson King (who was Winchester's factory superintendent and engineer), Win-



Author shooting a clean match with Taylor's 1866 Sporting Rifle in .44-40.

chester stopped producing the Henry rifle in favor of his new "Winchester Repeating Rifle." It was not until much later that it was referred to as the Model 1866.

The Winchester Rifle was essentially an 1860 Henry with the barrel and the magazine tube manufactured as separate pieces and a loading gate on the side of the familiar brass receiver to make loading easier. It had the improvement of an enclosed magazine tube, rather than the slotted bottom of the Henry magazine. This was much cheaper to fabricate than the Henry one-piece barrel/magazine. The tubular magazine also allowed the use of a wooden forearm, preventing burns on the hand from grasping the Henry's bare, hot barrel. It used the same .44 caliber rimfire ammunition as the very popular Henry rifle.

In order to capitalize the the Henry's reputation, Winchester used "brand recognition" and marketed and advertised the first Winchester as the "King's patent improved Henry Rifle." This 1866 proved to be even more popular than the Henry. It was a phenomenal success and literally saved Winchester financially. The 1866

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Navajo Fighter with 1866.

Taylor's Firearms Brings Back the Early West . . .

(Continued from page 75)



Beautiful 1866 brass receiver with the King's Patent loading gate.

was produced in carbine, rifle, and military musket versions. The handy carbine was a favorite of those working on horseback. It had a 20" barrel and the magazine held 13 rounds. The rifle came with a 24" barrel, in both round and octagonal configurations and held 16 rounds. They were referred to as "sixteen shooters" by frontiersmen. The full stock 1866 Military Musket came with a sword bayonet, much like the one on the Spencer Navy models and Remington 1863 contract rifle. Even though the US Army never adopted the 1866, the military musket version actually saw front line military service on both sides of the conflict in the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-1878.

Instances of the 1866's prowess on the American Frontier are too numerous to count. Owners prized it for its reliability and firepower and often called it "Yellow Boy." You only have to look at the tintypes of that period. If there is a rifle or two shown, chances are at least one is an 1866 Winchester.

In about 1866, the ammunition for the Henry and 1866 was also improved from the 216-grain

round nose bullet with 24-26 grains of black powder of Civil War days to a 200-grain flat nosed, healed bullet over 28-29 grains of black powder. This cartridge was simply called .44 Flat Rimfire. It performed even better than the Civil War era loading.

While still not a powerhouse by today's standards, many a man and animal met their demise from the .44 Henry cartridge. In fact, recent archaeological excavations of the Little Big Horn Battlefields show the 1866 Winchester and 1860 Henry were the most common rifles carried by the Indians that defeated Custer's various commands.



Smooth reverse side of the 1866 receiver.

Despite the tremendous popularity of the new 1873 Model Winchester and its 200-grain bullet powered by 40 grains of black powder, the 1866 "Yellow Boy" continued to be popular in the West until the turn of the century. Winchester made its last run of 1866s in 1898. A total of more than 170,000 1866 rifles, carbines, and full stock muskets were manufactured between 1866 and 1898. Of these, about 95 percent were produced between 1866 and the late 1870s.

They were so popular, Winchester continued production of the Model 1866 for 35 years after the in-



Ejection port on top of receiver and Winchester-style rear sight.

Taylor's Firearms Brings Back the Early West . . .

production of the Model of 1873 and six full years after Winchester introduced the much stronger Model 1892. Ammunition for the .44 Rimfire 1866 Winchester and 1860 Henry continued to be manufactured until the beginning of WWII, when it was discontinued for the war effort. Its production never resumed after the war.

Note: Late in production, Winchester even produced a centerfire version of the .44 Rimfire. The only difference was the use of a centerfire primer instead of rimfire. It was not a commercial success and production was limited, mostly to export markets.

Taylor's 1866 Winchester .44-40 Rifle

Taylor's & Co. Firearms has been a major supplier of Old West firearms for almost as long as I have been Cowboy Action Shooting™ —having joined SASS® way back in 1994. One of their most popular rifles is the 1866 Winchester "Yellow Boy." The 1866 is offered in both 24" barreled rifle versions and 20" barreled carbines. They even offer Military Muskets by special order. The standard calibers are .45 Colt/Schofield, .44-40, and .38 Special. Occasionally there are also special runs of .44

Special and .38-40 from Uberti.

