

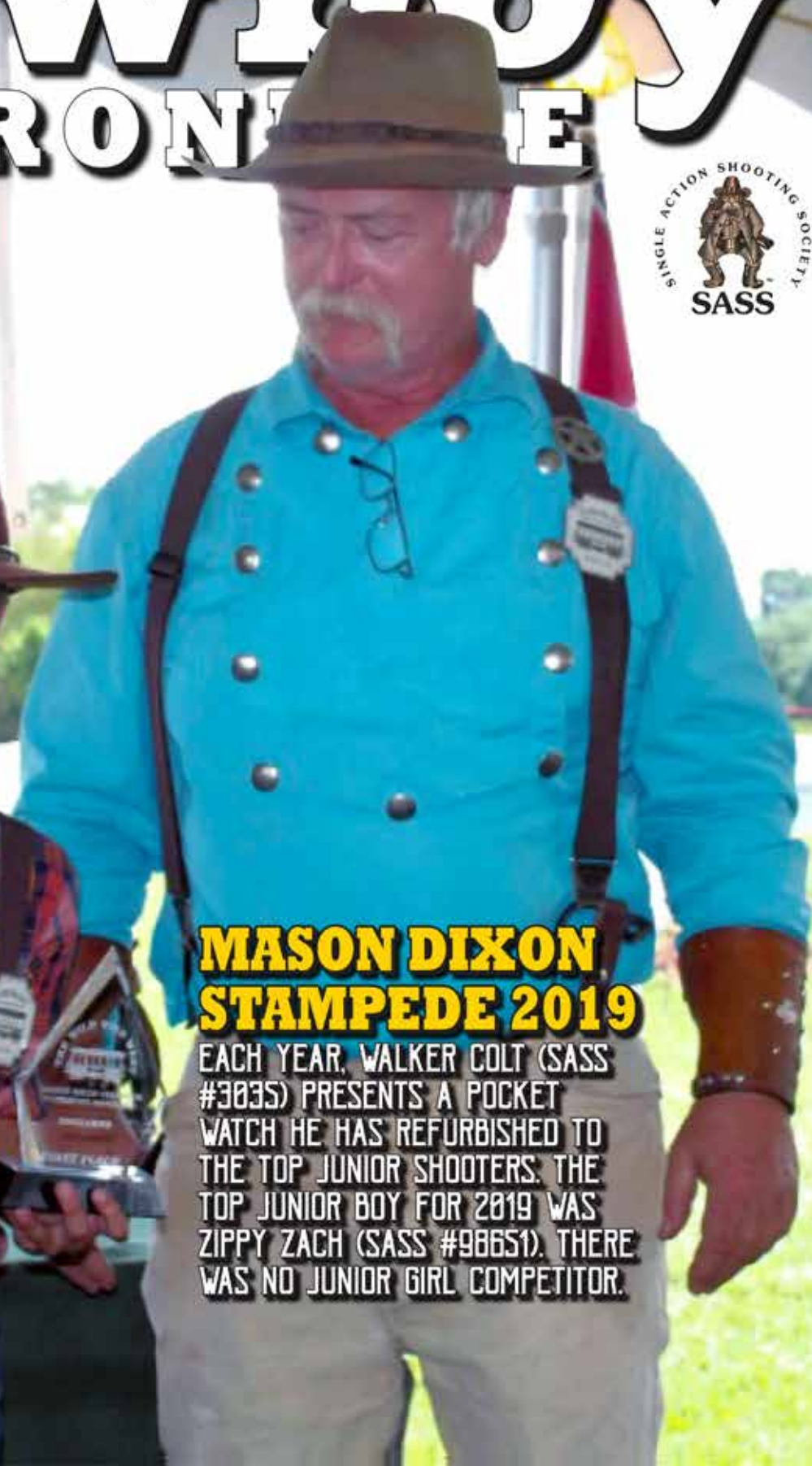
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MANY COMPLEX STAGES
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MASON DIXON STAMPEDE 2019

BY MISFIRE MAGGIE, SASS #69350

Better than ever – that was the mantra for the Mason Dixon Stampede Committee for the 2019 match – to focus on making every part of the match better than ever. For the past 17 years, the Thurmont Rangers have held the Mason Dixon Stampede at the Thurmont Conservation & Sportsman's Club in Thurmont, Maryland.

For the first 14 years it was the SASS Northeast Regional and for the last three it was the SASS Eastern Divisional. However, the decision to eliminate the SASS Divisional matches meant the 18th year—the 2019 match—would be the very first Annual Mason Dixon Stampede. This change provided the Mason



Dixon Committee the opportunity to move the match from the first weekend in October to August 2-4, a decision that proved to be a very popular one with the shooters. Another significant change was the announcement of Dutch Coroner (SASS #82128), the 2019 World Champion Classic Cowboy, as our new Match Director.

Friday, August 2 was Side Match day and included the Three Stage Blast, Long Range, and usual speed events. Speed Pistol had a little twist this year – 10 rounds on the Club's new swinging target!

On Saturday morning, Opening Ceremonies began with the Pledge of

Allegiance, a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem by Calamity Jill (SASS #86159), and a prayer led by Lash Toru (SASS #85004).

The main match included six stages on Saturday and four on Sunday. The theme for the match was the 1960s TV show, *The Wild, Wild West*. Each stage highlighted an episode of the show with the season, episode number, original air date, and a brief summary of the episode.

Summertime in the Washington DC area means heat and humidity. Thankfully, we did not have to deal with the record-breaking heat that hit the area two weeks prior to the match; however, there was still plenty to go around with temperatures in the high 80s. Coolers with free water and Gatorade were placed on each bay to ensure everyone stayed well hydrated.

With the match now held in August, the Committee asked, and the Club agreed, to permit shooters access to the pool with a certified life guard on duty daily. The cost was \$5 a day or \$25 for a family for the entire weekend. This was a very nice addition to the match amenities and one of which many shooters took advantage.

The match featured many big and close steel with lots of movement. There was a stage with vertical rifle staging, four stages with downrange movement, and the new swinging target on stage five. On stage three, Committee members M. T. Chambers (SASS #76185) and Chance Calico (SASS #54214) added a sliding door to the Train stage front. The shooter began with one hand on a pistol butt and one hand on the door. After the buzzer, the shooter had to open the door before engaging the revolver targets. Stage nine had revolver and rifle knockdowns that could be made up if missed or if they didn't go down.

After all guns had been put away on Saturday, everyone was invited to the ever popular Wooden Nickel Saloon for "Beverages & BS." There was a Chili-Dog Pot Luck dinner at the Range during which Side Match awards were handed out.

On Sunday at 9:00 a.m. the final four match stages began and shooters were finished around 1:00 p.m. – enough time then for everyone to cool off in the clubhouse, enjoy yet another good meal put on by our great team of club cooks,



STAGE WINNERS – MISTA SPIKE (SASS #99294), TWO GUN TUCO (SASS #78297), AND TOMBSTONE COTY (SASS #101540)



MATCH WINNERS – TWO GUN TUCO (SASS #78297) AND SPINNING SALLY (SASS #89526)

and then head over to the tent for the Main Match award presentations.

Competition for the top spot was really something fierce. In the end, Two Gun Tuco (SASS #78297) edged out Tombstone Coty (SASS #101540) by .02 of a second – 182.56 to 182.58! It doesn't get much closer than that! The top lady and 11th overall was Spinning Sally (SASS #89526).

There were 135 shooters, a 30 per-

cent increase over 2018 and we hope to welcome even more shooters this year. The theme for the 2020 Mason Dixon Stampede will be "Honoring our Heroes." The match is scheduled for July 31 through August 2. We hope to see you there!

All scores and the 2020 Match Application can be found on our website – <https://masondixonstampede.org/home/>

EDITORIALS



SKINNY'S SOAPBOX

Welcome to the April, 2020 edition of *The Cowboy Chronicle*. In keeping with our latest editorial plan, this issue is available online as digital only. This year we will publish two electronic editions — this one and one in October — whereas last January's issue and the July issue will be made available as printed magazines as well as digital. I know from the correspondence I receive this disappoints some while others are happy to see a return to digital-only. For my part, I'm gratified to have two electronic-only issues a year.

Being electronic frees me from the restrictions under which I work to produce a printed issue, not the least of which is a page count restriction. Because each magazine is limited to 64 pages, in the past I found myself having to choose which articles got published and which didn't, meaning a small number of match reports didn't make it in before the match's anniversary, and so never made it in. (To the few who got left out, I'm truly sorry.) Now, with two issues a year giving me the luxury of an unlimited page count, I can make sure that never happens again and everyone's match report gets published.

COMIC BOOK CORNER



Having no page count restrictions also allows me to indulge some of the fans of comic book fiction (including myself) with the reintroduction of Comic Book Corner, featuring reprints of old public domain Western comic books from the 1940s and 1950s. This month, I've chosen a reprint of *Billy West* #1 from April 1949. It was a short-lived title pub-

lished by the Nedor group in response to the immense popularity of *Cowboys* during that time. Art is by prolific creator John Celardo. I hope you enjoy it.

POETRY

Another feature category that suffered from page restrictions — there being no room for such frivolous matters in printed magazines — is poetry and fiction submitted by SASS members. This issue I'm pleased to also reintroduce it in the form of two Cowboy poems by Deslaredo. Look for more poetry and fiction as I receive it.

ELECTION YEAR 2020

Aefore we know it, Election Day will be upon us and we will again have to make a tough decision, weighing the future of our sport as we choose the next President of the United States. Last time around, I received a good deal of criticism from some members because I advocated voting for Donald Trump. The truth is, I didn't think he was a particularly good choice at the time, but I felt he was a better choice for the health of shooting sports than Hillary Clinton would have been, and I must admit I like Trump quite a bit more now than I did when I voted for him. As I'm writing this, it appears Joe Biden will be the Democratic nominee and that actually does gratify me. While Biden may not be strongly pro-gun, he is at least not rabidly anti-gun like Michael Bloomberg nor will he likely lead us down the path of socialism like Bernie Sanders. The only reservations I have about Biden at this point is the possible state of his health, meaning who he chooses for a running mate will be important. Whom ever you prefer — Trump or Biden — I urge you to vote.

—Skinny, SASS #7361



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LETTERS & OPINIONS

HENRY RIFLE

I received the January, 2020 issue of *The Cowboy Chronicle* and, in reading the article about Henry rifles (new and originals), came across a detail that needs correction. On page 38 it names South Dakota as the location for archaeological digs for Custer's defeat. That should read Montana of course.

A distant relative of mine, Col. Everton Conger was a member of the 1st DC Cavalry and I've done some readings about his and other Union units who armed themselves with Henrys and other repeaters. They are really interesting readings to say the least.

Col. Conger has the distinction of being the "detective" who tracked down John Wilkes Booth and one of his troopers is credited with shooting and killing Booth at Garrett's farm in Virginia. A *National Geographic* Documentary DVD features a section on Col. Conger capturing Booth. He's buried in Dillon, Montana.

Quantrill ordered his men to not engage the 1st DC Cavalry, "because if you do you'll be greeted by a hornet's nest of bullets," or words to that effect!

The discoveries of Indian brass and bullets in/on the Custer battlefield site is indeed worth a whole article by itself. There were more repeating rifles in the warriors' hands than there were 7th Cavalry troopers in Custer's immediate command of 5 companies.

What's amazing to me is the Army didn't move away from their single shot trapdoors until 1898! Custer's defeat was not the only such event where an overwhelming force of warriors who had large percentages of fighters armed with rifles, particularly repeaters, and had reversed previous Indian tactics by aggressively charging the Cavalrymen armed with single shot weapons and fighting them to a standstill. For example, nine days before Custer's defeat, General Crook's column survived a similar defeat against two of the seven tribes Custer confronted at the Battle of the Rosebud, about 65 miles East of the Little Big Horn site, and the Powder River battle a couple of months before that.

Great stuff, great history... and it's not myth, it's all true! Keep up the great work.

— Tall Bull (SASS #4794) - Cody, WY

The article's author, Tuolumne Lawman (SASS #6127 Life) replies simply, "Yep, he's right. I had a senior moment." And I too must hang my head in shame for not catching such an obvious error while editing. Thanks for the correction, Tall Bull, and thanks for the additional history.

—Skinny, SASS #7361

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

We are all living in a new world this month as COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc on our lives across the globe. All of us at SASS wish nothing but peace and health to our members and their families during this time, and our thoughts are with those surviving in the areas hardest hit.

For the first time in 39 years, we regret to announce the cancellation of END of TRAIL 2020. An event like END of TRAIL takes months and months of planning, a significant financial commitment, and is reliant upon our attendees, sponsors, vendors, competitors, and guests to make it successful.

While there is much the world still doesn't know about the lifespan of COVID-19, the fact remains that it could be months before we return to a level of normalcy that would allow for a successful END of TRAIL.

The number of cancellations has skyrocketed over the past two weeks, and—even if the surge of the virus is behind us and the gathering bans are lifted in time for the event, we feel that the wake left behind from the devastating COVID-19 Pandemic will still be evident, and that we would not be in a position to present END of TRAIL in the tradition and fanfare that it, and our guests both deserve.

If you have already registered for END of TRAIL, you have three options:

- 1) Request a full refund**
- 2) Transfer your entry fee to EOT 2021**
- 3) Donate:** your entry fee will be transitioned into a direct donation to the SASS Museum & Cowboy Action Shooting Hall of Fame; a 501C-3. You will receive a donation receipt for your contribution for tax purposes.

***Please contact us directly at sass@sassnet.com to inform us what your choice is.**

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END of TRAIL Registration will remain open and all information will be transferred to EOT 2021.

We look forward to seeing you at the 40th Anniversary of END of TRAIL, June 17-27, 2021. What a bash it will be!

We remain extremely grateful for each and every one of our members and your individual contributions- whether that be time, talent or treasure (and sometimes all three!). We look forward to continuing to serve you in the upcoming year, and for many years to come.

NEWS

HENRY REPEATING ARMS PAYS HOMAGE TO THE LONE STAR STATE WITH NEW TRIBUTE RIFLE

Bayonne, NJ – November 15, 2019 – Henry Repeating Arms unveiled their Texas Tribute Edition rifle with a surprise appearance at the Texas Motor Speedway, where it was presented to NASCAR Cup Series driver Kevin Harvick for his pole qualifying win before the AAA Texas 500. Now available nationwide, the new rifle is the latest addition to Henry's diverse Tribute Edition product line and the only edition dedicated to a specific state.

Anthony Imperato, President and Owner of Henry Repeating Arms, explained, "The idea of making a special gun for Texas is something we've been working at for quite some time, and we have looked at so many different designs in the process. Texas loves guns and we wanted to make sure that this rifle captures that unique Texas magic with a look that no one has ever seen before on a Henry. I think we nailed it."

The Henry Texas Tribute Edition is a .22 S/L/LR caliber lever action rifle built on Henry's Golden Boy platform, which features a 20" blued steel octagon barrel, a Brasslite receiver cover, a brass buttplate and barrel band, and fully



NASCAR CUP SERIES DRIVER KEVIN HARVICK WAS AWARDED WITH HENRY TEXAS TRIBUTE EDITION RIFLE.

adjustable sights. Most notably, the wood furniture is finished with a deep black stain to provide a stark contrast to the gold highlights throughout the gun. Both sides of the



THE HENRY TEXAS TRIBUTE EDITION RIFLE FEATURES A DEEP BLACK STAIN ON THE WOOD STOCKS AND INLAID METAL STARS.

rifle are studded with inlaid metal five-pointed stars, with four on the right side of the buttstock and a lone star on the right side. The forestock is further embellished with the word "TEXAS" engraved in a classic Western typeface and filled by hand with gold paint. The buttstock engraving depicts the state of Texas filled with a "Lone Star Flag" motif, which is also hand-painted in gold.

The new Texas Tribute Edition rifle has a manufacturer's suggested retail price of \$960. For more information, visit <https://www.henryusa.com/rifles/texas-tribute-edition/>



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NATIVE AMERICAN QUILT AN AUCTION AT END OF TRAIL 2020 TO BENEFIT THE SASS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

BY CAT BALLOU, SASS #55

Maurice 'Mo' Lassus, SASS Life #65309, from Gloversville, New York, has generously donated this one of a kind, hand-made quilt by Buck Montgomery's wife, to be auctioned at the 39th END of TRAIL in June 2020 at Founders Ranch, New Mexico. The gorgeous queen size "plus" quilt is a Native American design entitled "Wakan Tankan Ici Un" or "May the Great Spirit Walk With You." The colorful design incorporates the detail from an Indian head nickel and several famous Native American Chieftains. All proceeds from the quilt's auction will be donated to the SASS Scholarship Fund.

Thanks to 'Mo' for his support of the Scholarship Fund.



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COSTUMING CORNER

IS IT A VAQUERO OR A CHARRO COSTUME?

BY TEXAS FLOWER, SASS
#43753 LIFE/REGULATOR

Not long ago, Kathouse Kelli (SASS #72384) and I were discussing vaquero costumes. Or I thought we were talking about vaquero costumes until she mentioned charro. We were both familiar with the vaquero but as our discussion continued, I decided I needed to know more about the difference between the vaquero and the charro cowboys.

Born and raised a Texan, I understood how much Mexico influenced our history. I had seen many pictures of what I thought to be vaqueros on horseback, but maybe they were charros. With curiosity and determination I began my search. As I read articles, other terms were mentioned such as buckaroo, ranchero, caballero, and mesteneros. Now I was getting very confused! I plugged on with my research and this is an overview of what I learned.

Charro refers to a traditional horseman from Mexico, originating in the central western regions. The charro is considered a gentleman and a horseman. He is not generally considered a handler of livestock. The distinctive charro suit



JOE JOSE BARERRA WAS A VAQUERO WHO PERFORMED IN PAWNEE BILL'S WILD WEST SHOW.

is usually colorful and widely worn by gentlemen of the upper classes on social occasions, especially when on horseback. When dressed to perform in the charreada (Mexican rodeo) they wear the traditional sombrero, short fitted jackets with elaborate embroidery work, and matching pants, most of which is hand sewn and passed down from father to son.

The Spanish terms vaquero (cowboy; herder of cattle) and ranchero (rancher) are similar to the charro but different in

culture, etiquette, mannerism, clothing, tradition, and social status. The vaquero is a horse mounted livestock herder of a tradition that originated on the Iberian Peninsula and is often known for his roping skills. Vaquero is from the Spanish word vaca (meaning cow), which comes from the Latin word vacca. The vaquero traditions developed in Mexico (brought from Spain) became the foundation for the North American cowboy. The word "cowboy" appears to be a direct English



ORIGINAL VAQUERO JACKET



ORIGINAL CHARRO JACKET



COAL TRAIN — SASS #8146



VAQUERO JUDGE ROY BEAN — SASS #1



ASA MOYER — SASS #100763



YUMA JACK — SASS #11261

translation of vaquero.

The vaqueros moved from Mexico into California and Texas where their skills were needed. There were some differences between the California and Texas vaqueros. The Texas tradition came from a combination of influences, such as the need to adapt to the geography and climate of west Texas and to conduct long cattle drives to get the animals to market. The Texas vaqueros often moved from ranch to ranch.

The California vaquero usually stayed on the same ranch. The geography and climate of California was different from Texas allowing more grazing with less open range. The cattle in California were marketed primarily at a regional level without the need of long cattle drives. The California vaquero retained

a stronger direct Spanish influence than that of Texas. Settlers in both California and Texas were strongly influenced by the Mexican vaquero's culture, their style of attire, and the handling of livestock.

The term buckaroo is still used to refer to a certain style of cowboy and horsemanship but closely retains characteristics of the traditional vaquero. The California vaqueros were often called buckaroos by English speaking settlers. The word first appeared in American English in 1827. It may have developed with influences from the English word "buck" or "bucking," the behavior of young untrained horses.

Mesteneros were vaqueros that caught, broke, and drove mustangs to market. They caught horses that roamed the plains of Northern Mexico, Texas,

New Mexico, and California.

A caballero is a Spanish word for knight or gentleman and is used as a form of address for older gentlemen.

Armed with my new knowledge, I began my search for SASS Cowboys in vaquero or charro outfits. I was pleased to find so many dressed in original and authentic costumes! The first thing I noticed was the jacket and how they were trimmed. Next, I wanted to get a good look at the hat and the other accessories added to the costume. As I took pictures, several vaqueros were happy to share information about their costumes. It was interesting to hear where their inspiration came from, who made the costume, and how they decided what embellishments should be added. *I must say, they were all quite dashing!*



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ANNUAL MATCHES

MAYHEM ON THE MOUNTAIN 2019 ARKANSAS STATE BLACK POWDER CHAMPIONSHIP

BY FIRED-UP FANNIE SUE, SASS #106650

Heber Springs, AR, October 11-13, 2019 — The Outlaw Camp was filled with the familiar sounds of shots firing and targets ringing, but visuals of the landscape was notably different. Part of the fun of Cowboy Action Shooting™, according to enthusiasts at this annual SASS Arkansas State Black Powder Championship, was the noticeable and anticipated maximization of gun smoke! Cowboys and Cowgirls gathered together from Arkansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, and Texas to participate.

Shooting began on a brisk overcast Friday morning with several side matches, including fastest pistol, fastest rifle, fastest shotgun, long range rifle pistol caliber and big bore, long range pistol, fastest pocket pistol, and derringer. The day ended with a man-on-man/lady-on-lady shootout followed by a social on the range with a pleasantly cozy bonfire. The winners of the man-on-man was Stumpman (SASS #89993). Mustang Toni (SASS #93341) won the women's shootout.

Day two began early Saturday morning with all black powder and smokeless shooters starting with a safety meeting at their assigned stages. This year's theme

was The Code of the West. This embodies much of what is good in mankind. Men and Women who traveled during the westward expansion of the United States were bound by an unwritten code of conduct — Live each day with courage; take pride in your work; always finish what you start; do what must be done; be tough but fair; when you make a promise, keep it; ride for the brand; talk less and say more; remember that some things aren't for sale; and know where to draw the line. These codes are just as relevant today as it was then. Our modern-day outlaws and rustlers simply wear different clothing, leaving us wondering who we can trust when everyone seems to be out for themselves. When the lines were quoted, it was with a reverence of the past with a sense of honor we carry into today.

Boom! Boom! Ping, ping, ping! Like a scene from an action-packed cowboy movie, smoke and fire followed bullets down range. In the air, black powder smoke hovered like a thick fog from a historic frontier battle. This gave a renewed meaning to the Marine corps expression "slow is smooth and smooth is fast." Shooters maneuvered around the dawdling smoke and completed the first five stages on Saturday. With the ambiance of the stages, shooters, and weather, it made gallant fun to step into character.

That afternoon consisted of jaw-dropping activities in which both competitors and their family and friends could participate. A turkey shoot using the Gatling gun was set up in the barn for SASS members to try their hand at. Roy Sackett (SASS #103849) won a '58 Remington for hitting the circle in the middle of the plate as close to center mass as possible. Having watched this event take place, many spectators also wanted an opportunity to shoot the Gatling gun. Six-year-old Hunter Healy could not contain his excitement as he turned the handle to shoot the massive gun. This was probably the highlight of the day for many! He giggled and smiled ear to ear, wanting to shoot again and again.

The ladies also assembled by the barn with others to have a little fun of their own, with a skillet toss. Standing in place, each lady took turns hurling the nine-inch skillet from a designat-

ed foul line as far as possible along a straight line. The champion was Mustang Toni.

The last activity leading up to the Saturday night banquet was splitting a bullet on an axe. Each competitor was given one .45 caliber bullet. They were to shoot at an axe blade, splitting the bullet in order to break the clays positioned on either side. Only one was able to accomplish this task on the first try. The first was Ben Williams (16 years old), grandson of Ozark Outlaw (SASS #19847). This game takes a lot of precision with trigger pull and grip, as you can imagine.

The catered banquet Saturday night was held at the range pavilion. Everyone gathered around for all-you-can-eat catfish, chicken, fried okra, hushpuppies, and French fries, followed by peach and apple cobbler with ice cream.

T-Bone Dooley (SASS #36388) said, "We arrived on the range just before supper was served and were treated like family. The range was in great condition and ready with no problems at all. As the day progressed and the match was ending, we still felt like family. This is our first Mayhem on the Mountain and we loved it. Big thanks to all who helped make this year's shoot out an event for ALL. I have to give ya'll two thumbs up and on a scale to 10, ya'll rock a solid 10, maybe 10 and a half, borderline 11!"

Outrider (SASS #72622) said, "It is always great shooting at a well-run club like Outlaw Camp. I will say, shooting Outlaw (from the hip) with black powder is not for the weak of heart!"

When asked about her time at Mayhem on the Mountain, Mimsy (SASS #77432) said, "Rain or shine, the Outlaws always put on a fun shoot. The range is nestled in the woods with great stages. If you love to shoot black powder, put this one on your to-do list!"

Sunday ended the weekend of competing with the last five stages. Overall winners were T-Bone Dooley and Fired-Up Fannie Sue. The fun-filled weekend of competition went off without a single down range. Whether you are a black powder shooter or smokeless, Outlaw Camp offers something for everyone and can accommodate fun for all! Please visit www.outlawcamp.com for complete scores.







SPAGHETTI WESTERNS COME TO SALMONELLA GULCH THE 28TH EDITION OF HEADQUARTERS

BY GREY FOX, SASS #223 & MISS MARY SPENCER, SASS #55147

PHOTOS BY PHOTO CREDITS: GREY FOX; RENEGADE RON, SASS #103541; & CORNELIUS O'KEEFE, SASS #60517

The theme of the 28th Headquarters was Sergio Leone's trilogy, *A Fist Full of Dollars*, *For a Few Dollars More* and *The Good The Bad and Ugly*. Competitors came from Canada, the U.S., and Germany to burn powder and socialize at the Victoria Fish & Game Protective Assoc. range, Malahat, British Columbia, August 23-25, 2019.

The event was hosted by the Victoria Frontier Shootists. It was choreographed flawlessly by Montana May

(SASS #95820) and the dedicated shooters committee. Master of Ceremonies Wild Horse Jack (SASS #63334) – dressed in his Spaghetti Western Best – turned out in a Clint Eastwood poncho. Hawewater Hal (SASS #55287) was in charge of set up and stages, with other duties handled by Victoria Diamond (SASS #60952), Black Ashley (SASS #89886), Doc Richards (SASS #101125), Salal Sal (SASS #1011260, Renegade Ron, Neut Reno (SASS

#51654), and a cadre of others, unfortunately undocumented.

Top Gun Honours went to Whistlin Will (SASS #88382) once again. Will, a teenager from Courtenay, British Columbia has proven his skill at Winter Range 2019 and End of Trail 2019. At EOT, he placed twelfth overall and sixth in his class. At Headquarters 2019 Will finished first in Cowboy and also won the coveted Scheutzen target brought from Germany annually by Cornelius



JINGLE BOB (SASS #51499) CELEBRATED HIS 92ND BIRTHDAY AT THE MATCH



LEGACY AWARD RECIPIENT BLACK ASHLEY (LEFT), WITH GREY FOX



MIXED FORMAL THREESOME

O'Keefe, who attended as a spectator in 1992 and has competed since 1993, missing only one year.

The competition included the Friday Wild Bunch mini-match, side matches, a mid-range rifle event, as well as the Saturday and Sunday main match.

The Awards Ball on Sunday highlighted a coterie of well-dressed Cowboys and Cowgirls. Best Shooting costumes went to Lone Wolf (SASS #1279) and Alberta Annie (SASS #85914); Best B-Western, High Country Amigo (SASS #49198); Best Military, Rusty Coyote (SASS #72524); Dance Hall Darling, Dallas Dancer (SASS #42365); and to top off the costumes were the Best Dressed Formal Mixed Threesome, Wrecking Ball (SASS #107196), Black Ashley, and Salal Sal. Best Dressed Formal Ladies Threesome was Saucy Sadie (SASS #89135), Kathy Peterson, and Sharon Slator. The Western Canadian Frontier Shootist Society Legacy Award for service to SASS® and Cowboy Action Shooting™, was awarded this year to Black Ashley.

Top Gun and Top Cowboy was Whistlin Will. Top Lady was Alberta Annie.

The happy shootists wound up the event by looking forward to wending their way to "Boomtown" at the Courtenay Fish & Game to compete in the Canadian Championships. Stay Tuned.



MIXED LADIES THREESOME



WHISTLIN WILL (RIGHT) WITH CORNELIUS O'KEEFE AND HIS SCHEUTZEN TARGET



HELVA RUKUS 2019 SASS NEW YORK STATE CAS CHAMPIONSHIP

BY ANNABELLE BRANSFORD,
SASS #11916 REGULATOR

The Circle K Regulators' 19th annual SASS New York State CAS Championship, Heluva Rukus 2019, is now in the history books. Taking place in the lovely upstate NY town of Ballston Spa from September 13-15, the event was once again one of the best-attended multi-day CAS matches in the country. Thankfully, the fact the event started on a Friday the 13th (with a full moon, no less!) did not bring any bad luck, and the 215 attendees from 16 states and Canada who gathered to sling lead and enjoy the company of their CAS parads were treated to a fun-filled weekend extravaganza.

On Friday, more than half of the registered shooters arrived early in order to participate in the numerous side matches. This year's side events included the usual speed shotgun/rifle/pistol/derringer/pocket pistol events, as well as three CAS warm up stages, long-range rifle and pistol events, and multiple .22 caliber events, providing plenty of chances to get trigger fingers limbered up before the main event.

In addition to having ten individual shooting berms and room for more than 50 campers, there was a large vendor area on the range as well, allowing shooters ample opportunity to part with their hard-earned greenbacks when not slinging lead. Twelve vendors were on site this year – more, by far, than could be found at any other CAS event north of the Mason-Dixon. The main match sponsor, Klassic Laser Works, was there throughout the weekend, along with a gunsmith, leather maker, tintype photographer, custom knife maker, handmade basket/pottery maker, bullet makers, and other folks selling various cowboy and Indian items and accessories. Along with the multiple tents along sutler's row, the popular Consignment Shop was back again this year – bigger and better than ever. Nearly 40 shooters took advantage of the opportunity to sell their gently used or no longer needed cowboy clothing, reloading equipment, gun leather,



ANNABELLE BRANSFORD AND ROWDY BILL

and CAS accessories. Sales were brisk, and by the end of the weekend the tables and clothing racks were nearly empty and both sellers and buyers were smiling.

Unlike the unseasonably hot weather shooters were forced to deal with at both Rukus 2017 and 2018, the weather for this year's event was nearly perfect. Mornings were cool, with temps rising into the 70s during the day. The rainy forecast for Saturday turned out to be nothing more than a little mist and some clouds, while Friday and Sunday boasted bright sunshine and blue skies.



COSTUME CONTEST WINNERS – BEST TOWNIE MALE & FEMALE – DEACON BOB BLACKCOAT & ALIBI ANNIE

Such a deal!

This year's Rukus stages paid homage to some of the more memorable TV westerns that dominated the small screens of America during the 1950s and 1960s. Each of the ten main match stages was dedicated to a particular show, with write-ups on the shows provided in the Shooters Handbook and starting lines such as "Get the hell outta Dodge" (*Gunsmoke*), "Happy trails to you" (*The Roy Rogers Show*), "Head 'em up, move 'em out" (*Rawhide*), and "Hi-Yo Silver, away!" (*The Lone Ranger*)



HELLUVA RUKUS 2019 AWARDS



TOP OVERALL – JAMES SAMUEL PIKE AND SPINNING SALLY

helping to send the shooters on trips down memory lane.

Despite not being able to personally participate in the match this year, Rowdy Bill (SASS #9628) nonetheless made sure shooters were treated to ten terrific stages. As usual, movement between shooting positions and

the numerous "shooter's choices" on the stages kept the shooters' minds and bodies fully engaged. Along with the usual steel targets, shooters were confronted with a mover, knock-down rifle and pistol racks, the three-tiered "Schwaby" target rack, and of course the beloved kick-down door. There was even a man-

datory rifle reload on one stage. Target sizes, shapes, and distances varied, as did the acquisitions, keeping the stages interesting and at times somewhat challenging, but without becoming "P" traps. Each of the 16 posses completed five stages per day, shooting straight through on a.m./p.m. flights.


The props were once again top notch, thanks to the talented CKR building and decorating crews. Several stages included one or more permanent structures (a fort, mine, homestead, log cabin, freight office, and complete western town of Rukus Flats). Others were turned into an old Spanish town (with mission, cemetery, and adobe ruins), a US Cavalry camp site (with numerous pup tents, canon, and horse-drawn limber), and an extensive Indian village. Elsewhere throughout the club property, shooters were treated to additional "decorations" which added to the overall Old West ambiance. Plenty of places for great photo ops, for sure!

The eagerly-awaited awards ceremony began shortly after completion of the main match stages on Sunday afternoon. First, Trail Boss Smokehouse Dan (SASS #12524) took care of all


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NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONS – EL MUERTO NEGRO AND SPINNING SALLY

the obligatory “thank yous” to sponsors, vendors, ROs, shooters, and club members. Members of local Boy Scout Troops 54 and 56 were congratulated on raising a whopping \$3,372 for their brass-picking and snack-selling efforts over the weekend. Thanks to the sale of raffle tickets, the CKR was able to make sizeable donations (\$1,250 each) to the local EMTs who were on-site all weekend and to the Jack Falvo Foundation, which provides free temporary housing for non-local families of patients at a nearby hospital/rehab center. Winners in each of this year’s five Costume Contest categories were announced and the male and female winners in each of Friday’s side events were given their awards. Special Sponsor Appreciation Awards were presented to Klassic Laser Works (10 years) and South End Powder Coating (5 years). Winners of the charity raffle items were then announced, sending numerous lucky cowpokes home with prizes valued at \$100-\$600, including a Ruger Bearcat .22 SA revolver, a Ruger Wrangler .22 SA revolver, a custom knife and sheath, gift certificates for Mernickle holsters, and a Rugged Gear gun cart, a handmade quilt, and entries to several State and annual matches in the Northeast. Next, stage winners and the 37 clean shooters were presented with small mementos of their shooting skills. Then category winners (both overall and NYS) were given their well-deserved – and quite impressive – awards. Overall first place winners in each category received a wooden plaque with a resin sixgun and custom brass plate attached, while NYS category winners received a custom laser-engraved leather belt buckle. The ceremony concluded with presentations to the 2019 New York State and overall male and female champions. El Muerto Negro (SASS #83471) and Spinning Sally (SASS #89526) took top male and female honors amongst the New York shooters, with El Muerto Negro accomplishing this feat as a Duelist! Spinning Sally was also top the overall female, with James Samuel Pike (SASS #53331) finishing the match as Top Gun Overall. And, thus ended another successful Heluva Rukus. If you missed out on the 2019 match, you’d best mark your calendars now, so it doesn’t happen again. Rukus 2020 (Sept. 18-20) is sure to be extra special as it will be the 20th anniversary of this always-popular match. Check out the CKR website at www.circlekgregulators.com for more information (and complete scores from 2019).

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SHOOTOUT AT COYOTE GULCH 2019 IOWA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

BY LITTLE HERMANA (SASS
#103977)

There is no better way to celebrate Memorial Day weekend than shooting! Nestled in the hills of Indianola, Iowa, The Fort Des Moines Rangers held the SASS Iowa State Championship. Shootout at Coyote Gulch started out on a sunny Friday morning for warm ups and speed matches, but just hours prior to the fun beginning, Mother Nature decided to have a little fun. Rainstorms started to flood the road to the parking lot and may have caused a slight start delay. However, the rain didn't stop the fun of Wild Bunch, speed matches, or a 4-stage quick fire. Free pizza (yum!) provided to all and any to partake and a chance to check out the 12 stages before the main matches on Saturday. Throughout the weekend, photographs were taken by Lilac Lejla and Little Hermana. So a big thank you for capturing posse pictures to Mrs. Clay Thornton.

As the shoot is held during Memorial weekend, we remember those who lost their life while serving but also remember all service people. So during the welcoming introduction we honored all veterans by calling them up for recognition. All veterans received a very small token of our appreciation – a box of shotgun ammo.



LAWDOG DAGO DOM AND SHORTCAKE TIE THE KNOT — AGAIN!

This year the Rangers hosted 62 shooters from seven other states. We welcomed Nebraska, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Dakota, and Wyoming to a fun 12-stage state shootout at Coyote Gulch. Our youngest shooter, Clara Belle (SASS #108609) from Illinois joined us with her father. What a pleasure it is to have such a wonderful young lady enjoy herself and demonstrate a great love and appreciation for the sport and those who surround her. Thankfully, weather held out for the first six main stages. To wrap up Saturday's six stages, participants found themselves gathering together for a small banquet at a local restaurant. Shooters were presented with a mini-awards to the top speed shooters. Big Congratulations to all!

Alas, the rain finally caught up with the Rangers early Sunday morning, causing flooding of the last stage. While shooters were completing the final six stages, several members of the Rangers were coming up with ideas to make stage 12 safe. Here in Iowa we've been known to have extreme weather conditions. Temps in the past have reached in the high 90s with very high humidity. Other times it's the spring rain during shooting that threatens to put a stop to things. As the day progressed and the sun shined high, stage 12 was able to come together safely for shooters to finish everything!

As the day was coming to a close, we heard the age-old question of "When will the scores be done?" Now we all know final totals can take a bit to complete, so there is a little break before awards. As many may know and experience, this could potentially be a great time for a little entertainment – little something to make the time worthwhile. Well what a great time to pull off a surprise of a lifetime. A surprise wedding! Well, a vow renewal to be exact. Lawdog Dago Dom (SASS #105516) pulled off the surprise for his lovely wife Shortcake (SASS #105517) with the help of a few friendly Cowboys and Cowgirls. Now Shortcake had no idea what was going – on just that everyone's presence was requested to stage three (the Church). In true Cowboy fashion, no wedding is complete unless it is a shotgun wedding. With no idea at this time of exactly what



OVERALL WINNERS – CAPT. JIM MIDNIGHT AND LITTLE HERMANA

was going on, Shortcake was escorted by Sergeant Duroc (SASS #89007) and his shotgun! As the ceremony was started another surprise waited for the bride. Family members decided to make the trip to Coyote Gulch to join the festivities. The ceremony was a beautiful and fun experience. Video captured the special occasion and can be found on YouTube®.

With tears drying up from all the excitement, it was time to get down to business – awards! You could feel and hear the excitement of many shooters to see how well they placed! Awards were presented by JB Kidd (SASS #88820) and Half Fast Len (SASS #66185). Overall Iowa Men's Champion was Capt. Jim Midnight (SASS #32438) and overall Iowa Lady was Little Hermana. A big congratulations to all category winners. Please visit www.fortdesmoinesrangers.com for complete scores.

We welcome any who have not attended Shootout at Coyote Gulch and always look forward to seeing returning shooters. There's always a great time with 12 fun stages and great company. Dry camping is available on range, close hotels and campgrounds are also within reasonable distance. Come and discover a little piece of heaven here in the Midwest! Just want to say Thank You to all that attended the Iowa State Championship.



RANGE WAR 2019 MICHIGAN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

BY R.J. LAW, SASS #15466
LIFE/REGULATOR

The Wolverine Rangers are honored and privileged to have received the SASS Woolly Award for the 2018 Match of the Year at End of Trail in June of 2019. This is a testament to our Match Director Deuce Stevens (SASS #55996) and the many volunteers who have worked very hard over the years to make Range War a success. We always try to put the emphasis on our shooters and try to give them the best SASS State Championship we can. Thanks to the Wild Bunch and the SASS staff for this great honor.

Range War 2019 took place over Labor Day Weekend in Kimball, Michigan. Thanks to our Main Match Sponsor Outlaw Bullets. It was great to meet Waimea (SASS #82615) and his wife Louise. Thanks also to our Awards Sponsors Doc Noper Gun Leather (Doc Noper, SASS #65017) and Ed's Custom Leather Crafts (Steady Eddie, SASS #29255).

Having Range War for the last 21 years on the long Labor Day weekend has been a blessing. We start setting up the Range on Wednesday and put everything back in Conex boxes on Monday. One of the best things we have going for us, in addition to great people, is we have one of the best Cowboy Action Shooting™ Ranges in SASS. We have plenty of shooting bays and probably the best and largest camping area in all of SASS. Please consider putting us on your shooting calendar for Labor Day weekend in 2020. We guarantee a good time.

We had a total of 251 registered shooters, with 15 of our Canadian brothers and sisters coming across the Blue Water Bridge to spend the weekend. We also had shooting friends attend from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Florida, Minnesota, New Mexico, Texas, Wisconsin, Georgia, Arizona, California, West Virginia and Michigan.

Congratulations to our 39 shooters who had a Clean Match.



Friday is side match day with a Cowboy mini-matches and a Wild Bunch mini-match run by hOOT Hamilton (SASS #86407). Friday is also swap meet day, which went over very well again this year. We continued our tradition on Friday with free pizza for lunch on the Range. Opening Ceremony is on Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. with shooting starting shortly thereafter. We shoot five stages on Saturday and five Stages on Sunday. Saturday afternoon is our Cowboy Trap run by Mike Fink (SASS #29047) and Moe Guns (SASS #26854). Saturday night is our subscription dinner in the Club House (\$10 per person), with shooters playing guitars and singing in the campground afterward. Bring your guitar or other musical instrument next year and join us. Cowboy Church is on the Range on Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. Thanks again to Duke Dakota (SASS #42771) for conducting Cowboy Church.

We would like to thank Tazzmanian Kid (SASS #45750) and Single Rose (SASS #52133) from Klastic Laser Works for the great job they did on our name badges, side match awards, and plaques. We had the pleasure of having them as a vendor at Range War this year, which came in handy when we had some last-minute awards we wanted to do. We honored the shooters who shot every Range War

since it started in 1998 with a "Riding for the Brand" plaque. Thanks to Chili Pepper Pete (SASS #11917) for coming up with the name for the award.

We would also like to thank Long-shot Lillian (SASS #94602) and Wildcat Rose (SASS #89822) for taking pictures of our shooters during the match. The pictures can be viewed on our website.

Lunches on Saturday and Sunday have been an issue for us over the years so my wife, The Lady (SASS #15467) took it on herself to be in charge of the lunch. She did a great job and we had many compliments. Some of our shooters said it was the best lunch they had at any SASS event anywhere.

Our Banquet and Awards Presentation is on Sunday night at Alexanders in Marysville, a short drive from the Range. We try to put on the best banquet in SASS. Congratulations to 2019 Overall Champions Little Red Sure Shot (SASS #101020) and Cowboy Carty (SASS #86059) and to Michigan State Champions K.J. Stevens (SASS #62782) and Deuce Stevens (SASS #55996). A full list of winners can be found on the Wolverine Rangers website at www.wolverinerangers.org

We look forward to seeing our old friends and new friends over Labor Day weekend in 2020. Please think about joining us.





WHERE THE WEST IS FUN SASS NORTHWEST REGIONAL 2019

BY RANGER SIX, SASS #94237

The 2019 SASS Northwest Regional Cowboy Action Shooting™ Championship was hosted in August at Jerome, Idaho by the Snake River Western Shooting Society. This year's theme was potatoes (remember, it was held in Idaho) and this was reflected by the introduction in the shooter's handbook that read, "Welcome to Tuberville, the West's most spudtacular town!"

The handbook had cartoons about potatoes as well as a glossary of 51 potato-related terms. Each main match staged was named after a "Tuberville" location and the introductions and scenario start lines had some kind of potato wordplay such as "I'm loaded," "I scalloped whites too," and "Now that's one hot potato!"