The model I obtained is a 24-inch full octagonal barreled "Sporting Rifle" in .44-40 Winchester. The Taylor's 1866 has an eye-catching brass frame, nose cap, and butt plate, with lustrous blue/black barrel finish. The bright brass nicely accents the blue/black steel of the barrel and loading gate. The lever and hammer are nicely color case hardened. It has a semi-buckhorn rear sight and a reproduction of the original Winchester front sight. The front is adjustable for windage, as is the rear sight, which is also adjustable for elevation.

The fit and finish on the Taylor's is flawless, both wood to metal fit and metal to metal. The butt stock is walnut and has a graceful, gently swelled curve on the bottom, reminiscent of a Kentucky long rifle. The action of the Taylor's 1866 is smooth, which is typical of the 1866s and 1860 Henrys with their brass followers moving within their brass frames. The trigger on my sample was very light at about 2.5 pounds with very little creep. My .44-40 sample holds 13 rounds in the full-length magazine tube under the barrel, as

(Continued on page 78)

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The graceful lines of the figured European walnut stock.

Taylor's Firearms Brings Back the Early West . . .

(Continued from page 77)

does the .45 Colt version. I believe the .38 Special 14 or 15. The 24" barrel gives a nice long sight radius, increasing its accuracy. It also gives the rifle heft and makes recoil with the .44-40 almost non-existent.

At the Range

The .44-40, or .44 WCF (Winchester Central Fire) as it was originally called, is one of my favorite cartridges. It was the most popular cartridge in both the 1873 and 1892 Winchesters and the second most popular cartridge in the Colt Single Action Army. It is probably the third most popular caliber with today's Cowboy Action Shooters™, behind the .45 Colt and .38 Special. With this in mind, I selected an 1866 in .44-40 for this review. As .44 rimfire ammunition is no longer made, I thought it more appropriate to at least use a contemporary Old West rifle cartridge like

the .44-40. It seems like blasphemy to me to shoot a .38 Special or .45 Colt, which historically were pistol cartridges only, from a 1866 Winchester! But that is just me.

Both Black Hills and Ultramax offer a great Cowboy Action Shooting™ load in .44-40. Both brands of ammunition were used for my target shooting sessions. Black Hills lists the velocity from a 24" barrel at around 1150 fps. Ultramax gives only pistol velocity of just under 800 fps for their load.

As for handholds, I used my pet load of a .428" diameter 200-grain RNFP from Missouri Bullet Company over a load of either 7.0 grains of Trail Boss, or the same 7.0 grains of Unique. Velocity should be close to the Black Hills factory loads, around 1150 fps from the 24" barrel.

The Taylor's 1866 performed flawlessly! The bullseye shooting for group size was done at an indoor range from a rest at 25 yards. Right out of the box, the sights needed no adjustment! Groups of the factory ammunition averaged about 1 1/4 inch at 25 yards. With the sight on its second lowest setting, the groups were two inches above point of aim at that 25 yard mark. This is perfect for SASS shooting. Loads made with the 7.0 grains of Unique grouped a little tighter at one inch. Trail Boss performed almost exactly the same as Unique. (Because they perform so closely, I have often wondered if Trail Boss is just Unique fluffed up and made into little doughnuts!)

Speed shooting drills included standing, off-hand shooting, and bouncing pop cans at 25 to 40 yards.



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Native Americans with 1866.

Taylor's Firearms Brings Back the Early West . . .

Several times, I bounced a pop can at about 35 yards 10 times in a row, shooting rapid fire, off-hand without a single miss. I still aimed with a six o'clock hold for that range. At a recent match, I used the 1866 during some challenging stages to break clay pigeons at 25 yards, and hit the 75-yard ram gong target with every shot. This rifle is amazing.

Note: The .44 Henry flat used in the original 1866 Winchesters, shot a 200-grain .442 bullet at a listed velocity of 1120 fps. This is nearly identical to the current factory loadings of the .44-40 by Black Hills. Original black powder .44-40 loads clocked 1350-plus fps, about 200 fps faster, with a charge of 40 grains of black powder. However, present day manufactures load their modern smokeless .44-40 loads to much lower pressures in case they are used in an original 1873 Winchester. If they loaded smokeless rounds to the original black powder velocities, it could be hazardous due to the extremely different pressure curve of smokeless propellants compared to that of black powder. These downloaded .44-40 factory loads are common today. They do approximate the .44 Henry Rimfire performance, so are a good choice for 1860 Henry and 1866 Winchester replicas.

Conclusion

Off all the Winchester lever guns, past and present, it is no secret my favorite is the 1860 Henry. However, this is followed by the 1866 Winchester as a close second. The 1866 rifle just says "early Old West" to me. It is perfect with my 1875 Schofield and 1871 Open Top revolvers for my main match battery. I even find myself alternating between my 1860 Henry and my 1866 every other match.

With the lack of forearm and the necessity to do the "Henry Hop" with your off hand to avoid the follower, the 1860 Henry by design is not a particularly "gamer friendly" rifle! The 1866, on the other hand, is a perfect platform for a classy looking, short stroke link, lightened action, "gamer gun." I personally don't care for such modifications, but others do. Taylor's has done a great job with this Uberti 1866 Rifle. With the bright brass of the receiver and buttplate, and the dark, lustrous bluing of the barrel, it is a very striking rifle! You can't go wrong to get one for your Cowboy Action Shooting™ collection.

Get your 1866 from Tammy Loy at Taylor's & Co. Firearms at (540) 722-2017 or check their web-site at www.taylorsfirearms.com. Tell them old Tuolumne Lawman sent Ya! 🤠



Studio tintype of man with his 1866.

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Profiles

Scholarship Recipient 2017

Smoke N' Ash, SASS #86017

Edited & Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000



*Justice Lily Kate,
SASS #1000*



Guelph, Ontario, Canada. My name is Ashley Blayney-Hoffer aka Smoke N' Ash. I shoot with the Royal City Rangers, accompanied by my dad Kevin (Slow Don, SASS #66977). I am currently attending the University of Waterloo to obtain my Bachelors of Science Degree in Honors Kinesiology with co-op. I also am minoring in psychology and rehabilitation science. After the completion of my undergrad degree, I plan to pursue a Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy to be a pediatric occupational therapist. Working with children for many years and having a strong passion for helping and understanding human development have inspired me to pursue this career.

In addition to Cowboy Action Shooting™, I have been involved in competitive cheerleading for more than ten years and participated in varsity track at university. In these sports, I have been inspired by my coaches and they have influenced me and helped shape me into the person I am today. In addition to all my amazing coaches, my parents and my wonderful SASS family have also significantly influenced me. Being surrounded by shooters many weekends of my teen years, I have learned both shooting and life lessons. Thank you to all who have ever offered me a kind word, advice, or even had a casual conversation with me on the range. Everyone I have shot with has been a great influence on how to be a humble winner, a graceful loser, and everything in between.

SASS® and Cowboy Action Shooting™ have had a huge impact on my dad, and through him it has also had a large impact on my life. I am very honored and thankful for the scholarship SASS has provided me and plan to use it to my full advantage. 🤠

Getting in Touch with More Cowboys At Heart

By Smoke N' Ash, SASS #86017

Edited and Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000

The moment most SASS® members shoot their first stage, they know they are Cowboys at heart. I believe to get more people to experience the joys of Cowboy Action Shooting™, it must be advertised in a manner with which younger generations can connect. More opportunities are needed for shooters to try CAS, and we need to connect to people outside the gun range.

First, the main demographic of SASS is older adults. These members grew up watching Westerns, whereas, my generation has not. My generation has grown up on social media. I believe this is a prime way to introduce them to CAS. Foremost, the official SASS social media accounts need to be more active in posting content. SASS affiliated clubs could also have accounts and advertise shoots on social media using graphics and hashtags. Furthermore, to increase the networking to other young shooters, SASS should be scouting out shooters in other disciplines and commenting, following, and liking their posts. This will allow them to be exposed to SASS's accounts and potentially want to get involved in CAS.

Next, the first cowboy match I went to I was hooked and others can be, too. I suggest running try-out days at clubs. At my home club, we have hosted mini-matches, consisting of 2-3 stages, where non-SASS members have the opportunity to shoot. We provide the ammo and guns, and walk them through the safety procedures and stages. Not only do they shoot safely and have fun, but they get to meet the

great people in SASS. Additionally, throughout Ontario, we have a tradition that we will lend all interested spectators firearms and let them shoot a stage. By showing curious spectators how to shoot Cowboy safely, their enthusiasm becomes infectious. Finally, a few local clubs have Cowboy Action Shooting™ demos during "women's day." This day is for encouraging women in shooting sports. These demos are excellent for increasing female participation and showing shooters from other disciplines the number of women involved in Cowboy Action Shooting™.