The fun began on Thursday with both a morning and afternoon four-stage mini-match, a three-stage Wild Bunch

mini-match, and several side matches. There were the speed matches (rifle, pistol, shotgun) in which folks could show off their fast moves, and also precision rifle and pistol for those who think accuracy is important too. Long range was available to try out big bore single-shot or lever rifles with targets from 100 to 200 yards downrange. Other side matches included .22 pistol and rifle as well as Pocket Pistol and Derringer.

The main match started on Friday following the welcoming address. The nine posses headed out to their assigned shooting bays for a roll call and the first stage of the shoot. The SRWSS's

range has a total of 12 shooting bays, which allows 1 bay for each stage. They all have unique semi-permanent stage fronts providing an Old West atmosphere for the match. Once the first six stages were shot and lunch was over, the real entertainment started.

The Couples and Odd Couples event were spread out over the course of the afternoon. Couples of all configurations were paired up for what was called "Potato Face." This started with all firearms staged on the firing line and the couple standing back to back. Shooter A would move to a large drawing pad while shooter B called out a feature to draw on the Potato Face. Then shooter A would move to firing line to engage targets while shooter B moved to the drawing pad. Once done shooting, shooter A would call out a body part for Shooter B to draw and this was repeated until all shots were fired. Later that evening, after the dinner, all the Potato Faces were displayed and a vote was taken to determine the best one.

A second event was titled "The Great Potato Drop." This started with



THE COUPLES AND ODD COUPLES EVENT HAD EACH TEAM DRAW A "POTATO FACE" THAT WOULD BE JUDGED LATER.





THIS COWBOY EARNED A BONUS FOR HIS TEAM DURING THE "GREAT POTATO DROP."

a team of four shooters, with each person designated to shoot a specific gun, one each for rifle and shotgun and one for each handgun. All guns were staged on the firing line. To start, all the team members yelled "Potato Drop," then the first shooter would place a large potato between his/her legs and, without using



BEST DRESSED COUPLE – SQUIRT GUN MISS AND LAWMAN'S BULLITT

hands to hold potato in place, move forward about six feet to the potato drop bucket where, hopefully, the potato would be deposited for a one-second bonus. Once the shooter had finished, he/she would return to team, tap the next shooter to start the process over again till all four had completed their task for the team. Friday evening, after the Shooter Appreciation BBQ, awards were presented for the matches and side matches held on Thursday.

Saturday started off with the completion of the final six main match stages. Later on, the socialization began with the



BEST COWBOY MUSTACHE – DOC WORDEN

Costume Contest. For the 2019 cowboy fashion season, the best-dressed couple award was presented to Lawman's Bullitt (SASS #86907) and Squirt Gun Miss (SASS #92247). Along with the more common best-dressed categories, the SRWSS introduced a Best Cowboy Mustache contest. More than a dozen Cowboys stepped up to participate in this event. By a show of applause, the Cowboys were voted on to see who had what it takes to win the Best Mustache title. It finally came down to Lead Hammer (SASS #90499 Life) of Oregon and Doc Worden (SASS #107944) of Idaho, with



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2019 NW REGIONAL CHAMPIONS – BWAA, BELINDA BELLE, AND FAST ENUFF



TOP GUNS HOSS REESE AND PINTO ANNIE AT THE LAST MOMENT OF THE SHOOT OFF

Doc taking first place honors. During social hour, a Potato Bar with all the fixings and host refreshments was provided.

The long anticipated part of the evening was the presentation of the Main Match Awards. Category awards went to fifth, place with trophies awarded for each level as well as a Championship Belt Buckle for the top shooter in the category for those who were residents of states represented in the Northwest Region. Clean Match awards were given to 59 shooters out of the 133 who completed the match. The SASS 2019 Northwest Regional Championship Belt Buckle for men was awarded to Fast ENUFF (SASS #85412) of Oregon and the ladies' Championship Belt Buckle was presented to Belinda Belle (SASS #42966) of Idaho. They were both returning Regional Champions as well as State Champions for their states. A Junior

Championship Award was presented to Bwaa (SASS #100400) of Idaho. The last item of the evening was the determination of who would compete in the Top Gun Shoot Off.

The NWR Top Gun Shoot Off on Sunday morning started with the top 16 fastest Cowboys and top eight fastest Cowgirls. Shooters were paired off by gender and the winners moved up to the next level until only the Top Guns remained. Top Gun honors went to Hoss Reese (SASS #88815) of Oregon & Pinto Annie (SASS #27966 Life) of Washington.

The 2020 Northwest Regional Championship will be hosted by the Snake River Western Shooting Society in Jerome, Idaho on August 13 through 16, 2020. You can visit their website – www.idahocas.com – for more information and for 2019 scores.

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THE DESCHUTES RIVER RAILROAD WAR 2019 OREGON STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

BY WHISPERIN' WADE, SASS
#36209 AND ARCTIC ANNIE,
SASS #37265

The Old 97 Railroad Rangers hosted the 2019 SASS Oregon State Championship May 30 through June 2, 2019 at the new Redmond Rod and Gun Club Range located in Redmond, Oregon after a hard year of rebuilding the bays and new stage props. The match included Long Range, a three-stage Plainsman and a four-stage Wild Bunch mini-match, and 10 main match stages designed by Whisperin' Wade. Arctic Annie was co-match director and the hostess for the weekend.

Thanks goes to all the SASS clubs in Oregon for their support, without them the match could not have been what it was. The 2019 SASS Oregon State match was based on an Oregon historical event called The Deschutes River Railroad War. This is the story of two railroads racing up the Deschutes River to expand railroad service from the Columbia River to Bend, Oregon. The race was a competition between two railroad barons – James J. Hill of the Great Northern and Edward H. Harriman of the Union Pacific.

AMERICA'S LAST GREAT RAILROAD WAR

In the dawn of a new century, two competing railroad companies, the Oregon Trunk and Deschutes Railroad, began construction of two separate lines at the confluence of the Deschutes and Columbia rivers. These railways would parallel each other upriver through the inhospitable Deschutes River canyon with the goal to connect large pine mills to the south near Bend, Oregon to the rest of the country. In 1909 the Oregon Trunk Railroad Company was bought by James J. Hill, who immediately put his best engineer on the project to complete what was once thought impossible. By mid-summer, both railroad companies were blasting their way



WILD BUNCH PARTICIPANTS



PLAINS MAN PARTICIPANTS



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through the steep volcanic basalt rock canyon that encased the river on either side and ultimately into a head-on collision that would be infamously recorded as the last Great Railroad War in America.

The back-breaking work was the burden of many immigrant workers from all over the world including Chinese, Italians, Dutch, and the Irish to name just a few. And in the worker camps tensions ran high with work crews a literal stone's throw away from their rivals. Stories of sabotage, fist-fights, and gun fire across the river were common among the groups, not to mention the racial divide between completely different cultures. But, after the death of E. H. Harriman, who owned the Deschutes Railroad Company, his successor along with Oregon Trunk's James J. Hill decided to quit the squabbling and work together to complete the railway and share already completed stretches of tracks.

The war had come to an end, the Oregon Trunk Golden Spike was driven in Bend November 1, 1911 and the first passenger train arrived in Bend January 5, 1912.



CLEAN MATCH SHOOTERS

THE 2019 SASS OREGON STATE MATCH

With 90 shooters in attendance from California, Nevada, Washington, and of course Oregon, match Overall Winners were Fast Enuff (SASS #85412) and Camp Hag (SASS #84031). Overall Oregon State Champions were Fast Enuff and Truly Goode (SASS #87955).

We were able to host the match at the new Redmond Rod & Gun Club, where the Old 97 Railroad Rangers have 25 acres to call Cowboy Home. Currently, we have 10 permanent bays set up, with several more coming. The range was able to host 40 overnights! There are plans to move more dirt in hopes to have several more bays and

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COSTUME WINNERS

a permanent covered outdoor seating area.

Shooters started showing up on Wednesday to set up camp. Thanks to Lightfoot (SASS #90179) and Tetherow Tex La Rue (SASS #90999 Life), Long Range participants shot Thursday morning down at the new Rifle-Pistol

bays, followed by Plainsman Thursday afternoon up at the Cowboy Bays. There were 13 Plainsman Cowboys making some loud noise and lots of smoke! There were several rivalries re-visited and some new ones started. Your overall Plainsman was Lightfoot – Senior Traditional; Jedidiah

Knight (SASS #36423) – Traditional; and Meadow Patty (SASS #72250) – Lady Traditional. We welcomed a new Plainsman shooter, Baby O’Bear (SASS #107769), he was loaned guns and ammo by several generous Cowboys and then beat those same Cowboys with their own equipment. Must be the Cowboy Way!

Warm-up stages were held Friday morning and afternoon for folks to run some rounds through. Wild Bunch had 28 shooters making all kinds of ruckus. Everyone seemed to have a good time sending rounds down range as fast as they could. Last Chance Morales (SASS #67180) burned the clock down, winning overall. Your Wild Bunch top Cowgirl goes to Whirlwind Wendy (SASS #79889). Speed Rifle and Pistol were set up for folks to go just as fast as they could.

This year’s SASS Scholarship fundraiser was a side match shooting derringer and pocket pistol hosted by Calgary Kate (SASS #33287) and Mescalero (SASS #12167) – Founding Members all the way from California. We raised \$80 for the SASS scholarship and hope for a bigger turn out next year!

We hosted the usual Friday night Potluck, which was held in the main



OREGON STATE WINNERS – TRULY GOODE AND FAST ENUFF



TOP BUCKAROO – LITTLE TEX



TOP JUNIOR COWGIRL – JESS Z

tent and believe me, it never disappoints, Cowboys and Cowgirls sure know how to make some grub!

Main Match was held Saturday with six stages followed by a hardy lunch by Bend Caterer Cody's Barbeque in the main tent. A team shoot was planned for Saturday afternoon, but it got pretty darn warm for folks, so we'll save that for next year. Saturday night Costume Contest hosted by our lovely Powder River Rose (SASS #77227) was held in the main tent. The 2019 SASS Costumes winners are: Couple – Jedidiah Knight and Harley (SASS #47309); Victorian – Bobbin Along Daisy (SASS #61452); Gentleman – Sgt. Chance Deveroux (SASS #10822); Junior Cowgirl – Jess Z (SASS #103443); and Junior Cowboy – Little Tex (SASS #98908). Best Working Cowboy was Holy Rider (SASS #53115 Life) and Best Working Cowgirl was the lovely Chandelier (SASS #86146).

We were fortunate to have Badman Bullets as our Main Match Sponsor. Other wonderful sponsors and vendors include SlixSprings – Big Iron Buster (SASS #9361), Cherokee Sam (SASS #89009), Sandy Charm (SASS #79785), Grandpa Dillon (SASS #26051), and TR's Mercantile – Territorial Ryder (SASS #31939). A special thanks to Riverdog (SASS #88745), for his special donation to our raffle of his highly coveted Fishing Trip for two. Congratulations to Bufallo Wings (SASS #56856), as his son's ticket was drawn. Many thanks to Boot Barn, Sportsman's Warehouse, Dillion Press, UnigueTek, Wild West Mercantile, D Bar J Hats, and of course SASS.

Lead Shot Lou (SASS #107207) was the shooters book writer extraordinaire. More of your top O97RR Stagehands are Deadwood Pete (SASS #57450), Sierra Sage Sue (SASS # 57487), Lil B Topsy (SASS #103953), G-Dub (SASS #98435), The Legend (SASS #36069), Diamond Willow (SASS #37688), Lightfoot, Tetherow Tex La Rue, Baby O'Bear, Calgary Kate and Mescalero, Whisperin' Wade, and Arctic Annie.

Our Saturday night Banquet did not disappoint. The same Caterer provided an amazing meal of tri-tip and chicken, mashed potatoes, ranch beans, salad, rolls and brownies. All the side matches were awarded.

Sunday wrapped up four main stages, followed by another tasty catered lunch and amazing awards, made by Pinto Annie (SASS #27966) and Shalako Tucker (SASS #27964). Arctic Annie was given the Wonder Woman award. She maintained water and snacks for all the bays and kept the scoring system moving along. With all the help of the Old 97 Rangers, we had everything wrapped up for folks by 2:00 p.m., so those needing to travel home could hit the trail. Folks left with lots of smiles, many thanks, and generally impressed with the new range and all the improvements. We look forward to hosting this event again in 2020. Save the date — May 28 through May 31, 2020! Hope to see you there! See our website at <https://www.rrandgc.com/index.php/cowboy-shooting-discipline> for scores and information.

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NORTH MOUNTAIN SHOOT OUT XX PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

BY BLACK HILLS BARB (SASS
#34171)

Cowboys and Cowgirls from 13 states and Canada gathered together over Memorial Day weekend to compete in the twentieth annual North Mountain Shoot Out. For the past several years the organizers of this match have chosen to honor the veterans in our ranks as well as recognize the works of celebrities who have shown their “patriotic colors.” This year’s theme was centered around the movies of Tom Selleck and featured popular quotes such as “you can’t have no idea how little I care” and “just calm down and we’ll have a more harmonious outcome” as starting lines. There was a bucket shot side match, as well as a “Quigley shot” in the main match.



GERIATRIC KID RECITING RAGGED OLD FLAG.

There have been many jokes about the preponderance of rain in Pennsylvania the past couple of years and this year’s weather seemed to be heading in the same direction. Fortunately, no rain fell during the side matches or main match but it sure did fall overnight and during the awards ceremony. On the other hand, the skies were clear and the temps were comfortably warm throughout the weekend.

Having a range located in the mountains of rural Pennsylvania can present a few challenges but for El Posse Grande, it presents the chance to offer our guests an opportunity to truly get away from it all and witness some beautiful scenery, sunrises, and sunsets. For the small cost of \$10 for the weekend, camping is offered on the club grounds. Space is virtually unlimited. While some campers bring generators, others take advantage of electricity at the trap houses. Still others don’t mind the dry camping, using the club house facilities as necessary.

Twenty-one students and their instructors, Nawlins Kid (SASS





CLEAN MATCH SHOOTERS

#35197) and Loco Poco Lobo (SASS #36108), enjoyed a pizza party during the RO Refresher course on Thursday evening. At the close of side matches on Friday, the ever-popular potluck dinner, with pulled chicken and pulled pork barbecue made by Lily Pad Leadshot (SASS #103237), offered quite the feast. The banquet on Saturday was catered by Brisket County featuring mouth-watering brisket. While at the range, shooters could enjoy the food offered by the concession stand run by the Sullivan County Shooting Sports club. This club

is from the nearby high school where two recent Olympians got their start. The club also provides us with our brass pickers who do an excellent job of not only picking up our brass, but also in assisting shooters to pull their carts up "the hill."

Saturday morning began with our flag ceremony and a guest appearance by Geriatric Kid (SASS #28872), who gave a very moving recitation of Johnny Cash's *Ragged Old Flag*. The color guard, made up of veterans, conducted the flag ceremony and Tom Payne (SASS #13115)



STATE CHAMPIONS JERSEYTOWN KID AND ALAMO



JUNIOR SHOOTERS



TOP GUN JAMES SAMUEL PIKE


played the National Anthem on his harmonica. After a few brief announcements, the shooters broke into posses and the fun began. Six stages were completed on Saturday with the remaining four following on Sunday.

Stages were fun and engaging – easy enough for all but still no “gimmies.” In the end Alamo (SASS #42494) and Jerseytown Kid (SASS #88434) were declared our state champions and James Samuel Pike (SASS #53331) took top gun honors. Sixteen shooters managed to execute a clean match and were the first to receive newly-designed Clean Match dog tags.

There was a nice selection of vendors on hand offering just about anything needed for the well-prepared and well-dressed Cowboy and Cowgirl. Outlaw Bullets brought a trailer full of bullets all the way from Florida. There were other shooting supplies from Americast Bullets and Ammoguy. Clothing was available from Frederick's of Deadwood and Stitches in Time. Jewelry and accessories made from recycled range brass could be had from HVH Designs. Butch McCandles and Buckle Bob always have a wide assortment of leather goods and knives, as well as a variety of handcrafted wood items from benches to gun carts. And shooters could soothe their aching muscles with a chair massage from Cathy Lenhart, LMT.

El Posse Grande extends our thanks to all who joined us for our 16th year hosting the Pennsylvania State Championship Match. We hope to see you as well as many new faces next year.

Please visit our website – www.elpossegrande.com – for complete scores.




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CANADIAN COWBOY AND WILD BUNCH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2019

BY HELENA HANDBASKET, SASS #85280



Reports are coming in from all across the Western Frontier that the Valley Regulators of Courtenay British Columbia put on one heck of a fandango over last Labor Day weekend. Once again, the 2019 SASS Canadian National Championships, as well as the 2019 SASS Canadian Wild Bunch Championships were held at the amazing and world-renowned Boomtown range. For those of you who haven't yet made it to our Vancouver Island range, we're about as far west as you can get before you get your cowboy boots wet in the Pacific Ocean. We have 19 (and counting) dedicated permanent structures, 12 shooting bays, fabulous



TOP CANADIANS VICTORIA DIAMOND AND WHISTLIN WILL

mountain, lake, and forest scenery, and a cozy area for dry RV parking.

Dispatches had been received that a wagon train of SASS shooters in their covered wagons had started the long trek west from Saskatoon, Saskatche-

wan at their annual matches four weeks before the Nationals were to take place. They availed themselves of the opportunity to shoot four two-day matches along the way. Wagon Masters Alberta Annie (SASS #85914) and Southwest Trapper (SASS #82702) from Alberta advised the travelers to be well armed, carry plenty of ammo, and pay particular attention to their haberdashery and any of the local sartorial customs.

Eager shooters started piling into Boomtown early in the last week of August, flying in from as far away as Germany and Ontario and driving from as far away as California. We had a jam-packed schedule lined up over six days and folks wanted to get the show on the road!

Wednesday saw the first five stages of the Wild Bunch match take place under somewhat uncertain skies. That never scared off real Cowboys and Wild Bunch Match Director Whistlin Will (SASS #88382) made sure everyone had a good time. Wild Bunch side matches rounded out the afternoon.

Thursday kept everyone hopping



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with five more Wild Bunch stages, an RO1 course, lots of afternoon Cowboy side matches, a Tex-Mex potluck in the clubhouse, followed by Wild Bunch awards and Wild Bunch side match awards.

Friday was a nice quiet day at the range... NOT! The morning's activities included a Cowboy Clays match on the Fish and Game Sporting Clays trail – possibly the prettiest sporting clays trail you'll ever see. Fabulous views, friendly wildlife, cowboy guns and challenging targets – what's not to like? Then the Ladies Blueberry Tea and swap meet was quickly followed by a Cowboy Warm-up Match to get everybody in the mood for the big match on the weekend. By the time suppertime rolled around, the hungry crowd was in the mood for cook-your-own Steak Night – rib eyes accompanied by just-picked local corn on the cob.

Twelve action-packed main-match stages over the next two days meant lots of smoke and noise, shootin' and talkin', fancy footwork and fancy clothing, but mostly, a lot of fun. Match Director High Country Amigo (SASS #49198) had assembled a well-oiled team who worked tirelessly to make sure the whole event ran seamlessly. Territorial Governor Kananaskis Kid (SASS #62402) wrote a fascinating set of stages which reflected the "Western Movies shot in Canada" theme. Did you know *Little Big Man*, *Legends of the Fall*, *Monte Walsh*, *Unforgiven*, and *Open Range* (and countless others) were

all filmed in Canada?

We had a dedicated shuttle hauling weary Cowboys and Cowgirls and their gun carts back to their RVs as each posse finished shooting for the day. The afternoon Cowboy swap meet was a great place to find new-to-you treasures and to find a new owner for extra gear you didn't need. Our on-site caterer, Pickled Carrot, supplied gourmet breakfasts and lunches all weekend.

Saturday evening saw the first of our formal banquets in the big clubhouse by Comox Lake. The view of the lake and glacier from the dining room is magnificent and often catches visitors by surprise. We all enjoyed a spectacular buffet dinner of cowboy vittles, kicked up a notch or two and all cooked from scratch. Nobody does bacon-wrapped chicken legs, cedar-planked potatoes, sticky toffee pudding, and loads of side dishes like Pickled Carrot Catering Company! Costume contests included recognition for best Dance-hall Darlin', best Gambler, and No-Account Drifter. Side Match awards were presented, and the eagerly-awaited prize draw followed. Our sponsors and donors were very generous and the prize table was lengthy and spectacular. Lots of very happy cowboys and cowgirls went home with great prizes and big smiles.

Early morning Cowboy Church, led by Preacher Man John (SASS #87098), was a fitting start to the last day of the main match. Six more great stages flew by and before you knew it, the big match was over. The big banquet

Sunday night included more excellent catering and an entertaining cowboy trivia quiz to determine first table at the buffet. Cowboys were hungry so the competition was fierce. The costume promenade and contest was a dazzling spectacle and our visiting non-Cowboy guests were duly impressed.

The final event of the Sunday banquet was, of course, the main-match awards presentation. Our awards this year were very special. One of our shooters, Red Nelson (SASS #99729), is a talented woodworker and hand-made ¾-size wooden cowboy hats for each category's first prize. Match Director High Country Amigo hand-made the second and third-place wooden plaques for each category. These were unique awards that will be treasured.

Top Canadian Man (and Overall) shooter was Whistlin Will. Top Canadian Lady shooter was Victoria Diamond (SASS #60952). One final event was scheduled for Monday morning – the one-on-one match. Whistlin Will took that one too! Congratulations to all the winners! Visit <http://valleyregulators.com> for complete scores.

With that, the RV area started emptying out and Boomtown slowly morphed back into the western town at Courtenay Fish and Game. It's a bit of a tourist attraction around these parts and we get to shoot in it. Come back and join us when you're in the area! You're guaranteed to meet some friendly folks and have a good time. See ya down the road!



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OVERALL WINNERS SUE RENDER AND SANTA FE RIVER STAN WITH MATCH DIRECTOR DOC KEMM.

RAMPAGE AT RIDGEVILLE 2019 SOUTH CAROLINA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP DRAWS SAVVY SHOOTISTS

BY MAT BASTARSON 16116

In late September, the 2019 South Carolina State Championship took place on Palmetto Gun Club's grassy expanse near Charleston, welcoming sweating and smiling shootists from nine states as distant as Washington, Wyoming, and New Jersey to an unseasonably warm event. The heated gunplay erupted on Thursday with side- and warm-up matches plus a four stage Wild Bunch mini-match ramrodded by Cotton Gloves (SASS #15015), who also took WB top shooter honors.

The 10-stage range war on Fri-

day and Saturday was widely praised for its fast, fun and (almost) P-free design. Targets were close and fair sized and arrays were interesting but always shootable. On many stages, the shooter was given options on how to engage the targets. Each stage generated some good "action" without it being a track meet. There were even a few "stand and deliver" stages in the mix. The consensus was, if you had a miss or a "P," well, you earned it!

But what's a cowboy match without socializing? Match Director Doc Kemm (SASS #52557) allotted ample time for a swap meet, visits with vendors, relaxed food truck lunches, and reunions with friends under the big tent. Saturday night's gala was hosted on the terrace of Summerville Country Club and offered *hors d'oeuvres*, dinner, costume contestants in 11 categories, side match award celebrations, and a scholarship raffle. Everyone agreed the food was first rate and there were six revolver drawings for

the match participants. Who doesn't like to win a gun?

The Rampage wrapped up on Sunday with main match award ceremonies under the big tent, followed by an open man-on-man (or in one case, woman-on-man) shoot off. Numbered chips were drawn to determine who would go against whom, so you just never knew against whom you were going to shoot. Overall match winners were Santa Fe River Stan (SASS #36999) and Sue Render (SASS #87925). State champions were Lighthorse Pete (SASS #102402) and Sue Render. Stan shot the fastest stage in the match, with a time of 13.79. He also won the open shoot-off.

About the only complaints heard were about the heat, so next year's Rampage at Ridgeville will be held on the second weekend in November. Should be some cooler fun for one and all. Visit <http://www.palmetto-gunclub.org/cas/> for scores and information. Don't miss it!

REGULATOR RECKONING 2019 TENNESSEE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

BY HT TERRY, SASS #100412

The late summer heat and humidity finally hit the trail to allow typical enjoyable fall weather for the 2019 Tennessee State Match, the Regulator Reckoning, held October 10-12. We had 186 Shooters vying for top honors.

Thursday started off with registration and assorted side matches – speed rifle, cut-the-rope, etc., plus Josey Wales and Wild Bunch side matches. The Pink Cowboy, Randy Saint Eagle (SASS #64903) himself also rode in to rustle up... er, I mean raise funds for cancer! Proud to say \$4,400 was raised.

To bring a little interest and additional challenge this year, the match was 12 stages. They were The Dance Hall, Death Valley, The Trestle, The Livery Stable, The KO Corral, The Mine Shaft, The Fort, Jersey Lilly's, The Cantina, Wells Fargo, Grafton's and the Gallows.

The award dinner was again catered by The Bell Buckle Café, and better food is pretty hard to come by – in true southern style. Whiskey Hayes (SASS #41999) was the host for the evening, assisted by Papa Dave (SASS #17266)



CLEAN MATCH SHOOTERS

and Randy Saint Eagle. Kicking off the awards was naming Tennessee Tombstone (SASS #34723) as the Jedi Gunfighter of the Year.

The 2019 Tennessee State Champions are mother and son Dew R Dye (SASS #59089) and Mr. Black (84716). The top overall shooters are Missouri Lefty (SASS #91721) and Dew R Dye. See www.wartraceregulators.com for complete scores.

Plans are already underway for the 2020 Regulator Reckoning taking place October 8-10, 2020. Hope y'all can come and join us.



THREE GENERATIONS OF REGULATORS — GREY HORSE (SASS #62802), TN MISSY (SASS #101059), DOC KAY B. MAY (SASS #99049), AND GUNBUTCHER (SASS #99048).



TENNESSEE STATE CHAMPIONS MR. BLACK AND DEW R DYE



TOP OVERALL SHOOTERS MISSOURI LEFTY AND DEW R DYE



EVEN SANTA ATTENDED OUR AWARDS DINNER THIS YEAR — CHICKAMAUGA SLIM (SASS #81853).



WISCONSIN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FIRE IN THE HILLS 2019

BY WILD ANNIE O SASS # 84235

The rolling hills outside Connorsville, WI are home to the Wisconsin Old West Shootists range and the 2019 Wisconsin State Championship. Unlike many other state championships, the Wisconsin event rotates among three clubs – the Wisconsin Old West Shootists, Western Wisconsin Wild Bunch, and the Rock River Regulators, with the date of the match changing in accordance with each club's annual three-day match. (Fire in the Hills on the fourth weekend in August, Fandanggo on the second weekend in October, and Reckoning on the Rock on the first weekend in June.)

After several years of rough weather, Fire in the Hills 2019 couldn't have been more beautiful with sunshine and highs in the 70s. The three-day event kicked off on Friday with an RO1 class bright and early. The class was scheduled so attendants could take the class and still participate in all the side matches, which included a three-stage Wild Bunch mini-match, speed rifle, pistol, and shotgun, and a timed string-cutting contest where the shooter to cut the most strings the fastest won a basket of cheese and summer sausage. The saloon played host to a blind poker shoot where participants fired five shots at the back of a target containing 52 cards; after turning them over the winner was the person with the best hand. There was also a new "declare it" stage. Shooters could practice the stage as many times as they liked and when they were ready they would declare in what time they would shoot the stage. The person whose time was closest to the declared time without going over was the winner. This year's Fire in the Hills also had three team side matches – a Wild Bunch Team shoot, a 2"x4" shoot, and a relay match. For the 2"x4" shoot, teams of up to four participants shot together to cut off a 14-inch length of 2"x4". The winning team completed the task in only 9.97 seconds. Shooters participating in the relay match put their name in a hat and teams of three were



drawn. Each team then decided which shooter would shoot the rifle, pistols, or shotgun. All shooters began in the same place and at the beep, the first shooter carried a horseshoe baton to the firing line, shot their assigned gun, and carried the baton back to the next teammate. The team with the fastest time took home the trophy. A free-will donation bake sale was also available on Friday with the money donated going towards the SASS Scholarship Fund. More than \$250 was raised. Friday wrapped up with the Wisconsin Old West Shootists' annual potluck Cowboy cookout.

This year's theme was a story created by match directors Lucky Leslie (SASS #66961) and Wild Annie O. In it, a gang of women masquerading as a temperance league were wreaking havoc around the town. The gang, as well as the other characters in the story, were inspired by some of the shooters who attended Fire in the Hills 2019. Saturday morning shooters gathered at the train station of the old west town built into the valley. After a short safety meeting, local announcements, and a group picture at the jail, shooters blazed through six stages, breaking after four stages for lunch provided by Diamond Doreen (SASS #50438).

Saturday night banquet on the range consisted of sliced smoked turkey, smoked beef brisket, and all the fixings (mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner

rolls, etc.) provided by Chuck Wagon Catering. Awards for the side match winners were presented after the meal.

Cowboy Church was held in the food tent on Sunday morning followed by an honor guard at boot hill. Four stages were completed followed by a grilled garlic herb pork chop and baked potato lunch, and award ceremony. A case of AA shotgun shells was presented to the middle of the pack shooter, Colonel Carbine (SASS #95333). Spirit of the Game awards were presented to a member of each posse — CC Gunner (SASS #100836), Gus Gustafsson (SASS #84877), Nubb (SASS #84635), Front Page (SASS #10395), Marshal Fire (SASS #10064), and Rock River Ted (SASS #34156). Awards were handed out to every shooter, with plaques going to first through third place in each category. State champions in each category were recognized with a special state champ tag affixed to their award.

Congratulations to all of our winners. We would like to thank all of the Cowboys and Cowgirls who attended and hope to see everyone for Fire in the Hills 2020 (August 21-23, 2020).

Overall Winners: Gunslinger Grace (SASS #81768) & Wolf Gang (SASS #49977)

Wisconsin State Champions — Gabby G (SASS #100837) and Wolf Gang.

Visit www.wowsinc.org for a complete list of winners.





SOUTHERN MISSOURI RANGERS' SIXTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S WILD WEST SHOOTOUT

BY JODI COYOTE, SASS #105395
— OKLAHOMA TERRITORIAL MARSHAL, ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTHERN MISSOURI RANGERS

On the morning of June 15, 2019, you could see the storm clouds off in the distance threatening a torrential downpour over the Outlaw Range located just six miles South of Marshfield, Missouri. As Mother Nature teased us into the morning, the Southern Missouri Rangers welcomed thirty-three ladies to the Sixth Annual Women's Wild West Shootout.

As a first timer at the Women's Wild West Shootout, being a little nervous is to be expected. The Southern Missouri Rangers had this way of making everyone feel at ease with their welcoming smiles and open arms. It was as if we had been friends all our lives. At check in, every woman received a sandalwood fan as a token of appreciation and a souvenir to remember her day by.

The sun continued to work its way out of the clouds and over all the

tall luscious green trees surrounding the range. While waiting for the safety meeting to begin, a few of us took the opportunity to walk the thick grassy thoroughfare and visit each of the stages, taking note of the attention to detail the Southern Missouri Rangers took to make this day a success, from the freshly-cut grass and pruning of each stage to the delicate flowers painted on each of the targets.

At Maggie's Place, shooter started at a Texas low surrender and said, "I keep my customers close and my guns closer." At the beep with ten revolver holstered, ten rifle staged, and four-plus shotgun on table, shooter began with two identical Nevada sweeps on three pistol targets. Moving swiftly to their rifle, shooter double-tapped three round targets and then double-tapped two longhorns. Grabbing for their shotgun, shooter was



to knock down two Saguaro cactuses and then place two shots on a spinner. The Southern Missouri Rangers wrote a Derringer bonus into this stage. For ladies who did not have a Derringer, ChaChing (SASS #89633) donated the use of hers and allowed any ladies wishing to add this bonus in to do so. Some of the ladies knew before the beep they were all in and would be reaching for the Derringer, while others didn't make that decision until the last shot of their shotgun went off. With a handful of us never firing a derringer before, Ozark Shark (SASS #96671) took us to a loading table and allowed us to handle and dry fire one before the stage started.

At Miss Cha Ching's Skool, an institution that "specializes in wayward cowboys, cowgirls, and unaccompanied celestials," leaning on the door-frame with their arms crossed, shooter yelled, "Deal me in, boys!" and at the beep snatched up their firearms to stand and deliver ten revolver, ten rifle, and four plus shotgun.

The Southern Missouri Rangers scheduled teatime half-way through the morning. This welcome break in the day gave the ladies a moment to prepare for the final two stages while allowing others a quick trip to the "Cowgirls and Soiled Doves ONLY" room.

One of the most memorable stages was the life-size stagecoach the Southern Missouri Rangers built. Large enough that the shooter starts inside the coach in a seated position, shooter shouted out, "Stop this stagecoach or I'll fill ya full of lead!" At the beep, shooter stood up, plucking their rifle off the windowsill, and fired off ten rounds downrange at three targets. Shooter transitioned into their shotgun for three-plus rounds and finished the stage off with their pistols in a continuous Nevada sweep.

Overall Ladies winner went to Lady Senior Gunfighter Catoosa Red (SASS #57246). Ladies Senior went to Della (SASS #102561). Ladies Frontier Cartridge went to MoBetta (SASS #98793). Lady Wrangler went to Cheeka Bow Wow (SASS #88699). Lady Silver Senior Gunfighter went to Buckshot Baby (SASS #69583). Lady B-Western went to K-Lyn Wolff (SASS #103225). Cowgirl went to Jodi Coyote (SASS #105395). Grande Dame winner went to Ozark Annie (SASS #87094). Lady Gunfighter went to Velvet Glove (SASS #50276). Lady 49'er went to Ozark Belle (SASS #96748). Cattle Baroness went to Arkansas Bell (SASS #47179). Lady Silver Senior went to Boston Rose (SASS #23293). Black Powder Ladies Frontier Cartridge Duelist went to S.M.ALL (SASS #44878). Buckarette went to new first-time competitor Sassy Lil Sag (SASS #109222).

The Spirit of the Game went to Sassy Lil Sag and Clear Creek Kiki (SASS #108081).

A round of applause goes out to all the Cowboy escorts who came out to the match to run the posses, the timers, be a counter, reset targets, pick brass, and score. A big thank you goes out to the participants, families, and friends for your support and encouragement at the Women's Wild West Shootout.

Thank you to Jodi Coyote for this article. The Southern Missouri Rangers look forward to welcoming her and all the cowgirls to the 2020 Women's Wild West Shootout, June 20, 2020. Visit www.so-mo-rangers.com for information.




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WILD BUNCH

MAYHEM AT MONTICELLO 2019 KANSAS STATE WILD BUNCH CHAMPIONSHIP

BY HIGH PLAINS HUD, SASS
#64232

August 31 – September 1. Monticello Township, Kansas is located in the suburbs of Kansas City, on the Kansas side. Nestled down in a hillside sits a quiet little town with a graveyard, jail, bank, saloon, drovers store, corral, and feed store. These are all large permanent fronts with boardwalks, all under roof with ample parking very close to the stages. Asa Smith (SASS #40835), Zeke Proctor (SASS #98831), and Jimmy Reno (SASS #90736) work hard at keeping the place cleaned up and ready to go. As you come down the big hill and see the large overhead Powder Creek Cowboys sign you cannot help but get a smile on your face. Then, after you go through the gate and look to the left, you step back in time. It all started Friday afternoon with our Wild Bunch ambassador Elwood James (SASS #99238) or “EJ” coming from Oklahoma to give the Wild Bunch RO course to nine shooters. It was great to see so many interested folks sign up. Very knowledgeable and will-



ing to go an extra mile about anything Wild Bunch. Would not mind a class on how to shoot it from him either! WOW! But back to the range. After weather reports of more rain for Saturday, I pleaded and begged with the man upstairs, and *voilla!* Saturday morning came in with perfect weather. Thank you God. And it stayed perfect all weekend. There was plenty of sandwiches, snacks, drinks, fruit, etc., set up buffet style for free grazing! Mattie Mahala West (SASS #99333) came all the way from Alabama to shoot with us — and well, maybe visit her feller, Lawman Doc (SASS #99441), who by the way worked his tail off and did not even shoot.

After the pledge to our American Flag we were off and running. With ten stages total to shoot, six were shot

Saturday so everyone could get home a little early on Sunday. We cleared gophers out of the graveyard and had a few no hit out of season animal targets; helped the Marshal guard the ever-dangerous Dodge City Disorderly (SASS #106433) till he got on the prisoner train to Topeka; and stopped a bank robbery.

The Saloon was very active as usual, with a seven-target badger sweep and then on Sunday a San Juan sweep using the same targets. There were a couple of plate racks used and the ever-loved Texas Star, with Stage 10 using a swinging buffalo. There was even a two-cartridge rifle reload and a shotgun reload. All of the targets for the most part were very hittable, but you had to use the front sight on some if you wanted to be sure. Target sizes ranged from small gophers to train cars. Not a lot of knock down single targets were available but the plate racks and such were used to hopefully make up for it. It was Wild Bunch for sure but not totally hardcore. With a few more single knock downs and a dueling tree, it could be though — so stay tuned.

After all the shooting was over, everyone was plum wore out and ready to get off their feet, eat some pizza, and get to the awards. Out of 29 shooters, Cooncan (SASS #101282) was top Lady Modern. Top Men's Modern went to Elwood James; top Men's Senior Modern to Shoot'n Newton (SASS #6188); and top Men's Traditional to Shady Willie Brown (SASS #77673).



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RED DIRT 2019 OKLAHOMA STATE WILD BUNCH CHAMPIONSHIP

BY DUSTY BODDAMS, SASS #1907

October 4-6, 2019 — Red Dirt was held at a very nice facility well known to Cowboys, as it's the same location that hosts Land Run, the SASS® Southwest Regional and is overseen by the same club, the Oklahoma Territorial Marshals. The large complex features well-laid-out stages and hosting buildings. It's a great property and locations are always a nice addition but what really makes a great match? The people! Hondo Tweed (SASS #99043) is the match director and he, along with an army of volunteers known as the Oklahoma Rough Riders, knows what it takes to succeed. From the moment you set foot on this land you are a welcomed guest.

Friday morning consisted of chronographing, then over to Doughboy — great side match in which a Bolt Action Military Match (BAMM) rifle, a 1911, and a shotgun are used through a course of fire. The twist was rifles were shot from benches and shotguns were used at tossed pigeons. Moving over one berm, shooters were greeted with a Beetle Bailey Jeep, a custom built moving target that travels out on rails for about 65 feet and returns to cover. This was built and designed by an evil genius named Elwood James (SASS #99238), who by the way is a great man and competitor, and also the

Wild Bunch Ambassador for this region. Distance to the target is about 80 yards, where the BAMM rifle engages for five rounds, reloads and fires five on return.

Next Garand Action Military Match (GAMM), using the same moving target for eight rounds out and eight rounds back. We also shot "The mad minute" — as many shots as you can put on two targets in 60 seconds. Exciting? Absolutely! Then over to the canteen where they had a great lunch. After lunch on to PoPgun, a speed match featuring the old Colt 1909 .32/.380, hammerless Savage .32, Walther PPK, etc. Then shotgun with three steel knockdowns launching three birds, and fastest rifle. Saturday morning saw five of the main stages. They were a continuous theme of the movie *The Wild Bunch*, with inspired lines and confirmation that this was designed to be a Wild Bunch shooters match, with tossed pigeons, Texas stars, falling plates, lateral and horizontal movement, 12" plates, 6" plates, in other words, everything WB shooters like! Poses moved at a good pace. Really nice catered sack lunches were brought out with sandwich, chips, condiments, and cookies. Then on to some more really interesting side matches and a tribute side match to Goatneck Clem (SASS #16787) who—in addition to being the WB Ambassador—was also a great shot. This side match consisted of a lollipops rack with 4" targets and a special Texas star with 4" plates, then some "big" 6" plates put out around 22 yards. This would be Goatneck approved for speed and accuracy! A short walk

brought us to the man-on-man, which was a well-run side match pitting shooter against shooter. A fun match that was as much fun to watch as it was to participate.

At the prize table drawings, the first name out won a Remington 1911 and then many more were drawn, all receiving great prizes. Supper, featuring the best-tasting fried chicken ever (with all the trimmings) was brought out in abundance to hungry folks. Evening brought on a screening of *The Wild Bunch*, celebrating the 50-year anniversary of that inspiring movie.

Sunday morning began five more great stages, again with well-thought-out target placement and good solid stage writing. Stage 10 featured five rifle. After that, the competitor had to run into a mine, retrieve shotgun and engage two plates that threw two birds, move to left and repeat, move down the shaft and repeat, ground shotgun at the end of the shaft and with 1911 engage seven targets with 28 rounds. Talk about fun!

So, the match ended and the fajita party began. Yes, another great feed! Fajitas with all the trimmings. Then the awards ceremony, where it was determined that this was the best Oklahoma State Championship held to date. If you like shooting with fun folks, great food and a high quality match then you should plan to attend because this great match returns in 2020. Check cowboy.okcgunclub.org for scores and the latest information.

I'm Dusty Boddams and that's the Boddam line.



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GUNS AND GEAR

THE CAPGUN KID RIDES WELL, SORT OF...

BY THE CAPGUN KID, SASS #31398

The last time I dinked around with Dark Side revolvers was when we moved back to Connecticut in 2011 after a five-year residence in Pittsburgh. I had let my Connecticut concealed carry permit expire while living in The Burgh for five years, so bought a couple of Piettas for use in what I thought would be a protracted permit application. Shot 'em twice before the permit came through after I went through the whole process, including the safety course. A couple of Pietta Navy Sheriff Model short-barreled forty fours they were. Not a lot of passion for them and it was so annoying trying to load them in between stages that I also bought a bunch of spare cylinders.

So, I flipped them and went back to the four-inch Uberti's Encks Gun Barn sold me when still living in Pittsburgh. Didn't miss the Piettas at all until after my disability stopped me in my tracks with CAS a couple of years ago. Now, most of my shooting is by myself, sitting at or loading from a bench at the local quiet range here in Myerstown, PA.

I told you that part so I could tell you this — I haven't the vaguest idea why I suddenly wanted another cap and ball. It had been five years since I reloaded more than twenty rounds on my Dillon 550 or made a new gun belt for somebody. You don't have to do a lot of walking or standing when demonstrating 18th Century Shoemaking at an historical site, but even walking out to re-set a shotgun target or working and posing for five stages is beyond my capability. So I really had no use for a percussion revolver other than... well, you know... you've probably been there and done that... I just hadda have one.

YouTube has become an interesting site lately and I jumped into the research — via all those Mike Beliveau videos — before I bought. Give him some credit. He is sincere, and I wish I could swap some coffee with him because he lives



THE CAPGUN KID

here in Pennsylvania not far from me in Newmanstown.

He had two videos in particular where he virtually re-engineered a Pietta Navy and the poor quality of his firearm duplicated what I had to do with mine in 2011. This time, I picked one up from Cabelas and brought it home anticipating a prolonged project before busting a cap. Nope. What a surprise it was when the revolver proved clean, without any burrs, and a smooth action. All I really did was re-shape the backstrap and stocks to fit my hand better, clean off the slot at the face of the hammer that is there to help caps jam, and add a Pennsylvania Rifle front sight to replace the bead.

Since I was not likely to shoot a stage in the upcoming season, I decided to set

this piece up for shooting from a bench. I wanted to build a reloading stand. I suppose I did not really need a reloading stand, but being retired puts enough time in your hands for you to think of stuff like that.

It'd have to be from scraps and spare stuff I had laying around in my combined shoemaking/flintlock rifle making shop. It would be cobbled and designed as I went along so I could load and shoot from a bench. I had a slice of a cow's horn left over from a powder horn project, a gun cart bag I used to use with my old Piettas, and a couple of small leather cups I can't remember making.