My last suggestion is to have clubs send SASS representatives to sportsman shows, expos, conventions, etc. For numerous years, I've volunteered at a booth at the Toronto Sportsman show. At the show, there are booths for many shooting, hunting and fishing disciplines. At our booth, we had business cards, maps, and pamphlets to tell people more about Cowboy Action Shooting™. This allowed us to connect with numerous people who don't know about SASS and CAS. Moreover, things like this could be done in any facility where people are adventurous and the law permits.

By improving the way SASS reaches out to the younger generation, creating more opportunities for curious shooters, and connecting to people outside the shooting community, it could attract more people to SASS. Hopefully, implementing suggestions like these will let more people be introduced to and fall in love with Cowboy Action Shooting™ like the rest of us already have. 🤠



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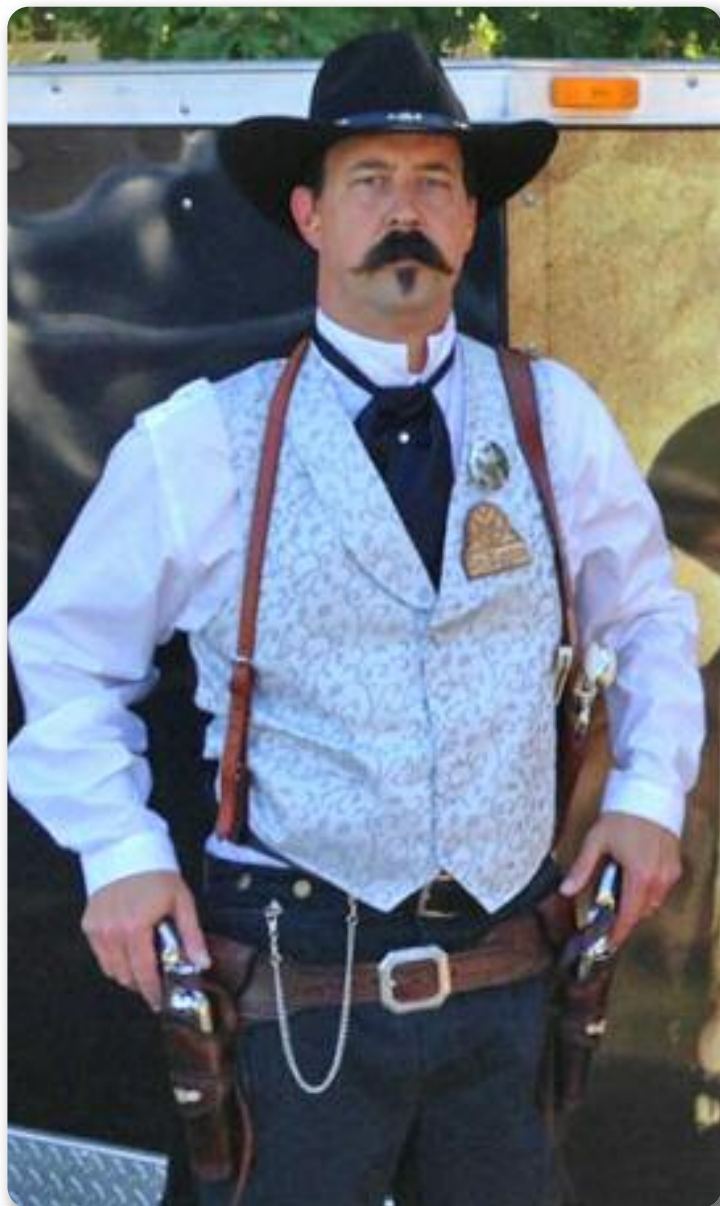
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Profiles