I cobbled the base after taking one of my rifle making gouges to hollow out a spot for the butt to fit snugly. Then I



I REPLACED THE BEAD FRONT SIGHT WITH A PENNSYLVANIA RIFLE SIGHT.



I KNOW THIS BAD BOY WILL RING SOME GONGS.



I HALF COCKED THE GUN AND STOOD IT UP ON ITS BUTT TO FIGURE OUT WHERE THE BACKBONE OF THE STAND SHOULD BE.

half cocked the gun and stood it up on its butt to figure out where the backbone of the stand would be. I also chiseled out a small recess for the top of the hammer so the gun would stand straight up. Up at the top of the stand I positioned two ears to hold the octagonal barrel snugly between them. For some unknown reason I remembered one of my old Dark Side parads complaining about stands because the gun was not held in them

securely. I included the pics here in case any of you winter project coyotes want to make a stand.

Once I knew the gun would be secured, I decided to turn this stand into a portable loading bench, so I Crazy Glued the slice of cow horn to hold cap tins, screwed on one of those cups to hold about ten to fifteen rounds and the other cup to hold wads. I even torched the paint off an old mints tin and nailed it to the base for the corn meal filler. A hook for the corn meal dipper, a leather tube I had for the screwdriver, and I was almost there.

The bag I once had on my gun cart now contained the brass powder measure, a chunk of copper tube with a wood handle for leverage when loading the round ball, and the inefficient little loading lever that was mounted on the gun. I like the balance better when that thing is removed after loading up. I mounted the bag at the base of the rear of the stand so it would not be tippy. Then I had the gall to put a leather loop at the top of the stand so I could carry the whole rig around at the range. How lewd...

Now comes it the worst part. Concurrent with my affliction, I can't wear any of those Mattel or John Wayne snug gun belts I crafted in years past. I have to take pressure off my svelt and manly waistline by abandoning a belt and wearing Loose bib front overalls or suspended oversized trousers. That's right... like a sodbuster. I don't wanna talk about it. The good news is, there are rarely any other shooters at my quiet little range in Myerstown to mistake me for a moonshiner.

I told you that part so I could tell you this... When I took the whole rig out to try everything I didn't expect much beyond seeing how the front sight would work. In CAS I pointed at gongs. Here I put some targets out at 25 yards. If anyplace at all, this is where a loading stand shines. It was about 48 degrees on that morning and years in the woods taught me however cold it is, you don't want to be fumbling around digging out gear and such. Loading and managing the firearm proved smooth. In fact, so smooth, were I able to shoot CAS again on the dark side in one of those chilly autumn matches, I'd want a loading stand like this one on my cart.

The new front sight, which would probably have been a distraction in the

point-and-shoot world of the Stage, turned out to be invaluable at 25 yards on a shoot-n-see twelve-inch target. Since these revolvers tend to shoot high, removing the bead and using a higher sight dropped the muzzle. I could also adjust for right and left.

The first six rounds were uniformly low. I filed the sight and put another six on the round target. This was all at 25 yards, so I know this bad boy will ding some gongs if I ever get back to the circuit. Now to make a holster... I gotta make holsters for new guns.

An artist and writer named Stan Lynde captivated me when I was a kid with his series in the comic strips called *Rick O' Shay*. His eye for detail and the spindly nature of his characters had a tremendous appeal. You can still find his work by just doing a search and they are worth a look see and/or purchase. Chalk this up to another hadda have. By now, making a good holster only takes me about an hour and a half if I keep it simple enough. This was simple and as close as I could get to Mr. Lynde's drawings. Although I ain't dead yet, I can see it from here.

I haven't sold my guns or my saddle pal gun cart yet and the goal is to be able to walk far enough to traverse the distances of those great stages at Heluva Rukus in Upstate New York.

Don't shoot yore eye out, kid.



THE HOLSTER IS SIMPLE AND AS CLOSE AS I COULD GET TO STAN LYNDE'S DRAWINGS.

DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR NEW TOOLS, ACCESSORIES, AND... WHATEVER

BY CAPTAIN GEORGE BAYLOR,
SASS #24287 LIFE REGULATOR

SASS® is a haven for special use tools and gadgets. Sometimes they start because someone says, "Wouldn't it be great if someone made..." The ideas for most of the items in this article happened because somebody said that to King Snake (SASS #86830). He is a master machinist and he's self-employed, so he can spend his time on things that would cost a fortune for the prototype in a shop charging by the hour. If you're making a run of 500,000 that's okay, but if your run is 50, or 5, or one... Let's check out some of the results.

'66/'73 rifle Bench Bolt Block (Photos 1 and 2)

Uberti '66s and '73s have an extractor in a slot in the top of the bolt. It is held in place with a cross pin. If you've changed one, you know it's theoretically simple, but simple doesn't necessarily mean easy, especially if you don't do it every day. You just punch out the cross pin, remove the old extractor, insert a new one, and reinsert the cross pin or put in a new one. But the shape of the bolt makes it difficult to secure to do that. New bolts have two cross pins. Uberti eventually utilized an idea several SASS gunsmiths were using and cut a slot for the cartridge support tab on the bottom (they were breaking off in competition). Gawd Awful (SASS #88002) proposed a jig to hold the bolt in place with holes for the pins being removed to fall into. The prototype had one hole. The Brisco Kid (SASS #26032) suggested the second hole for the cartridge stop cross-pin. He also suggested extra clearance on the top of the bolt because the extractor may stick out of the top of the bolt when you get it. Once it's in, you need to shape it to the top of the bolt (\$25).

Percussion Cylinder Bench Block (photos 3 through 6)

Gawd Awful requested this, too.



PHOTO 1 — '66/'73 BOLT BLOCK FOR REPLACING EXTRACTORS AND CARTRIDGE SUPPORT TABS, BY KING SNAKE.



PHOTO 2 — NAKED '66/'73 BOLT BLOCK, BY KING SNAKE.

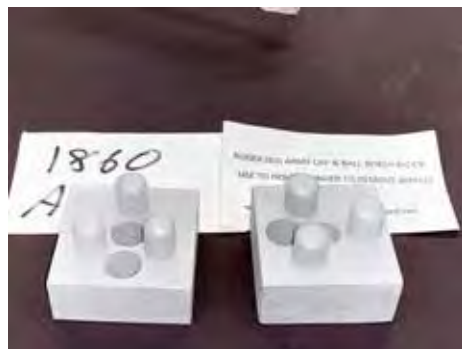


PHOTO 3 — CYLINDER BLOCKS FOR HOLDING PERCUSSION REVOLVER. CYLINDER FOR REMOVING AND REPLACING NIPPLES AND REMOVING STUCK BALLS, BY KINGSNAKE.

Removing percussion pistol nipples for cleaning and replacing is made easier. It also is very helpful if you really screw up and have stuck nipples (more on this below). The other use is getting a ball out of the chamber. If, for example, you fail to put powder in but seat a ball, you have a problem. There are two types of percussion shooters, those who have had stuck balls, and those who will. There are several solutions, some involving necromancy and spells in tongues. One without tongues is to remove the nipple, pour in some penetrating oil, and use an appropriate punch that won't damage the threads to punch out the ball. With this bench block the ball comes out and either falls out or can be easily punched out the bottom of the hole in the block. Available for Ruger OAs and 1860 Armies (\$20).

Drive Deep Socket Nipple Wrench — 1/4" (photos 6 and 7)

Larsen E. Pettifogger (SASS #32933) made several for his friends years ago. I showed mine to King Snake and now he makes them. He mills a slot in a 3/16" deep socket to fit the nipple. A SliX-Shot nipple was used, but the wrench should fit any pistol nipples. The ratcheting wrench not included.

Once upon a time I had 6 stuck nipples in one cylinder (don't ask). I broke every nipple wrench I had. None were made with steel comparable to high quality deep sockets readily available at hardware stores. Today a vise would hold the bench block, and the socket could be used to retrieve the stuck nipple. NOTE: use anti-seize when inserting nipples. Remove, clean, and re-apply anti-seize periodically. I clean with a wire brush after each match, turning the nipples 180° and cleaning the back side, then retighten. This prevents sticking, too (\$10).

Nipple Rack (Photo 8)

Just now someone was flipping through the magazine and this sub heading just caught your eye. Hi. This section is about percussion revolver nipples, the heart of a percussion fire-arm.

The late Catlow (SASS #4697) shot Frontiersman using Ruger Old Armies. He removed all of his revolvers' nipples after each match and cleaned them.



PHOTO 4 — CYLINDER BLOCK WITH RUGER OLD ARMY CYLINDER, BY KING SNAKE.

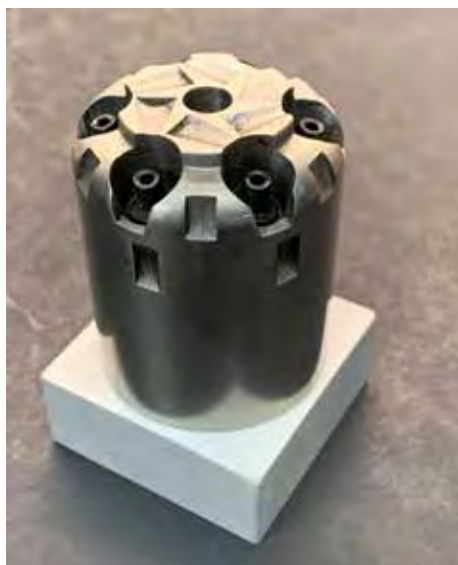


PHOTO 5 — CYLINDER BLOCK WITH COLT 1860 .44 CYLINDER.



PHOTO 6 — CYLINDER BLOCK AND DEEP SOCKET NIPPLE WRENCH, BY KING SNAKE.



PHOTO 7 — 1/4" DRIVE 3/16" DEEP SOCKET CUT TO FIT REVOLVER NIPPLES, BY KING SNAKE.



PHOTO 8 — NIPPLE CLEANING RACK WITH 12 RUGER OLD ARMY NIPPLES FOR EASY CLEANING, BY KINGSNAKE. (THE PINK ONE IS FOR THE EMPTY CHAMBER.)



PHOTO 9 — PVC TOOL STAND FOR DILLON XL650, BY KING SNAKE.



PHOTO 10 — PVC TOOL STAND FOR DILLON XL650 WITH PARTS NEEDED FOR CALIBER CONVERSION, BY KINGSNAKE.



PHOTO 11 — ALUMINUM AND PVC TOOL STAND EXTENSIONS.



PHOTO 12 — ALUMINUM TOOL STAND EXTENSION WITH DILLON TOOL STAND, BY KING SNAKE.



PHOTO 13 — CUSTOM EXPANDER DIE FOR RCBS COWBOY DIES. IF YOUR .38-55 BARREL NEEDS A .380 DIE, FOR EXAMPLE, RCBS DOESN'T MAKE ONE. THESE ARE CUSTOM MADE, SO OTHER DIAMETERS ARE AVAILABLE.



PHOTO 14 — AVOID HEARING, "WHOSE MAG IS THIS?" AT WB MATCHES. HAVE YOUR ALIAS ENGRAVED ON YOUR MAGS.



PHOTO 15 — POWDER INC. CYLINDER LOADER II WITH MATTE BLACK CERAKOTE TO PREVENT RUST AND CORROSION.



PHOTO 16 — POWDER INC. CYLINDER LOADER I WITH MATTE STAINLESS CERAKOTE.

This is tedious. He wanted a rack for them. Now it's easy to wire brush them with a stainless-steel brush. You can also put them in the ultrasonic cleaner (but that won't remove cap residue, you have to brush them). King Snake makes them in three popular threads. The following listing was taken from Track Of The Wolf. Check the actual thread before ordering.

- 12-28 – ROA, Uberti 1851 Navy, Uberti 1860 Army, Uberti 1858 Remington
- 6.75mm – Pietta Remington, Pietta Colt, Pietta Le Mat, Pietta 1858
- 1/4-28 – Uberti Walker, Dragoon (\$10)

Dillon Tool Head Mount Enhancement (photos 9 through 12)

Dillon makes a neat tool head mount for 550/650/750s with holders for locator pins and the shell plate. The idea is you store one caliber's dies installed in the tool head. No more readjusting dies every time you switch calibers. However, you still need to store the other caliber-specific parts. Gawd Awful came up with the idea of an add-on plate, or if you don't have a tool head mount, an enhanced tool head mount with spots for all of the parts (Aluminum \$35 or Gray PVC \$30).

Custom Expander Die inserts for RCBS Cowboy Dies (Photo 13)

To make a long, boring story into a short boring story, I needed a .380 diameter expander die insert for RCBS Cowboy .38-55 dies. RCBS makes .375 and .377. King Snake made one that works very well, almost indistinguishable from the factory one except for the diameter. Of course, he can make other inserts in custom diameters. This fills a very small niche, shooters shooting H & R Handi-Rifles and Buffalo Classics in Plainsman and long range. (Price Varies)

Engraving 1911 magazines (Photo 14)

We drop magazines at speed in Wild Bunch matches, which sometimes means they become orphans. Now that we're putting leather base-pads on the bottom we need to put our aliases on the rear of the magazine. King Snake does a particularly good job at it at reasonable cost (\$3 each – quantity discounts).



PHOTO 17 — ST MACHINING RUGER MAINSPRING COMPRESSOR WITH COMPRESSED RUGER OLD ARMY STRUT AND MAINSPRING. CUSTOM MADE CROSS-PIN NOT INCLUDED.



PHOTO 18 — ST MACHINING RUGER MAINSPRING COMPRESSOR MOUNTED IN A VISE FOR SPRING COMPRESSION. VISE NOT INCLUDED.



PHOTO 19 — ST MACHINING LOADING BLOCK FOR WILD BUNCH, .45 COLT (ALSO AVAILABLE FOR .44 AND .44WCF) AND 12 GAUGE. LEATHER HANGER WITH .45 COLT CASE AND BULLET NOT INCLUDED. I HAVE A .45 COLT SLIDE ON MY SHOTGUN BELT AND HANG THE LOADING BLOCK FROM IT. A POUCH WOULD WORK, TOO.



PHOTO 20 — MERNICKLE CUSTOM HOLSTERS' "NO STRINGS ATTACHED" LEVER WRAP USES SNAPS. REGULAR LACED LEVER WRAPS ARE STILL AVAILABLE. MULTIPLE COLORS ARE AVAILABLE.



PHOTO 21 — MERNICKLE CUSTOM HOLSTERS' "NO STRINGS ATTACHED" LEVER WRAP. INSTALLATION AND REMOVAL COMPARED TO LACED-ON WRAP IS CONSIDERABLY FASTER AND EASIER.



PHOTO 22 — MERNICKLE CUSTOM HOLSTERS' "NO STRINGS ATTACHED" LEVER WRAP ON '73 WITH TEXAS BUTTSTOCK COVER.

Cerakote (Photo 15 and 16)

I shot *Frontiersman* at Winter Range 2019, which was blessed with The Return of Noah's Flood, hail, and 31° F temperatures. My Powder Inc. Percussion Cylinder Loader II came out looking like it had been used in the pouring rain for four days, rusty. King Snake coated it with Cerakote

You've no doubt heard of Cerakote, but you might not have thought of it for this usage. If you haven't, here's a quick introduction. Cerakote is an extremely high-performing coating that's unlike just about anything on the market. It's applied super thin (about 1 mil, or .001") and therefore requires very little material, so it's super lightweight. It's highly abrasion, corrosion, chemical, UV, and temperature resistant.

He applied matte black (no relation) to that loader and stainless to my other loader. After several months of use and abuse I can say it works very well (\$35).

Ruger Mainspring Compressor (Photos 17 and 18)

I asked on Facebook if anyone made a mainspring compressor for Ruger single action revolvers. I had one I got from the late West Fargo (SASS #1910) and wondered if there was a current source. Pinto Annie (SASS #27966) of ST Machining, sent me one Shalako Tucker (SASS #27964) made. If you shoot a Ruger, you need one. A really difficult, tedious chore becomes just a pain with this.

ST Machining Loading Block for Wild Bunch (Photo 19)

You've seen ST Machining Loading Blocks here before (well, you would have if you read this column — as luck would have it, one was in the last *Cowboy Chronicle* — then they surprised me with this). They hold 20 rounds for the loading table and they act as case gauges for size, lack of crimp, split cases, bent rims, and high primers. They have them for all main match ammunition. Now Wild Bunch shooters can use them, in 45/12 gauge, 44/12 gauge, and 44WCF/12 gauge, holding ten cartridges and six 12 gauge shells.

And at the very last minute — A lever wrap with no strings attached (Photos 20, 21, and 22)

Unrelated to this article I ordered a butt stock cover and lever wrap for a new rifle from Mernickle Custom Holsters. In addition to the lace-on wrap they sent a "No Strings Attached" model with three snaps, it has a strip of leather across the inner surface in order to make it fit tighter. In the package with the lace-on wrap were two more strips, one the same size as the lace-on cover the other the same size as the snap on cover. I used that with the snap on cover and it worked. As fitted, the snap on cover fit my hand very well. It is easier to install and remove than the lace-on version. No lacing skills are required. I have the lace-on models on most of my rifles and they work very well. Using a reference too old for many of the readers, "You pay your money, and your take your choice" (\$24.95).

If you have a gadget, etc. that may interest SASS members, talk to me about a test. If it works well, I'll mention it in Dispatches sometime.

Contact Information

King Snake — brucew@commspeed.net, (928) 863-4158, Bruce King Snake Waugh on Facebook.

ST Machining Products at desperadocowboybullets.com

Mernickle Custom Holsters at mernickleholsters.com, 1-800-497-3166.

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CLUB REPORTS

NORTH CAROLINA CLUB PROVIDES SASS EXPERIENCE TO U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS AND ALLIED PARTNERED MILITARY PERSONNEL

The training for U.S. Special Operations and Allied Partnered Military Personnel was fast approaching. This year's organizer for special event activities was faced with the challenge to provide a unique and memorable experience for the participants. He wanted to provide an activity that depicted the true spirit of America, particularly that of the Old West. What better way than cowboys and guns?

He had heard of SASS, an organization that participates in competition shooting using Old West style firearms. He called SASS HQ for information and asked if any club was located near Fort Bragg in NC. They informed him the Cross Creek Cowboys were nearby and have their monthly match in the town of Wagram, NC. He contacted club president Gunrunner Joe (SASS #17093) for information. Gunrunner Joe invited him to a match to see for himself what they do and decide if this might be what he



THE CROSS CREEK COWBOYS

was looking for. Once there, it took less than one stage to convince him this was the activity he wanted the participants to experience. At the end of the match, he explained who he was and why he was there. He asked if anyone would be willing to discuss SASS and provide a short demonstration at the event. Has anyone ever heard of a SASS member "not willing" to help?

The event was held on a Friday in early May 2017 at a large privately-owned range and training complex near Fort Bragg. The site quickly transformed into a scene from the Old West as members arrived dressed in their Cowboy attire. The Cross Creek Cowboys were ready and excited to provide the ultimate SASS experience to the U.S. Special Operations Command and select allied military counterparts from the United Kingdom,

France, Germany, Belgium, Denmark, Israel, Sweden, and Norway.

The day began with a brief overview of the Old West period and an explanation of how western life was during the 1800s. Topics included equipment, firearms, and the cowboy customs as known from historical knowledge of the Old West. Also explained was clothing and how SASS members dress at matches to look authentic. Gunrunner Joe then explained in great detail the purpose of SASS, their use of aliases, the different category selections, and about local and international clubs. He also explained how the footprint for local, state, regional and world level competitions adhere to the principles that make SASS such a unique organization in today's world of competitive shooting.

Next was a SASS competitive shoot-



MS JEWEL



THREE CUT



SANDHILL SLIM



NULL N. VOID



DOC MCCANDLESS



YAVAPAI SCOUT

ing demonstration by two time NC State Champion Three Cut (SASS #58264) and World Champion Silver and Silver Senior Ms. Jewel (SASS #62556). The U.S. and foreign participants were amazed with the speed, accuracy, smooth transitions between guns, and how easily they completed the course of fire. Additional demonstrations were provided by Null N. Void (SASS #79844) and Sandhill Slim (SASS #22998). Doc McCandless (SASS #25723) and Yavapai Scout (SASS #38968) provided demonstrations firing weapons loaded with black powder. All in attendance seemed to enjoy all the smoke and noise.

After the demonstrations, they broke into smaller groups. Each SASS member described their firearms and provided detailed instructions on how they function. Most of the U.S. and allied partic-

ipants were familiar only with modern military firearms. Most had seen Old West firearms only in western movies. They were surprised to hear not all guns used by SASS members are replicas of those used from 1860-1890. They were informed some members who are into authenticity actually shoot original firearms from that time period.

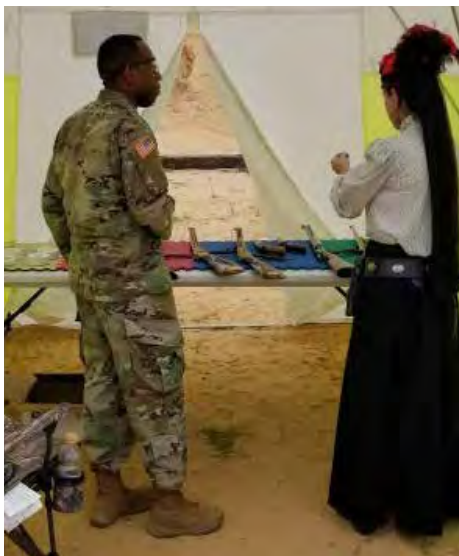
To their amazement, the participants were now invited to shoot the firearms of the Old West. This was something that none of them had ever done before. Weapon handling was conducted under strict supervision of Cross Creek Cowboy members. The allied forces were encouraged to shoot revolvers, rifles and shotguns, including the black powder firearms. Little to no coaxing was needed as each eagerly awaited their turn. Several came back for second and third turns. Gunrunner Joe also gave them an opportunity to shoot his high-powered rifle, often referred to as a "Buffalo Gun."

Phoenix (SASS #87731) invited all to see a display of antique guns, some as old as 100 years. She explained the history of each gun and although all were in working condition would not be fired during this event. They were for display purposes only. Cindy Shaul demonstrated her "shooting expertise" using her camera.

The roughly 40 members from the U.S. Special Operations Command and the Allied Military Counterparts were thrilled to have been given the opportunity to participate in this ultimate SASS experience. This event allowed members of the Cross Creek Cowboys to demonstrate their pride in their country's his-

tory and culture and to demonstrate how fortunate we are as Americans to have the Second Amendment. Evidence of the true Cowboy spirit was seen in the members who volunteered their time and knowledge to show appreciation and support for our military and allied military counterparts. Members of the Cross Creek Cowboys were pleased to have been given the opportunity to provide this once in a lifetime demonstration for service members from the US and other nations.

- For security and personal protection, the names and detailed pictures of U.S. Military and Special Operations personnel as well as the name and location of the complex were intentionally omitted from this article.
- The contents of this article were submitted and approved for publication as following the guidelines set by USASOC Public Affairs.



PHOENIX



GUNRUNNER JOE

GUNS GONE SILENT

BY RANGER SIX, SASS #94237

On 10 August, 2019, the Rocky Mountain Rangers of Noxon, Montana paid tribute to past members and dear friends who have passed on. As part of a grant for range improvement, the RMR board approved a memorial in the form of a kiosk that displays a plaque listing the names and SASS aliases of those who are no longer among us.

The unveiling and dedication ceremony took place following the monthly match. Cactus Ron (SASS #51270) and Idaho Muleskinner (SASS #71249), who each have a former spouse on the plaque, did the unveiling. Fire Opal (SASS #50730) read the poem, *Thinking It Over* by Bruce Kiskaddon as part of the dedication.

The dedication ceremony was concluded with a 21 gun salute then Taps played by Doc Tombstone (SASS #49630). Afterwards folks gathered for refreshments and the sharing of stories and memories of those who have gone on before them.



THOSE HONORED INCLUDE

Charlie Bull — Dan Holstin — SASS #47590
 Mad Millie Black — Rowena Holstin — SASS #51128
 Jackpine — Lee Klawitter — SASS #15671
 I.C. Poorly — Harlan Johnson — SASS #45487
 Banker Barb — Barb Micheau
 R.E. Volver — George Bowman — SASS #76913
 Fairly Reliable Ron — Ron Hunter — SASS #39867
 Galloping Swede — Les Johnson
 Stretch — Ron Bame — SASS #551
 Birta Rose — Judy Taylor — SASS #51957
 Charlie Whiskers — Charles Emanuelson — SASS #84686
 Poverty Bill — Bill Doyle — SASS #45790
 Curly Sue — Sue Atchison — SASS #46667
 Pecos Jack — Jack Newell — SASS #9857

HISTORY

WILLIAM F. "BUFFALO BILL" CODY

BY TUOLUMNE LAWMAN, SASS
#6127 LIFE

The ground trembled from the thundering hooves of the six frantically galloping draft horses. Atop the driver's box, the bearded, dusty teamster furiously whipped the team pulling the Deadwood Stage. Next to him, the lanky "shotgun guard" faced to the rear. He aimed down the gleaming barrel of his trusty 1873 Winchester from under the brim of a ten-gallon sombrero. "Boom, boom, boom," the Winchester belched smoke again and again at the pursuing party of fierce, whooping Indians. Just as it seemed the painted braves would overtake the hapless coach, a loud bugle call pierced the din. A squad of blue-coated troopers on powerful chestnut horses appeared at a full-on gallop. The cavalry had arrived, just in the nick of time. At the head of this relief column was a tall figure with a goatee and steely eyes. He was wearing white buckskins and riding a magnificent white stallion with a flowing mane and long tail. The feathered warriors that weren't gunned down in the army's fusillade turned and fled. As one, the audience rose cheering, stamping their feet, and clapping with a thunderous applause. Buffalo Bill Cody, last of the frontier scouts, prince of the plains, had arrived to save the day.

"Buffalo Bill" Cody was a genuine hero of the American West. Early on, however, he knew the West was changing. Cody loved the West and wanted others to be able to experience it before it was all gone. He attempted to preserve and share his "Wild West" with the entire country and even the world. He did this through his "Wild West Shows." Buffalo Bill did more to propagate the image of the West than at the turn of the century. To understand Buffalo Bill and his Wild West shows, you must consider the times.

Historians like Vincent De Santis tell us in the later part of the nine-



teenth century, America was healing from a bloody civil war. The railroads had just spanned the continent. The cities of the east were overflowing with burgeoning masses. America was undergoing an industrial revolution. Immigrants flowed into the melting pot of North America. The tide of humanity was spreading west from the Mississippi River. Cody knew the West would soon disappear forever. Let us first take a brief look at the man and his own role in the West.

Probably Cody's best biographer was Helen Cody Wetmore, his oldest sister. Buffalo Bill was born William Frederick Cody on February 26, 1845 in Scott County, Iowa. Bill was the fourth born of five girls and three boys in the family of Issac and Mary Cody. Following the death of Bill's older brother Samuel in a horseback riding accident while showing off to the girls at the local school yard in 1852, Issac decided to sell the farm and head for the Gold Rush in California. After encountering broke, disheartened ex-miners returning east on the trail, however, Issac moved the family to Kansas instead.

By the mid-1850s, Kansas and Missouri were hotbeds of pro- and anti-slavery conflict. Bill spent his formative years in this cauldron of violence and intrigue. In 1854, Bill's father was stabbed while giving an anti-slavery speech. He was secretly moved to his brother's house in Ohio to convalesce

and to hide from the pro-slavery faction that was looking to finish him off. During this period, Bill had to step in and become a man before his time. Bill carried messages between Kansas and Ohio for the family and even had to use a double-barreled pistol to stand off a drunken man looking to kill his invalid father. His father never fully recovered and finally died in 1857. Only 12 years old, Bill had to take the part of the man in the family.

In the fall of 1857, Bill took a job on a supply wagon train taking beef to the army units that were forming up to go to Utah and fight the Mormons. It was during this trip that Bill reportedly killed his first man, an Indian in a party attacking the group. At twelve years old, Cody was developing a taste for adventure. In 1860, Cody joined the fledgling Pony Express as a rider taking mail to California. Almost every trip was an adventure or a close scrape of some kind. At his mother's insistence, Cody finally quit and returned home.

In 1861, Cody joined the Union Army as a scout. In 1863 he was assigned as a spy behind Confederate lines. In 1865 when Cody demobilized, he became a stagecoach driver. By 1866, he saved some money, married Louisa Frederici, and opened a boarding house with her in St. Louis, Missouri. Cody tired of the inactivity and rejoined the army as a scout on the frontier. While he used the boarding house as a base, he scouted for George Armstrong Custer



BUFFALO BILL CIRCA 1916.

for several years.

This is the time when America began to expand westward almost exponentially. The Union Pacific Railroad pushed westward from Saint Louis to join the Central Pacific Railroad growing eastward from Sacramento. In 1869, the two railroads met at Promontory Point, Utah. The transcontinental railway was a reality. Railroads were beginning to crisscross the West. The huge construction crews required large amounts of fresh meat as they worked their way across the plains. In 1867, Cody went to work as a meat hunter for the Kansas Pacific Railroad, earning the princely sum of \$500 a month. It was during this period that Cody earned the nick-name "Buffalo Bill Cody." It stemmed from a bet with Billy Comstock in which Cody killed 69 Buffalo in one day, as opposed to Comstock's 43. In that one year, Cody is said to have killed 4,280 buffalo.

In 1869 Cody was again scouting for the Army. During this time, Cody first attained fame when Ed Judson (writing under the pen name of "Ned Buntline") published a dime novel about Cody called *Buffalo Bill, King of the Border Men*. This started a deluge of legends and stories about Cody. He continued his adventures with periods of scouting and buffalo hunting. In 1872, he took the Russian Grand Duke Alexis on a buffalo hunt. Alexis tried to kill

a buffalo with a pistol, and it was only Cody's intervention of handing the Duke Cody's own rifle and getting him within ten feet of the Buffalo, that got Alexis the kill.

In 1872, Cody experienced the stage for the first time. He accompanied Judson (Buntline) to a theatrical adaptation of a Judson Buffalo Bill story in New York. Cody was captivated and soon began his own presentations of *Scouts of the Plains* with fellow legends such as Wild Bill Hickok and Texas Jack Omohundro. It was thoroughly amateur and silly, but was well received. They traveled with *Scouts of the Plains* for several years, playing towns such as Saint Louis, Missouri and Rochester, New York. The play made incredible amounts of money.

De Santis tells us in the 1870s the West began to swell with the flow of humanity coming from the East. The railroads had acquired 130 million acres of public land from the government as they built the transcontinental railroad system. This was sold to settlers to make towns and raise revenues for the railroads. In the last 30 years of the nineteenth century, Americans had spread over 430 million acres. In the short time between 1870 and 1900, agriculture had spread from 89 million acres to 225 million acres cultivated. Gold strikes like the one in Dakota's Black Hills region in 1874/1875 would cause even more people to go west. The Native American population of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains numbered about 250,000 at this time. The Indians resented their displacement by the white tide. They had been warring with the encroaching white settlers all along.

Probably the most publicized battles of the era was the massacre of George Armstrong Custer and 264 men of his 7th Cavalry by Sioux and Cheyenne warriors at The Little Big Horn in May of 1876.

Shortly after the Custer Battle that Cody temporarily left his show and began his last scouting expedition for the Army. During this expedition with Colonel Westly Merritt, Cody and the Cavalry pursued the Sioux in the area of War Bonnet Creek. On July 17, 1876 Cody engaged in one-on-one combat with the Sioux Chief Yellow Hand. When Cody Killed Yellow Hand, he

scalped the chief and is said to have shouted "The first scalp for Custer."

After the expedition Cody returned to the stage. Cody was now 31 years old. On his last expedition with the Cavalry he found the West was changing. Considering the success of dime novels about the West and Cody's stage play, people seemed to be hungry for the West. The play was successful and gave Cody money to buy a palatial estate in Rochester, New York. Cody, however, wanted more. He missed the "old days" and filled up his house with his partners from the past. He knew the West would soon be gone; it was an era drawing to a close. Cody loved the West. He wanted to share that era with everyone through an expanded Wild West Show. He wanted it to create a grand pageant that would bring it alive. Cody's sister, Helen Cody Wetmore, said it best — Cody wanted to present the public with "the actual history of the West, as it was lived for, fought for, died for, by Indians, pioneers, and soldiers."

His first "Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show" would debut in Omaha, Nebraska in 1883. It was an extravaganza of "real" Cowboys, Indians, horses, buffalo, stagecoaches, wagons, teepees, and US Cavalry. The parade of the grand entrance was a spectacle. There were stagecoach robberies, trick riders, Indian battles, and herds of cattle and buffalo pursued around the arena. Between 1883 and 1886, Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show traveled most major cities in the United States.

The timing was perfect. Historians Elen Flexor and Ellen Fitzpatrick tell us about the times. During the last twenty years of the nineteenth century, America was undergoing an industrial revolution. Immigration was swelling the eastern and mid-western cities to overflowing, overtaxing their infrastructures. Settlement houses like Jane Addams "Hull House" sought to improve the plight of the masses. The West probably seemed to be a magic place with clean air, bountiful game, huge mountains, and wild Indians. People by the tens of thousands would flock to see the Wild West Show. This experience was the closest most would ever get to the West. This experience was "The Wild West" to most people.

In March, 1886, Buffalo Bill Cody's



ANNIE OAKLEY ACHIEVED HER OWN NOTORIETY AS A MAJOR DRAW FOR BUFFALO BILL'S WILD WEST SHOW.

Wild West Show made its first trip to Europe. Cody took the whole show, Cowboys, Indians, horses, buffalo, longhorns, stagecoaches, and all on the chartered steamer *State of Nebraska* to England. The show was a tremendous success. The show ran continuously in England for almost a year, closing on May 1, 1887. It entertained Queen Victoria and many of the crown heads of Europe. Cody and the Wild West show returned triumphantly back to the United States.

The show once again toured the major cities of the United States. It was a small village of about 600 hundred Cowboys, Indians, and showmen. It was moved by train and wagon from town to town. In subsequent years, the show took several more trips to Europe. The crowds at the performances were huge. Buffalo Bill Cody and his Wild West Show entertained under varying names until 1913. After about 1903, the show's business did, however, start to decline. Even after it closed down, Cody decided to use the new media of motion pictures to reach people. He formed the "Cody Historical Pictures Company" in 1913, but that was not a success. In the end, Cody toured with the Sells-Floto Circus as a headline attraction. In the end, however, Cody knew the time — his time — had passed.

America was a changing place. The census of 1890 officially stated there was no longer a "frontier line." As nineteenth century historian Frederick Jackson Turner maintained in his *Frontier Thesis* in 1893, there was no more frontier, no more safety valve. The West was gone. Labor and big business were battling each other with heated strikes such as the Pullman and Homestead Steel strikes. Women were fighting the continuing battle for the vote. America was expanding overseas into the Pacific and Asia. Teddy Roosevelt was attacking big business and big trusts. It was a different world. Buffalo Bill Cody's sister, Helen Cody Wetmore, said it all. "The story of the frontier is a tale that is told. The Wild West has vanished like a mist in the sun before the touch of two great magicians of the nineteenth century — steam and electricity."

William Frederick Cody died on January 10, 1917. The Western Historian Denis McLoughlin said the headlines of his death wiped away the usual headlines of the war in Europe. Buffalo Bill Cody was buried at Lookout Mountain, Colorado under a bronze statue of him, atop his horse Buckskin Charlie, depicting him in the prime of his life. He had now faded into the mists of history just as his beloved Wild West had.

There is no way to measure how

many hundreds of thousands, or even how many millions of people Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show touched. For the last fifty years of his life he was a legend, synonymous with the Wild West. Still today, there is probably not a school age child that doesn't at least know something about Buffalo Bill Cody. Even though the legend of his life grew beyond its reality, the real deeds of his life are still truly amazing. He achieved his goal to spread the image of the West, at least as he saw it, to the entire country, and even the entire world. It is likely he reached more people with this image in his 50 years of showmanship than any other single person. While it may not have been historically objective by today's standards, it offered a glimpse of a life and times the spectators would never know first hand.

In my mind's eye, Buffalo Bill still rides across the vast, rolling, trackless grassy plains on Buckskin Charlie. His goatee is protruding from his leathery sun-tanned chin. A broad-brimmed felt sombrero is perched jauntily atop his head of long blonde hair. His fringed buckskins are stained and dusty. And his favorite .50 caliber buffalo rifle is cradled in the crook of his arm as he rides off into the mists of the dim horizon.

Adios, Buffalo Bill!

Author's Note

I have always been fascinated by Buffalo Bill. I grew up in the 1950s thinking of Cody being synonymous with the Old West. My father's mother was a Cody (a cousin of Buffalo Bill) and dad told me of seeing all the old photos and tintypes of Buffalo Bill in his mother's family album when he was a child. It is that fascination that prompted me to write this article.

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TALES OF OLD CALIFORNIA OLD CALIFORNIA – WHERE THE WEST BEGAN PADRES, SOLDADOS, DONS, AND VAQUEROS

BY COL. RICHARD DODGE, SASS #1750

Almost a full century before the American Old West began after the Civil War, Spain began to move toward expansion of her New World empire into one of the most remote parts of New Spain—and the world—at the time, California and the American Southwest. Though New Spain had already existed for almost three centuries since Columbus' voyages, California was its outer fringes and was largely ignored in Mexico City until the Russian settlements in Sitka and their movements south raised an alarm in Madrid and Mexico City.

The Russians' Fort Ross was the final straw and the Spanish government decided to act. Though the areas now known as New Mexico and Arizona had been explored by Coronado and others years before, the Gaspar Portola expedition of 1769 was the first real, official effort to connect with California, 1,500 difficult miles away. With several Franciscan padres under the leadership of Father Junipero Serra, the expedition established a presidio at San Diego and proceeded to build a Mission to begin the Christianizing of the native population, a move deemed necessary to develop and control a useful labor force in order to establish a presence and prevent the Russian expansion.

San Diego was the first of a series of missions the Franciscans established on the 600 mile-long *el camino real* (the king's road—actually nothing more than a narrow bridal path) along the rugged California coast from San Diego to north of San Francisco Bay. It was a massive undertaking by any measure, requiring great endurance and determination, as well as a wide range of expertise in the production of the necessities of life.

The padres and *soldados* were an interesting class of men. Many were actually born of the aristocracy (unfortunately not the first-born) who, in the tradition of the time, inherited the family wealth. Their siblings, unless treated



CALIFORNIO CELEBRANTS AT A CONTRADANZA — AN EXTREMELY POPULAR STYLE OF MUSIC AND DANCE DURING THE 1800S.

generously by the first-born, were left with few choices for a livelihood, among which were the military and the priesthood. Others not of the aristocracy, from the poorer regions of Spain, faced the same bleak future and the same options. The New World beckoned with its fabulous riches and opportunities backed by three centuries of productive plunder.

So they came, these educated and highly motivated men, trained in languages, arts, music, architecture, construction, agriculture, horsemanship. Some were even expert swordsmen. They came with all the skills necessary for building a new society in the wilderness that was California 35 years before Lewis and Clark made their epic journey.

One by one the missions arose, each supposedly a day's ride from the next up that royal pathway. The local Indians were enticed by whatever means were necessary, gentle or otherwise, to join the missions' work forces, to build the missions and provide labor to produce materials necessary for operating them. The padres became all-powerful, a situation described by many travelers. Their iron handed control was to eventually lead to the destruction and abandonment of the mission system, as rancheros gained political and economic power sufficient to overthrow the church's authority.

And the bottom line of all this industry was to develop a source of trade for further enrichment of Spain. This

meant one thing—cattle. The demand for hides and tallow was huge and an immense trade was to be developed.

California was a heaven for cattle raising. The climate was mild year round with limitless fertile and well-watered land. The proximity of the long coastline meant ready access by sea and the native Indians were comparatively unwarlike, except for a few noticeable occasions. So by the turn of the 19th Century, California was "open range" to hundreds of thousands of wild cattle, just as Texas would become. California's "Old West" had begun on the far edge of the Spanish empire.

The padres did their work well and the missions thrived. The California Indians proved apt pupils and skilled craftsmen. The padres taught them Catholic religious music and they became skilled singers and musicians. The padres taught them spinning and construction and metal work and they became tradesmen and artists. The padres, reluctantly, but of necessity, taught them to ride in the Spanish way – it was illegal for any but the aristocracy to ride horses – and they became "vaqueros."

Spain, perhaps more than any European country, counted horsemanship as a high art. Their skill at training the horse has few equals in history and it was taught to the California Indians, who quickly assimilated that skill and applied it to their task. The vaqueros were responsible for the care of those

huge herds of cattle spread over hundreds of thousands of acres and they developed the practices that were adopted by the American cowboy sixty years later in the cattle business of Texas and the Old West. That skill is with us still among many of the riders of California's still existing ranchos.

In 1821, Spain painfully lost her New World Empire to Mexico, just as England lost her New World Empire to the United States forty years earlier. Now California had a new master in Mexico City, a master more concerned with internal issues than caring for far off California. The Mexican government was, however, not content to allow the padres to control the wealth produced in California and sent small parties of settlers into the area, armed with huge land grants, to take the economic reins from the missions, even to the point of seizing them from the church, selling them to private owners and leaving them abandoned to fall into ruin. And to accompany and rule these new settlements came a series of cruel, incompetent and corrupt aristocratic governors.

Over the next 25 years – even beyond to the end of the 1850s – the “Californios” developed a unique culture and society. The wealth was concentrated into the hands of the landowners – “dons” they were called – and the labor force was the already-trained native Indians. One could not wish for a happier existence and the Californios created their own version of the “Old South.” With the cattle business already well established, it was only a matter of time until the power of the padres was broken and the missions were relegated to forgotten status for the next eighty years, magnificent structures declining into tragic ruins.

Feats of horsemanship among the Californios are legendary. First, one must realize there was no such thing as a “gunman” since there were almost no firearms save a few old military muskets and pistols. Every man of the landed gentry, however, did sport a fine Toledo blade on his saddle. Without marauding Indians or outlaws to contend with, the Californios were able to concentrate on refining their mastery of the horse and they proceeded with patience to develop the finest saddle horses in the world. To the American cowboy, the



DON ANTONIO CORONEL AND HIS WIFE, DONA MARIANA

horse usually was considered a tool to be dominated, used, abused, and discarded. To the vaquero, the horse was a partner and a close companion. Training methods were highly sophisticated, gentle, time-consuming and oriented to the horse's aptitude. It was not unusual to take five or six years to completely train the Californio horse and the Californio horse is without equal.

Beginning with the hackamore, the young colt was gently introduced to the saddle and tack and was actually ridden with the hackamore until three or four years old before the introduction of the bit. The Californio delighted in displaying a loose rein while executing the most difficult maneuvers with his mount, needing neither the discipline of the huge spade bit nor the potentially cruel Spanish spurs. Even today it warms the heart of any horse lover to witness the performance of a California-trained horse as it goes through its tasks with no visible cues or audible commands from the rider.

The most extreme sport of the time was capturing one of the huge California grizzlies that inhabited the countryside in great numbers. These were not timid beasts; they were huge, aggressive, dangerous and numerous – the largest species of bears on the North American continent. Horses are by instinct deathly afraid of bears, yet the Californios – to display their superb horsemanship and roping skills – would toss their braided rawhide *reata* loops over the struggling beast's neck and extremities

and drag it back to the hacienda to be matched with one of the rancho's fighting bulls in a gory fight to the death. Part of a horse's training was to position itself so the rider was in both a position to cast his loop and to make a fast get away if the bear charged him.