❧ HOW I GOT MY ALIAS ❧

By CC "Doc" Higgins, SASS #103591

I have been a shooter all my life. I grew up on a cotton, rice, and soybean farm in northeast Arkansas. Like most young boys from my era, it all started with a BB gun for Christmas when I was about eight years old. Combined with a love for Western movies and country living where I could shoot practically every day, I developed a healthy respect for firearms. Learning to safely and skillfully handle and maintain firearms came naturally to me. I have loved to hunt from the time I could handle my grandfather's 16 gauge Remington Wingmaster. Living in Arkansas, I "naturally" became a duck hunter. Nowadays, I love to take my kids deer and turkey hunting. As I grew up, due personal experiences, I became interested in the field of Dentistry as a career choice. After college, I applied for dental school and was accepted by The University of Tennessee College of Dentistry. UT conducted extremely thorough physical examinations on all of its incoming students. They informed me there was a problem with the results of one of my tests. I was shocked to find out that I had tested positive for Tuberculosis! I had what is called Latent TB, which means that I had the TB germ in my body but did not have the full-blown disease and I was not contagious. The UT medical staff said they could give me a medication called Isoniazid (one pill a day, every day, for six months) and



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How I Got My Alias . . .


that would basically entomb the TB germ within my body. I would always test positive for TB but would never have the active form of the disease, or become infectious. So, I took the medicine and have never had any health issues related to Tuberculosis. While I was in dental school, the movie *Tombstone* came out in 1993, the year before I graduated. I was fascinated by Val Kilmer's portrayal of John Henry "Doc" Holliday. Then in 1994, the year I earned my DDS, Kevin Costner's movie *Wyatt Earp* hit the big screen and I was again intrigued by Dennis Quaid's version of the gunslinging dentist. I began to read all the books I could get my hands on about the most famous dentist who ever lived. Kirk Douglas gave a brilliant performance as Doc Holliday in the 1957 western *Gunfight at the OK Corral*. All my life, I have been fascinated by this figure from the historic Old West with whom I happen to have a few things in common. Some things we don't have in common... He was an alcoholic, womanizing, trouble maker who lived his life gambling and killed a few fellows along the way! Quite a character to emulate, huh? I bought a Cimarron nickel-plated .45 "Doc Holliday" edition Thunderer before I even started Cowboy Action Shooting™! When I did begin this wonderful shooting sport we all love so much, picking an alias was a "no brainer." Officially, on my SASS certificate, my alias is CC "Doc" Higgins, but if you see me at END of TRAIL in June, or at any other matches, you can just call me "Doc!" To quote a line from one of those great movies, "All my friends call me Doc."

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Profiles

❧ HOW I GOT MY ALIAS ❧

By Jackrabbit Joe. SASS #414

I was born and raised in Rochester, Pennsylvania quite a few years ago and *always* wanted to be a cowboy. So when my sister asked what I wanted to be when I grew up, my answer was I wanted to go to Arizona and be a cowboy. That was quite a few years ago. In 1962 I moved to Arizona.

Driving back and forth from home to the nuclear plant where I worked, I needed a CB handle to communicate with my friends. I chose Jackrabbit as I lived just off Jackrabbit Trail.

Finding out about SASS® Cowboy Action Shooting™ and the Cowtown Cowboy Action Shooters in 1988, I joined up with SASS and needed an alias, so I adopted my CB handle, adding Joe thus becoming Jackrabbit Joe.

I found this to be the very best answer to my sister's question as I have spent my entire life being and playing the part of a cowboy. 🤠



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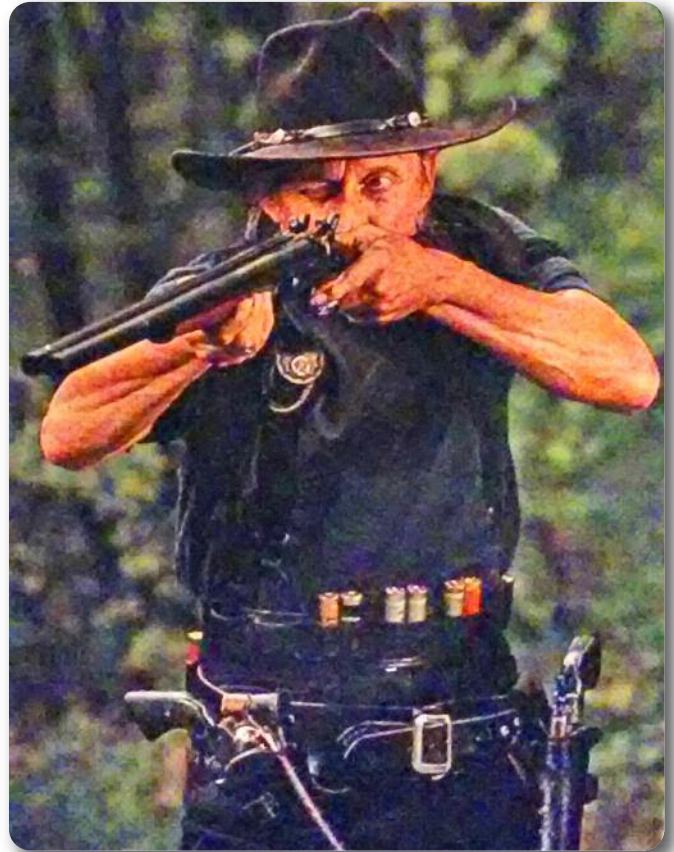
HOW I GOT MY ALIAS

By Letort Lawman, SASS #12300

When you are first you get to pick where you stay and even what to name it. That all started with James Letort. He is credited with being the first European (French) to settle in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. He spoke Shawnee and was able to trade with Native Americans after he acquired a trader's license in 1712.

The Shawnee burned Letort's settlement of a few cabins in 1720 over a disagreement. Letort rebuilt the trading post and continued his business. He left the county around 1727 to move west.

There are locations in Carlisle bearing his name – Letort Spring Run, Letort Elementary School, and many more. And there is a Cowboy Action Shooter™ bearing his name – me, Letort Lawman. 🤠



THE Cowboy CHRONICLE

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Cowboy Chronicle welcomes and encourages submissions of articles and match reports from any and all readers.

Please submit articles in MS Word or something compatible. Open Office and Apple Pages (saved as MS Word) are also fine. A count of 800-1500 words is a good target to shoot for, but shorter pieces are also fine. We will accept lengthier articles, but may choose to break them up into two or more parts to run in consecutive issues, or heavily edit them.

Please do not embed your photos in the Word document. They can be extracted for use in *The Cowboy Chronicle*, but it can be a chore to do that. Instead, send your photos separately, in one or more emails, as attachments. Three to six photos per email usually works best. It's best to send JPEGs, but other formats are acceptable, and it's best to keep them at about 300 dpi and 3000 pixels (10 inches) on the short side. That size is ideal and will allow us plenty of

leeway when it comes to cropping and adjusting them for publication. Photos must be at least 1000 pixels on the short side to be used for publication. If you're unsure of the size of your pictures, or how to size them, send what you have and we'll adjust them and/or inform you if they're usable.

Usually, six photos are sufficient for an article, but we will consider using more for a "big" event, if provided. Photos need not have captions, but captions always make photos more interesting. Ideally, the caption would consist of one or two sentences that say something about the picture that is not obvious and/or is not implicit in the body of the article. "Sam making smoke" is a title but not a caption. "Sam, SASS #XXXXX, shooting his first black powder match; after much deliberation, he decided to give it a try and now he's hooked" is much better. A caption may also serve to let everyone know why the picture is worthy of being published in an international magazine.

Please use editor@sassnet.com for all article submissions.

Political

THE Biology of Politics

— Part 2 —

By Stonehawk West, SASS #102080



Stonehawk West,
SASS #102080

Last issue I introduced the readers to r-K Theory, a big-picture biological theory explaining why animals evolve and behave the way they do, which is dependent on whether or not there are plentiful or scarce resources in their environment. Let me provide a quick review.

When resources are scarce over a long time, animals tend to develop K-behavior that requires higher intellect and cultivates social skills like rank, order and communication. They develop monogamous mating habits and invest a lot of time and energy in raising a few offspring. They are competitive and defend their territory and they are loyal to their group. Like wolves, they are all about the quality of individuals, where only the most fit get to pass on their DNA.

When resources are plentiful over a long time, animals develop r-selected behavior with opposite traits. That is, they have lower intellect, little to no social skills, and they especially avoid competition. They tend to be promiscuous and noncommittal in raising offspring. Like rabbits, they mate early and often, resulting in large quantities of offspring, which allows them to pass on their DNA.