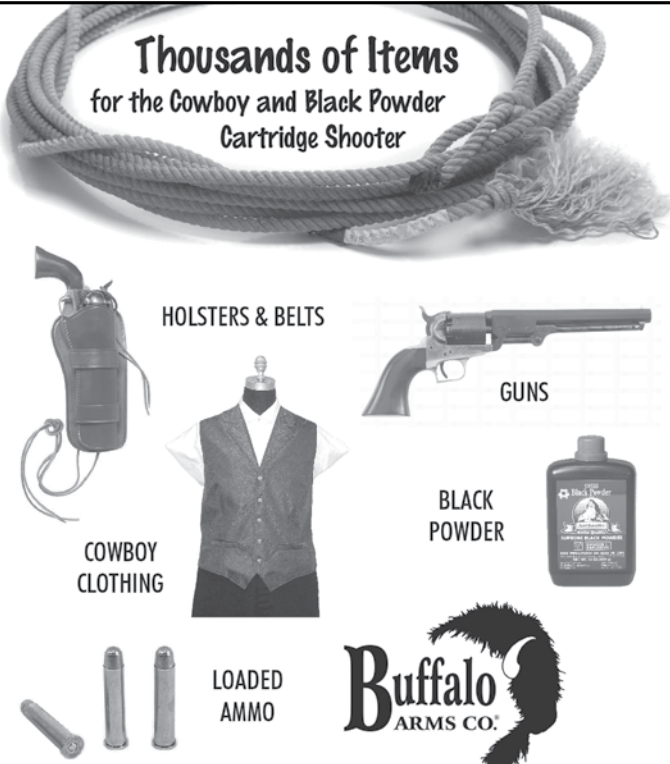
Don Francisco Dana of the Dana family of Santa Maria tells of riding alone into the hills of his father's rancho to collect such a bear, being very cautious not to run into a group of them. He threw his loop on one and proceeded to drag it back to the hacienda. The struggling beast managed to strangle itself on the rope and Dana simply retrieved his loop and went back to find another! And he was not yet twenty years of age at the time.

The Californios led the laid-back, luxurious, and extravagant life of the idle rich, wagering immense sums and even part of their land holdings on a horse race or some other such entertainment and many fortunes were won and lost with great aplomb. But win or lose, lush or flat broke, the Californio maintained an air of absolute aristocratic bearing with all the furnishings of his class. He dressed in a fine brocade vest, a short Spanish-style jacket and knee-length *calzones* of fine silk, later replaced by full-length *calzoneras*, which buttoned up the side and were left unbuttoned below the knee. A colorful sash bound the waist; elaborately tooled or stitched leather *botas* were wrapped around the leg below the knee, with a long knife thrust into the outside of the right *bota*. A flat-crowned Spanish-style hat crowned the ensemble and a Saltillo serape of the finest wool provided protection from the rain and wind. The Californio horseman was a magnificent and colorful sight.

Californio women were dressed in Spanish-style dresses of the finest fabrics, traded from merchant ships fresh from the Orient with silks, velvets, jewelry, and everything a discerning feminine eye could wish. The lovely *senoritas* were the equal of the men in presenting a colorful appearance.

Many “Yanqui” merchants from New England found their way to the Californio paradise and, finding the place more than tolerable, chose to make it home. Imagine a shrewd New England businessman fresh from a New England

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winter, with lucrative business contacts in the east, coming into a place with an established and productive industry, an absolutely wonderful climate, a skilled work force, unlimited potential, and not a soul having the slightest knowledge or inclination to engage in the business of business. All one had to do to hang out his shingle was to become a Mexican citizen by learning Spanish, joining the Catholic church, and taking a Californio bride. Many a colorful story is told of courtships and weddings of lovely Californio señoritas of very tender ages to wealthy, middle-aged, Yanqui merchants. Many of those families live to this day in the same areas settled by their enterprising ancestors.

Life remained thus until the discovery of gold and the impudent invasion by the outside world. The 1850s were a tumultuous decade – a story unto itself. The worst elements of American society flooded the countryside armed to the teeth and very willing to use force to take what they wanted – or to summarily dispose of anyone they wished. It was the time of Joaquin Murietta, Solomon Pico, Jack Powers, Captain Harry Love and the California Rangers, the Los Angeles Rangers, and the San Francisco Vigilantes.

During that time, many Southern Californio ranchers became wealthy selling their cattle to San Francisco merchants to meet the demand for meat by the multiplying hordes of gold seekers. Cattle drives from Southern California followed the *el camino real* 600 miles to San Francisco – far longer than the Texas to Kansas drives twenty years later, but without the hazards of weather and hostile Indians faced by the Texas drovers.

It was not to last, this Californio world; the greed of the invading Americans was as strong and unrelenting there as it had been on the East Coast fifty years earlier and the Great Plains twenty years later. With statehood, actually supported by many Californios, came American courts. One by one, the legality of the old Spanish and Mexican land grants was called into question by squatters and many of the old Californio families were dispossessed of land that had been in their families for decades. By the end of the 1850s, the destruction of the Californios' culture was nearly complete. The huge ranchos were turned into farms and the agriculture, which made California one of the wealthiest places on Earth, replaced the huge cattle herds. By 1860, California's Old West was over, while the American Old West of legend and song had yet to begin.

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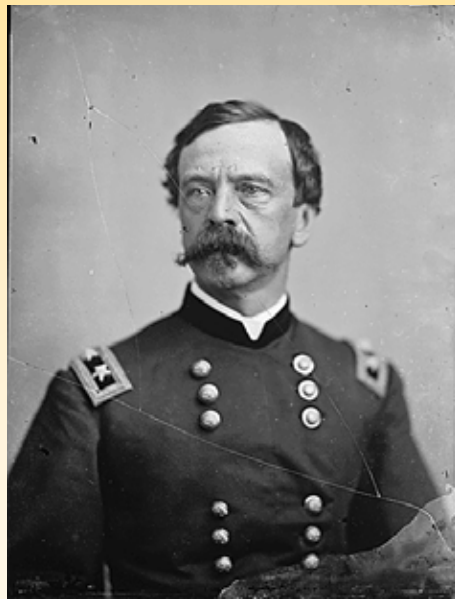
THE RESILIENT DAN SICKLES

BY BIG DAVE, SASS #55632

Union General Daniel Edward Sickles was like a Timex watch — he could take a licking and keep on ticking. He enjoyed a long career in U.S. politics in spite of marrying a fifteen-year-old girl at age thirty-three, shooting a man down in broad daylight, screwing up so badly on the second day of the Battle of Gettysburg he almost cost the Union Army its victory, and losing his leg to a cannon ball. After the war he became U.S. Minister to Spain, where he was rumored to have had an affair with Queen Isabella. Later in life, Sickles was on a commission to establish monuments to New York's Civil War veterans. He used this appointment to embezzle money. Despite the ensuing scandal, he was considered a national hero and was buried at Arlington with full military honors. By that time, Sickles was well into his nineties.

Before the outbreak of the Civil War, Sickles was a member of the New York state legislature. Since he was wealthy and well connected, he managed to weather the scandal of his marriage to fifteen-year-old Teresa Bagioli. (Although it wasn't unusual for people to marry early in those days, fifteen was considered a bit young.) Gossip about the marriage was soon overshadowed by the fact Sickles brought a well-known prostitute to the New York State Senate chamber. He was censured but kept his office. Eventually he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1859, Sickles' personal life spun badly out of control when he discovered his wife was having an affair with a famous Washington, DC district attorney. The attorney, Phillip Barton Key, was the son of Francis Scott Key, who wrote the Star-Spangled Banner. Despite the fact Sickles himself was an enthusiastic adulterer, he became outraged by his wife's transgression. One day Key had the misfortune to be spotted by Sickles on the street. Even though they were about a block from the White House and in broad daylight, Sickles walked up to Key, drew



DAN SICKLES

a revolver and shot Key twice—once in the groin. An hour later, Key died of his wounds. Meanwhile, Sickles had calmly surrendered and confessed to the crime.

That should have ended the story of Dan Sickles but incredibly, it did not. Sickles hired the best attorney money could buy, Edwin Stanton, who later became Lincoln's Secretary of War. Although it must have been daunting to formulate any kind of defense for his client, Stanton was up to the task. Sickles, Stanton argued, had been so distraught at the sight of his wife's despoiler he lost his wits. Because he was "temporarily insane" Sickles could not be held accountable for his actions. The defense worked. Sickles was acquitted and became the first person in the U.S. to successfully use temporary insanity as a legal ploy.

People were further shocked to learn Sickles moved back in with his wife and appeared to be reconciled with her. It was okay to shoot



DAN SICKLES' SHATTERED LEG BONE IS STILL ON DISPLAY AT THE ARMY MEDICAL MUSEUM IN WASHINGTON, DC.

your wife's lover, but not to forgive her. Nevertheless, Sickles continued to serve as a congressman, although he and Theresa weren't invited to many fancy dinner parties.

The Civil War gave Dan Sickles a chance to reinvent himself, this time as a general. It didn't matter he had almost no military training and was inclined to impulsive decisions. What was important was the fact Sickles was a northern Democrat who supported bringing the South back into the Union by force, if necessary. Many northern Democrats felt the Union was not worth fighting for. Sickles was already famous, if not infamous. He was charismatic in the way that only scoundrels can be. President Lincoln figured Sickles, as a general, would be a useful demonstration of unity between Democrats and Lincoln's own Republican Party. Besides, Sickles was an effective recruiter who brought thousands of volunteers to the Union cause.

Prior to the Gettysburg campaign, Sickles was a reasonably competent officer. He didn't make any horrendous mistakes and was popular with his men. Nicknamed "Devil Dan," General Sickles did not attempt to make any lifestyle changes. In fact, he rivaled his friend Joseph Hooker for drinking and obtaining immodest forms of entertainment.

On the second day of the Battle of Gettysburg, Sickles' III Corps was positioned near the Union center. He was supposed to keep his men in line with the rest of the Union forces, which were positioned along Cemetery Ridge and the two hills known as the Round Tops. Disobeying orders, Sickles moved his men about a mile forward to a place known as the Peach Orchard. In his opinion, the Peach Orchard would be easier to defend. The reality of the situation was Sickles' III Corps was dangerously over extended and could be attacked on three sides. When General Meade found out about the move, he was furious, but it was too late to do anything about it. The Confederates were getting ready to attack. Meade gave Sickles a thorough chewing out and rode back to the main Union line.

The III Corps took a pounding but managed to hold on. When it looked

like III Corps might crumble, the First Minnesota brigade was sent in to counterattack. It was essentially a suicide mission. The Minnesotans took more than 80 percent casualties but shored up the line. By that time both sides were exhausted and the second day of the Battle of Gettysburg (July 2, 1863) was a draw.

General Sickles was among the casualties. A cannon ball smashed into his right leg and mangled it so badly it had to be amputated. As he was being carried off toward the field hospital, Sickles joked, encouraged his men, and smoked a cigar. Dan Sickles was a lot of things, but he was no coward.

Although his leg was amputated, Sickles didn't exactly "lose" the limb. In keeping with the morbid tendencies of the time, he had the flesh scraped or boiled off and donated the shattered bone to the Army Medical Museum in Washington, DC. Sickles had a fancy glass display box made for it and presented it to the museum with a proper Victorian calling card. From time to time, Sickles would visit his severed body part. It was pretty weird even for the late 19th century. If you have the inclination and are in Washington, you can see Dan Sickles' leg bone yourself. It's still on display in the medical museum.

Sickles used his recovery time to schmooze it up with powerful politicians in Washington. He made friends with President Lincoln and took every opportunity he could to say unflattering things about General Meade, who had the effrontery to yell at him. Although Sickles never managed to derail Meade's career completely, he tarnished Meade's reputation.

After the Civil War was over, Dan Sickles had a varied and interesting career. The loss of his leg didn't hamper him at all. In 1865, he was appointed commander of the Military District of the Carolinas, where he implemented the government's Reconstruction policies. Four years later, he retired from the military with the rank of major general.

Sickles went on to become a somewhat disreputable U.S. Ambassador to Spain, Chairman of the New York Civil Service Commission, New York City Sheriff, U.S. Congressman for the state of New York, and Chair-

man of the New York State Monuments Commission. He was prominently involved in the preservation of the Gettysburg battlefield, but that also involved a scandal involving vanished funds which probably reappeared in Sickles' bank account.

During his tenure as ambassador to Spain, Sickles supposedly had an affair with Queen Isabela II. Most sources regard this as true. What is undeniable is he married one of her attendants, who was quite a bit younger than he was. (Sickles' first wife, Theresa, had died of tuberculosis in 1867 at the ripe old age of thirty-one.) This second marriage has been described as "stormy." Some of the storminess may be attributed to allegations Sickles used "child virgins for the purpose of prostitution" while he was in Madrid. This may account for the frequent sightings of Dan Sickles' ghost in department stores whenever young women's underwear is 50 percent off. His revenant is accompanied by that of Jeffrey Epstein. The two seem to enjoy "hanging out" together. (I made that up about the ghosts. Please disregard it. This is an otherwise entirely factual article.)

Sickles resigned from his post as ambassador to Spain and wisely chose to live in Paris for five years before returning to the U.S. in 1879. His second wife did not accompany him. The new scandals had died down by then and "Devil Dan" resumed his career as a politician.

To his credit, Sickles became involved in veterans' affairs during the 1880s. He was genuinely concerned with the plight of impoverished Union Army veterans and sought to alleviate their condition. He also wanted to memorialize their valor (as well as his own) during the Civil War. It seems every time he spoke about that battle, he elevated his role to the expense of General Meade. Sickles ingratiated his way into the title of Chairman of the New York Monuments Commission for the Battlefield of Gettysburg until he resigned (amid scandal—what a surprise!) in 1912.

In 1892, Sickles was elected to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. As a Democrat, he rode the coattails of President Grover Cleveland's election in that year. The New York

Times lauded him for serving his country "at a time when most men were willing to retire." Five years later he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor even though his mistake at the Peach Orchard cost thousands of Union casualties. Of course, it wasn't a blunder in Sickles' view—his "blunder" was what we call "fake news" today. It pays to have friends in high places, then as now.

The old scoundrel died in 1914 of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was 94. The last years of his life were not particularly happy. He had been swindled out of much of his fortune by a portrait artist. Given Sickles' grandiose self-image, it isn't surprising he would be vulnerable to that sort of thing.

The timing of Sickles' death was fortuitous for him. Two years before, he'd been involved in his last scandal, the embezzlement of funds intended for Civil War monuments. It was a good time for him to get out of Dodge. Since he had been so prominent in the preservation of the Gettysburg battlefield and had been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, he was buried at Arlington Cemetery with full military honors. He managed to escape the consequences of his actions one last time.

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COWBOY POETRY



GAMBLIN' ALL NIGHT

By Deslaredo, SASS #91085

He was dead on his feet, but alive in his mind.
He'd just shot a cheat, and got back to the grind.
His eyes were red, but his knuckles were white.
So he holstered his gun and kept gamblin' all night.

They dragged out the corpse and brought in a new deck.
The dealer was nervous and a bit of a wreck.
As he laid down the cards with no end in sight.
They smoked and they drank and kept gamblin' all night.

Wild was the Heart set the pace.
The Club and the Spade were both in full flight.
With The King and the Queen they kept gamblin' all night.

The moon shined down on the face of the Jack.
He was holding a hand that was blacker than black.
The chips were rattling and trembling in fright.
But they all hung their heads and kept gamblin' all night.

Through the early hours in the thick smoky haze.
One face stood out with a sinister gaze.
He was loaded and wired as he asked for a light.
As the dealer obliged, they kept gamblin' all night.

The cards were shuffled and the mood was muffled.
As the hands were dealt, feathers were ruffled.
He knew he was in for one helluva fight.
So he asked for two cards and kept gamblin' all night.

When he looked at his hand, it looked pretty rough.
All he could do was put up a bluff.
So he threw all his chips in under the light.
And as all the jaws dropped, he kept gamblin' all night.

Nobody called him, he'd bluffed his way through.
With three little sixes, a four and a two.
So he scooped up the pot as his eyes turned bright.
Then he said, "I must go now, I've been gamblin' all night."

THE GAMBLIN' BOATS OF THE RIVER

By Deslaredo, SASS #91085

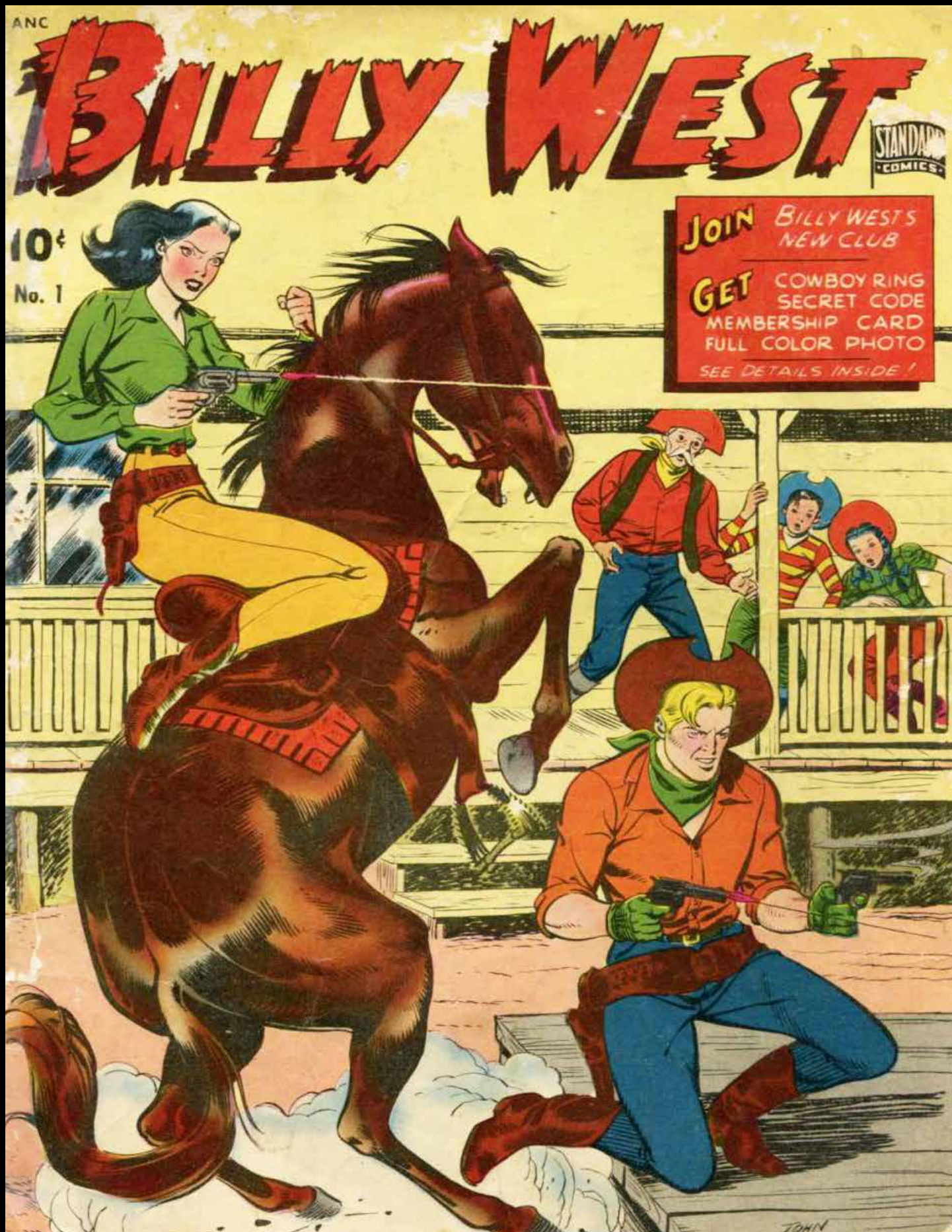
The Lifeblood of Old Mississippi
were The Gamblin' Boats Of The River.
When the paddle steamers churned through the night,
Derringers would click and quiver.
When the cards were sharp and the dice were loaded,
the chips were always down.
The ladies of the night were young and bright,
but the desperate losers wore a frown.