People are born as K-selected species. In fact, our K-selected behavior has built the whole of civilization throughout the world, especially in the American West. But now that most of the hard work is done, we live in a culture where resources are plentiful, which has made our lives much easier. As r-K theory predicts, our culture is changing as we exhibit more “r” behavior. I will make my case shortly, but let me also point out that r-K theory is an excellent tool for explaining why Liberals and Conservatives behave and think so differently.

Furthermore, these differences have resulted in measurable biological changes in recent brain studies. The *amygdala*, a part of the brain that determines threat levels in your surroundings, is normal sized for Conservatives, while smaller and less developed in Liberals. The reason it’s smaller is because if we are raised with plentiful resources and life is easy, there are fewer challenges in life to stimulate and develop our *amygdala*. Our “threat meter” has not been exercised.

Now that everyone is caught up with the basics of r-K Theory, let’s apply this to politics. The most obvious trait in r-selected behavior is an *avoidance of competition*. This is easy to confirm, as Liberals tend to hate the competitive nature of free market capitalism because it creates winners and losers. They prefer an economy where the playing field is level, so they pass laws that effectively take wealth from winners and give it to losers. Our progressive tax codes, government welfare programs, and dumbing down our education are examples of how

Progressives try to level the playing field by limiting competition.

In War, when Liberals are in control, they reduce arms, cut military spending, constrain our soldiers by restricting the rules of engagement, and they prefer central control in making big decisions, which takes more time and reduces our ability to compete and win.

With Gun Control, can it be clearer that gun regulations only serve to limit the ability of **victims** to compete, to fight back in criminal situations, and that all gun regulations are inventions of the Left?

When Liberals try to shout down conservative speakers, it’s because they can’t or won’t compete in the battleground of ideas and debate. Truth and History and Logic confirm Conservative points of view most of the time.

The second trait in r-selected behavior is *promiscuity*. It’s clear our culture has become more promiscuous over the decades. Girls especially are sexualized much younger than they used to be. With the advent of birth control pills, suggestive advertising, easily available pornography, and the youth culture, with their provocative music and *twerking*. This all accentuates the problem.

The third trait is *lower investment in raising offspring*. Why is it that more and more children are being raised by people who are not their parents? More available day care, lower ages for pre-school, after-school programs, more latch-key children, there’s no doubt we invest less quality time with our children. One reason divorce used to require two signatures was because everyone knew it was usually better for the children if *they were raised by both parents*. But today, people can get divorced on a whim whether the spouse agrees or not, and the children suffer. To top this point off, what says more about how our culture devalues children than abortion?

The fourth trait in r-selected behavior is an *inability to comprehend real threats*. Since Liberals have an underdeveloped threat meter, they tend to believe everyone is just like them. So they believe Islam is a peaceful religion (it’s not). They believe passing out “don’t touch me” bracelets to Swedish women is a real solution to fix the 1500 percent increase in rape crimes perpetrated by Muslim immigrants. They simply don’t understand the threat because Swedes have been coddled by their cradle-to-grave Socialist culture.

When Progressives don’t understand real threats they believe dictators can be reasonable, when in fact they repeatedly lie and break promises. Progressives tend to appease dictators with UN resolutions and bad economic deals, when they’re re-

Message from CEO

NEW SASS SHOOTERS HANDBOOK

Dear SASS Members,

SASS is proud to announce there is a NEW version of the SASS/Cowboy Action Shooting™ Shooters Handbook available! For some time, there has been a need expressed from our membership to condense all of the rules and guidelines into one, centralized resource book. Shooters no longer have to go into the RO1 Course materials to receive critical information and guidelines.

Huge Thanks go out to the RO Committee for their hard work and diligent assistance in reviewing and fine

tuning the new format of the Shooters Handbook. Their insight and guidance has ensured this publication is a world-class resource and a reflection of the growing and evolving needs of our shooters.

The new Version of the SASS Shooters Handbook is now available for download on the SASS Website, under Handbooks & Rules. [CLICK HERE](#) for a direct link.

Happy Shooting!

—Misty Moonshine 🐾



Misty Moonshine,
SASS #83232

The Biology of Politics (Pt. 2) . . .

ally just paying them off to postpone real solutions to real threats. Current situations in Palestine, Iran, and North Korea are prime examples.

The same is true when terrorists fly planes into buildings. A person with an underdeveloped threat meter would say things like, “Why do they hate us? What have we done to provoke them? We’re all good people; if they just had jobs they wouldn’t be so mad.” The normal person with K-selected behavior and psychology would have no concern, not even a thought, for the terrorist’s feelings or lack of a job. He only responds to the evil action of an enemy, so he competes head-on with a great deal of intention to eliminate the threat forever.

A Progressive’s inability to understand a threat is the reason Obama won’t call a terrorist a “terrorist” and why illegal immigration, which imports more rabbits from other Socialist “rabbit” cultures, is encouraged. Giving them government handouts (the ultimate resource for easy living) is their assurance that they will remain rabbits when they’re allowed to vote.

As you watch the news and analyze political decisions I challenge you to apply r-K Theory by asking these questions: Does it promote or diminish competition? Does it provide incentives to be more or less promiscuous? Does it reward or punish family values and children? Does this decision come from accurately considering real threats in the world? Understanding r-K Theory will help us understand the stupidity in the news and why our traditional American culture is in decline.

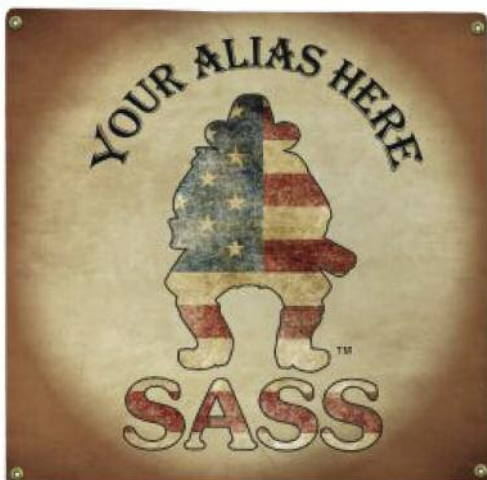
Here are a couple things we can do to resist the trend: 1) Stop coddling our children and give them responsibilities. Don’t protect them so much their *amygdala* won’t develop. A healthy “threat meter” is necessary for success in life. 2) Vote into office more “K” type individuals who are not afraid of competition, understand real threats, and stand up for Traditional American values.

One more thing: Applying r-K Theory to individuals can be a little tough because we are each the product of so much influence and DNA. But let’s give it a try by analyzing President Trump. He was definitely raised in an environment of plentiful resources and he has shown some “r” behavior, like having five children with three wives. But Trump has also had many successes and failures in business, which has developed his *amygdala*, producing more “K” behavior, like being competitive and knowing where the threats are. This K-behavior is dominant with Trump but right now, he’s still a wolf in the liberal rabbit culture of Washington DC. He’s still learning whom he can and cannot trust. This has led to higher turnover among his staff; but now things are changing.

As I write this, Trump just promoted General John Kelly to Chief of Staff. On Kelly’s first day he fired the newly appointed (11 days) Communications director, Anthony Scaramucci. Then he shut the door to the Oval Office, making himself the gatekeeper. I jumped out of my seat when I heard this, recognizing this is a man who can detect a threat in a hurry and be competitive about it. So I did a little research.

John Kelly was raised in an area of Boston with lots of military families. As a teenager he hitchhiked and jumped on trains, riding across the country during the summer months. Think how that would train his threat meter. Every day, with every new person he met, John was assessing and gauging whether his surroundings were safe. Then he joined the military, which is a very K-selective culture, with lots of competition, rules, order, and loyalty. On top of that, General Kelly has lost 24 friends to drugs and alcohol, plus he lost his own son to a land mine in Afghanistan. His entire life has developed his threat meter to a high degree. It is men like these who will help Trump undo the harm implemented by previous r-selected Liberal Presidents. Let’s hope the trend continues. 🐾

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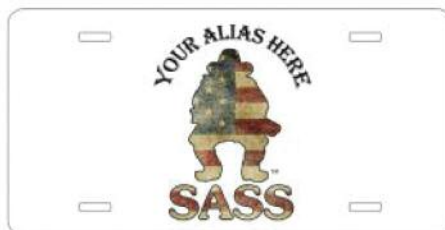


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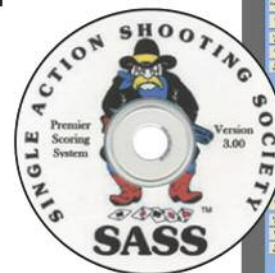
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