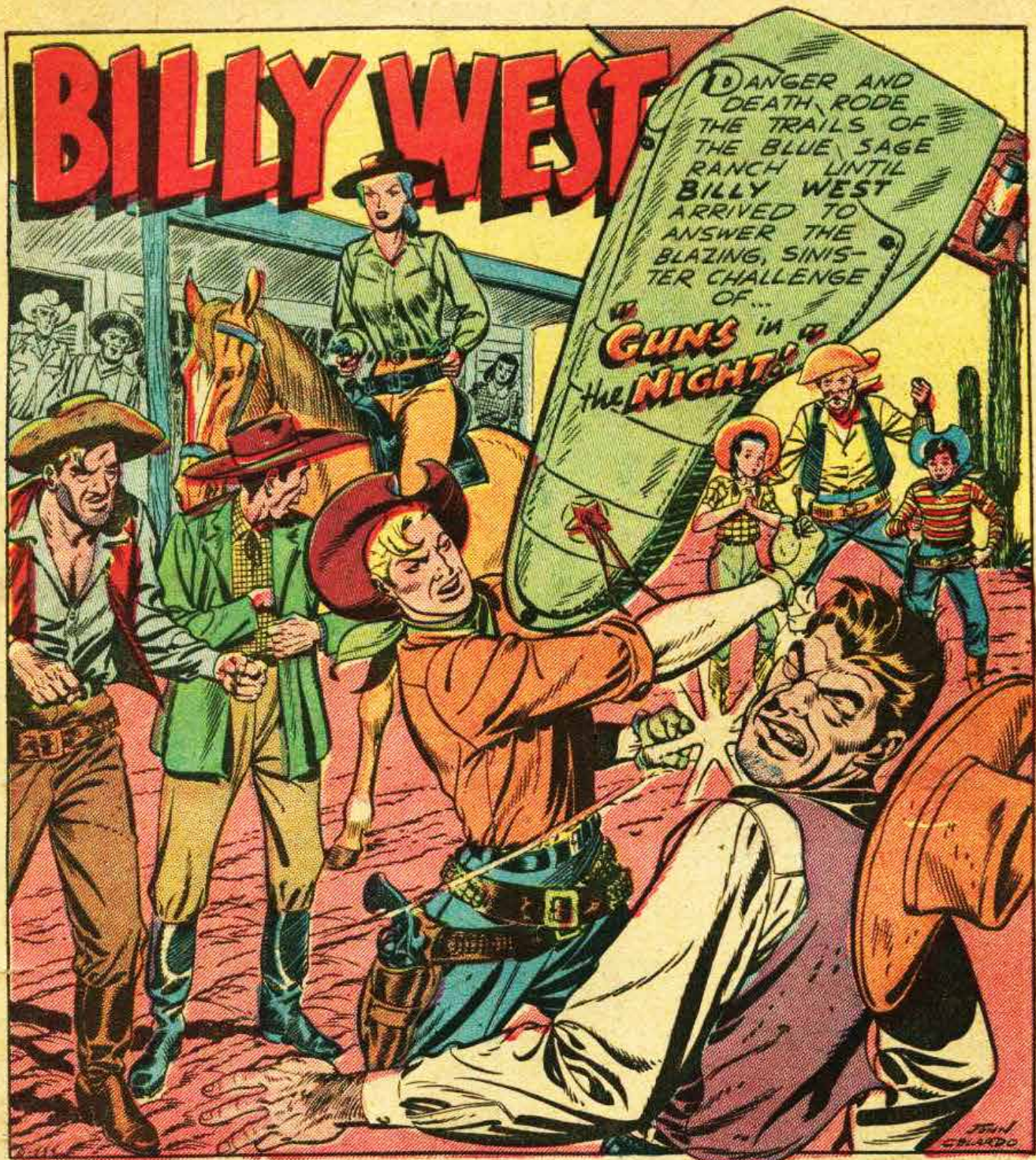
Songs of The South haunted the shadows.
Victorian gowns would swirl.
Well-dressed gentlemen stood their ground,
wearing pistols with handles of pearl.
There were dens of iniquity, smoky and dark.
Bars loaded up with sour mash.
Chandeliers dripping with crystal and gold.
There were tills overflowing with cash.

Down in the boiler room sweaty and hot
worked the crew, swilling moonshine from jars.
Up on the bridge stood the captain alone,
sipping champagne and smoking cigars.
All through the night the steam whistles blew,
raising the dead with a shiver.
And that's how it was a long time ago,
on The Gamblin' Boats of the River.



COMIC BOOK CORNER - BILLY WEST #1 "GUNS IN THE NIGHT"





INSIDE THE STAGE COACH
BOUND FOR LONE CREEK,
WYOMING...

YES, MAM! I'M MIGHTY
GLAD TO BE BACK
HERE AFTER THREE
YEARS AT SCHOOL
IN THE
EAST!

IT'S
NICE
HERE...



IT
SURE
IS!

WHY... THE
COACH... IT'S
STOPPING!



SHOOTING!
IT'S A
HOLD-UP!

MIGHT BE
TROUBLE,
MAM!
GET DOWN
ON THE FLOOR
WITH YOUR
BABY!



BILLY WEST



MEANWHILE, COMING INTO LONE CREEK TO MEET THE STAGE COACH...

RECKON WE'LL BE JUST ABOUT RIGHT TO MEET THE STAGE COACH!

GEE, UNCLE DAN'L... WHAT IF BILLY WEST ISN'T ON IT?



BILLY WROTE ME HE WAS A-COMIN' SNUBBY! AN' HE ALWAYS KEEPS HIS WORD!

AND IS HE **REALLY** HANDSOME, UNCLE DAN'L?

HE SHORE IS, JULIE! YOU'LL BE FALLIN' IN LOVE WITH HIM AFORE YOU KNOW IT!



OH, I DON'T WANT TO FALL IN LOVE WITH BILLY WEST! I WAS THINKING OF MY SISTER, MOLLY...

YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH THINKING, JULIE!



I'M INTERESTED IN BILLY WEST ONLY BECAUSE UNCLE DAN'L TOLD ME HE IS THE BEST FIGHTING MAN IN THE COUNTRY... AND I NEED FIGHTERS TO SAVE THE RANCH! EVER SINCE FATHER WAS KILLED...



DON'T WORRY NONE, MISS MOLLY! THERE'S NEVER LIVED A MAN THET COULD SHOOT FASTER OR STRAIGHTER THAN BILLY WEST!

HE'S MY LAST HOPE, UNCLE DAN'L...



FOR THREE YEARS... EVER SINCE YOU CAME TO WORK FOR ME... YOU'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT NOTHING BUT BILLY WEST! IF HE'S ONLY HALF AS GOOD AS YOU SAY...



BILLY'S TWICE AS GOOD, MISS MOLLY! HE'LL TAKE BULL JASON AND HIS RUSTLERS AND BREAK 'EM INTO LITTLE PIECES... HUH?

THET'S WHAT I CAME OUT HERE TO SEE!







THERE'S YER NEW TWO-GUN KID, MISS MOLLY! HO! HO! HO!



YOU MUST BE MISS MOLLY! UNCLE DAN'L WROTE ME ABOUT YOU!

DON'T MISS MOLLY ME!



THESE RUFFIANS ARE LAUGHING AT ME! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

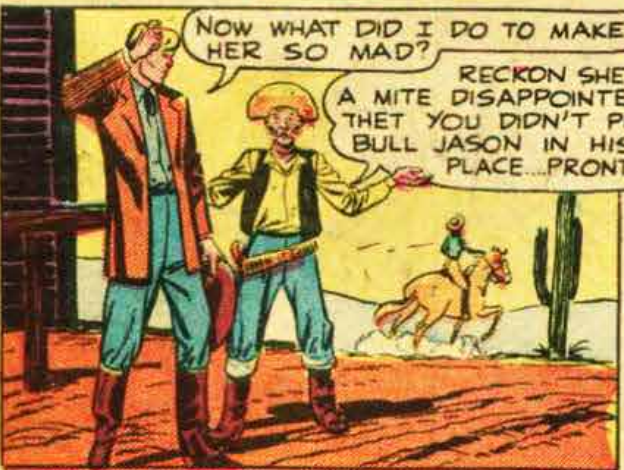


WHY... NOTHING, MISS MOLLY! THEY'RE JUST HAVING A JOKE, I GUESS.

YES! AND YOU'RE THE JOKE!



A LOT OF HELP YOU'RE GOING TO BE! GO BACK EAST WHERE YOU BELONG... BEFORE YOU'RE LAUGHED OUT OF THIS COUNTRY!!



NOW WHAT DID I DO TO MAKE HER SO MAD?

RECKON SHE'S A MITE DISAPPOINTED THET YOU DIDN'T PUT BULL JASON IN HIS PLACE... PRONTO!



YOU BETTER PUT ME WISE TO WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, DAN'L!

NO POINT IN THET, NURSEMAID! YOU AIN'T GONNA BE AROUND LONG!



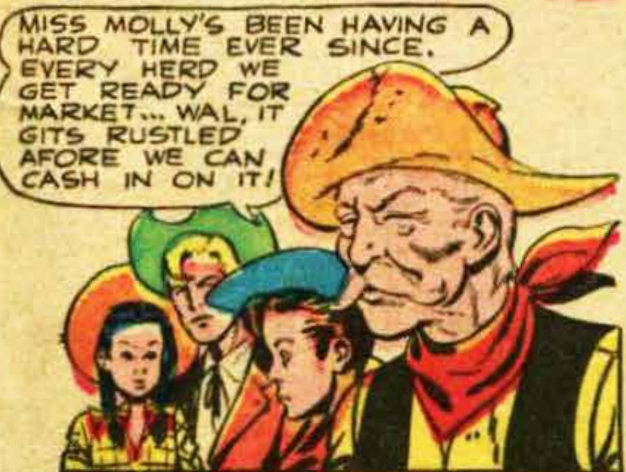
YUH HEARD WHAT MISS MOLLY SAID! GIT ON THET STAGE AND HEAD BACK EAST!

DON'T SEE HOW THAT CONCERNS YOU, MISTER!



I'M A FRIEND OF MISS MOLLY'S! NOW HOP TUH IT... AND TAKE THET OLD FOOL, DAN'L ALONG WITH YUH... OR I'LL GIT ROUGH!

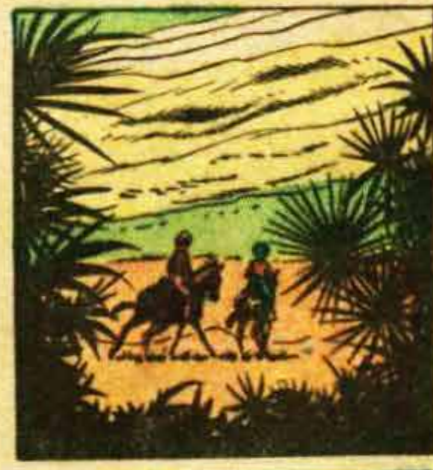




BILLY WEST









BILLY WEST





I BETTER RETREAT TO THE OTHER END... MIGHT HAVE A CHANCE TO GET OUT...



BUT AT THE OTHER END OF THE TUNNEL... A FEAR-MADDENED HORSE STREAKS OUT!



HEY! THIS HYAR IS PETE'S HORSE! SOMETHIN'S HAPPENED TO HIM!

THEY'S SHOOTIN' IN THE TUNNEL!

BANG!
BANG!
BANG!



IT'S A POSSE THET'S TRAILED US! COME A-SHOOTIN', BOYS! WE'LL HOLE 'EM INSIDE THIS HYAR TUNNEL!



BOTH ENDS ARE CLOSED... AND IT LOOKS LIKE I'M TRAPPED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE!



MEANWHILE, AT THE BLUE SAGE RANCH...

I WAS SILLY, SENDING THE CHILDREN TO BED SO EARLY... AND WITHOUT THEIR SUPPERS.



JULIE! SNUBBY! WHERE ARE YOU? THEY... THEY'RE GONE!

BILLY WEST





BILLY WEST

MEANWHILE, DEATH IS DRAWING CLOSER TO BILLY WEST, TRAPPED IN THE UNDERGROUND RIVER!

THEY'RE COMING CLOSER! THEY'LL BE SHOOTING INTO EACH OTHER ANY SECOND NOW... I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY... SOMEHOW...



THE RIVER! IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE!



GOT OUT JUST IN TIME! LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE DOING A RIGHT FINE JOB OF KILLING EACH OTHER OFF!



GOT HIM, BULL! HERE HE ...



WHA ...



HOLD YORE FIRE, MEN! WE BEEN SHOOTING AT EACH OTHER!



BLAST THET BILLY WEST! THEY'S JUST THREE OF US THET AIN'T KILLED OR WOUNDED!

TIME FOR ME TO MOVE ALONG...



BILLY WEST



BILLY WEST

BUT NEARBY, AT BULL JASON'S RANCH-HOUSE...



SNUBBY! QUICK! THE...
THE RUSTLERS ARE
COMING!

DON'T WORRY,
JULIE! I'LL
PROTECT...
WHEEEEEEEEE!
IT'S MOLLY AND
UNCLE DAN'L... AND
OUR BOYS!

JULIE!
SNUBBY!

SHUCKS,
SIS, WHAT'S
THE MATTER?



GEE, THERE WASN'T ANYTHING TO WORRY
ABOUT! AND LOOK... WE GOT DAD'S
LETTER... PROVING THAT
BULL JASON IS A CROOK!



BUT WHERE'S
BILLY WEST?
DIDN'T YOU
COME WITH
HIM?

GEE... NO, SIS!
WE'VE BEEN
LOOKING
FOR HIM!

I NOTICED THE TRAIL OF A HERD COMING
THROUGH UP YONDER! IF BILLY WAS
FOLLOWING THE RUSTLERS... WHY HE
MUST BE HEREABOUTS! MAYBE UP
A PIECE NEAR THE MOUTH OF
THE RIVER...



SEARCH EVERY INCH OF THIS VALLEY! WE'LL
EITHER FIND CATTLE...
OR BILLY!



THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T
CARE IF HE GOT LOST
FOREVER!

I... I OWE HIM AN
APOLOGY... FOR THINKING
HE TOOK JULIE AND
SNUBBY WITH HIM...



ALL RIGHT, BOYS! SCATTER 'ROUND AN'
MEET AT THE OTHER END OF THE
VALLEY WHERE THE RIVER GOES
UNDER THE CLIFF!



BILLY WEST



BILLY WEST



FOR THE VERY BEST HEART-WARMING, SPINE-TINGLING ADVENTURES DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE OF

Billy West

29

PRODUCT REVIEWS

GOING BALLISTIC IN ILLINOIS

BY LAWDOG DAGO DOM, SASS #105516

If you find yourself driving down a blacktop county road in Livingston County near the village of Flanagan, you will see farms and fields that could belong anywhere in the Midwest. Livingston County is the fourth largest county, by area, and is historically one of the top five agricultural producing counties in Illinois. It is hands down the number one county for bullet production.

Nestled amongst this agrarian backdrop is the SNS Casting Company that has been cranking out bullets for reloaders since the mid 1980s. Founder/Owner Jim Stinar says SNS means S__t and Shinola, or whatever you want it to mean. Jim's easygoing laid-back demeanor fits this rural setting quite nicely, but that refuses to cut any corners or take any shortcuts on producing perfect bullets.

Jim used to do some truck driving and worked in a factory in the 1980s. Casting bullets then was a hobby. He and his son Ryan gathered used wheel weights to melt down. Jim did not like the bullets that were available at that time. He figured he could build a better bullet at a better price and spent his free time doing just that. Fate was about to hand Jim a bushel of lemons; his temporary lay-off at the factory became permanent. Married with two children, he knew his bullet concept would work. He threw himself full time into bullet production and made the proverbial lemonade.

With his keen eye for detail, shooters and reloaders quickly picked up on the bullet quality and consistency. Orders started out slow, but became larger as word spread. A Cowboy Action Shooter™ himself, Jim placed an ad in *The Cowboy Chronicle*. "When that ad was published," Jim said, "I never looked back." Jim's bullets are 92% lead, 6% antimony, & 2% tin.

Orders poured in. The little "bulletsmith" in Flanagan, Illinois had to shift into high gear. It meant more machines, more space for production and storage (bigger and newer buildings), and more help. Jim knew Cowboys are fiercely loyal to well-made products and would



SHOP DOG BELLA INSISTED ON BEING IN THE PICTURE WITH THE LEAD INGOTS. SHOP DOG WRIGLEY WAS OUT FOLLOWING JIM AROUND.



WHERE THE DILLON DEAL BEGAN. JIM'S PERSONAL RELOADING SETUP.



JIM STINAR WITH HIS LEAD STASH — 88 PALLETS AT 2,000 POUNDS EACH. THEY GO THROUGH 44,000 POUNDS OF LEAD PER MONTH. LAST YEAR THAT TRANSLATED INTO 20 MILLION BULLETS.



BULLET PRODUCTION LINE. ADAM (LEFT) AND SCOTT (RIGHT) ARE LITERALLY ON THEIR TOES TO KEEP THINGS MOVING.



MOLTEN LEAD ON TOP OF MACHINE. LEAD IS HEATED JUST ENOUGH TO MELT, MEANING NO TOXIC LEAD VAPORS AND NO HEALTH ISSUES.



WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD. MOLTEN LEAD ON TOP IS SENT TO MOLDS, SETS, AND INTO THE TRAY FOR SIZING, LUBE, ETC.



HI TEK COATING POWDER FROM AUSTRALIA.



9MM COATED BULLETS READY FOR FINAL INSPECTION AND PACKAGING.



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Peace in the Valley

The SASS North Dakota and South Dakota State Championships
June 18 – 21, 2020

Hosted by
The Sheyenne Valley Peacekeepers
Enderlin, North Dakota

- ◇ SASS Membership Required – All SASS Rules Apply
- ◇ 150 Shooter Limit
- ◇ Pre-registration required – No walk-ins
- ◇ Registration deadline – May 22, 2020 - Early bird registration discount before May 1, 2020
- ◇ Main Match entry fee includes snacks, 2 noon meals and Saturday evening Cowboy BBQ
- ◇ Free dry camping – range open for camping at 5:00 pm, Wednesday, June 17
- ◇ Long range shooting on Thursday and Friday. Distances out to 675 yards.
- ◇ Wild Bunch match Thursday afternoon.
- ◇ Friday Side Matches – Cowboy trap, speed side matches, team shoot & more!
- ◇ Our Junior shooters will provide a noon meal on Friday – free will donation
- ◇ Friday evening Meet and Greet Potluck, movie and popcorn.
- ◇ 10 Main Stages (7-Saturday, 3-Sunday)
- ◇ Saturday evening Cowboy BBQ, side match awards and Bingo.
- ◇ Vendors and Spectators welcome

For more information contact: email sympas@gmail.com or
call Wild River Rose at 701-793-4116

For Registration Forms go to: www.sheyennevalleypeacekeepers.com

Join us at the range to shoot in the shade!

drop you in a heartbeat if they did not feel they were getting a quality product for their hard earned dollars. It is a testimony to his integrity that quality control remained high during those early, frantic months when the orders rushed in.

SNS Bullets is also a featured product in the *Blue Press*, the official publication of Dillon Precision. As a Cowboy Action Shooter™, Jim had owned a Dillon reloader (or two) for years. He called their 800 help line for an issue with his 1050. Mike Clerc of Dillon was telling Jim what parts he would send to get his loader working again and, as the two spoke, and early bullet machine was clanging away in the background. Mike asked what in the world was making that noise? Jim told him he was a bullet maker. Mike asked if he could send Jim a check for 100 rounds to try out. No problem. About a week later, Mike called back. He wanted to know if Jim had gone through dozens of bullets to find 100 perfect ones to send him. Jim said no, those bullets came from the same bin as any other customer. Mike was impressed. He asked Jim if he would talk with their purchasing agent about an order. Within minutes, a huge shipment of SNS Bullets was heading to Arizona. They pretty much have an order sent every month.

Besides Dillon, SNS ships to Brownell's, Black Hills, Fiocchi, and Buffalo Cartridge. Champion shooters Alex Gutt, Shannon Smith, and Elias Frangoulis are SNS fans.

Most of the day-to-day operation is done by Jim's son, Ryan, a USPSA competitor with his dad's trademark keen eye for detail. Coated bullets are alive and well at SNS and father and son beam as they describe their production. "The initial coatings were liquid," said Ryan. "Now we use a powder called "Hi Tek" that is imported from Australia." Jim added, "Because the powder is an imported hazardous material, you have to hire your own U.S. Customs agent for the importing process."

"The powder formula is a proprietary blend just for us," said Ryan. No, I did not try to get them to tell me. I figured even if they did, I would have no idea what they were talking about. High school chemistry was a long time ago, and I'm sure this is a bit beyond that.

SNS triple coats their bullets. "We could probably get by with a double coat, or in some cases, a single coat. I just won't have it," said Jim as Ryan nodded in approval. Coatings are baked on in an oven and then cooled. The biggest error is any moisture left on the bullet between coatings. That ruins it and you have to start all over again. "Every single coated bullet we sell has been handled 31 times by our staff," Jim said. That includes from the original casting to shipping. That is a ton of handling and explains why their products have been incredibly consistent over the years. Five times as much labor goes into coated bullets compared to their standard lead and lube cousins.

In addition to Ryan, Jim's daughter Stacy, her husband Scott, along with good friend Adam King, round out the SNS staff. Scott is a USN veteran and Adam served in the Army. Did not see any Army/Navy joking. They are too busy keeping tabs on the bullet machines. SNS loves to support veterans and first responders. Something they are proud and eager to do.

As I was wrapping up my visit, I asked Jim (who plans on retiring next summer) if there was one thing he wanted the readers to know. "Avoid Titegroup powder. It burns very hot and can burn through the coating and start to melt the bullet." Good tip. SNS can be contacted on line at www.sns casting.com, or give them a call, 815-796-2904.

THE SINGLE ACTION SHOOTING SOCIETY PRESENTS



UTAH STATE – MAY 27TH-30TH, 2020

HOSTED BY BIG SALTY "GHOST TOWN OF THE WEST"

THIS YEAR'S THEME FUN WESTERNS

Must be a SASS member to shoot for Award, all are welcomed. One shooter per Application.
Type or Print legibly!

Alias: _____ SASS#: _____ Free Dry Camping: Yes ☐ No ☐
Name: _____ RO ☐ ROH ☐ RO III ☐ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____ Posse with (if possible) _____
Any Special Request: _____

Check Gender & Category:

MEN ☐ LADIES ☐ Cowboy Match: Must have **minimum of 3 shooters in category** (Exception: 70+ & 16 & below)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buckaroo/Buckarete | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (60+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Duelist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (14-16) | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Senior (65+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Gunfighter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cowboy/Cowgirl (17+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Statesman (70+) | <input type="checkbox"/> El Patron (80+) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wrangler (36+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Dame (70+) | <input type="checkbox"/> La Patroness (80+) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 49er (49+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Baron/Baroness (75+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Requested Category, must have 2 to be honored |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B-Western | <input type="checkbox"/> Classic Cowboy/Cowgirl (open) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cartridge | <input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frontiersman | <input type="checkbox"/> Frontier Cartridge Duelist | Volunteer Posse Marshal Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> |

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Cowboy/Cowgirl Entry	\$110	\$ _____	Raffle Tickets
Cowboy/Significant Other	\$ 90	\$ _____	Amount
Extra Banquet Ticket	\$ 25	\$ _____	
Junior (under 17) FREE-FREE (but must purchase Banquet ticket)			
Buckaroo/Buckarete (under 13) FREE-FREE (but must purchase Banquet ticket)			
Total	\$	\$ _____	

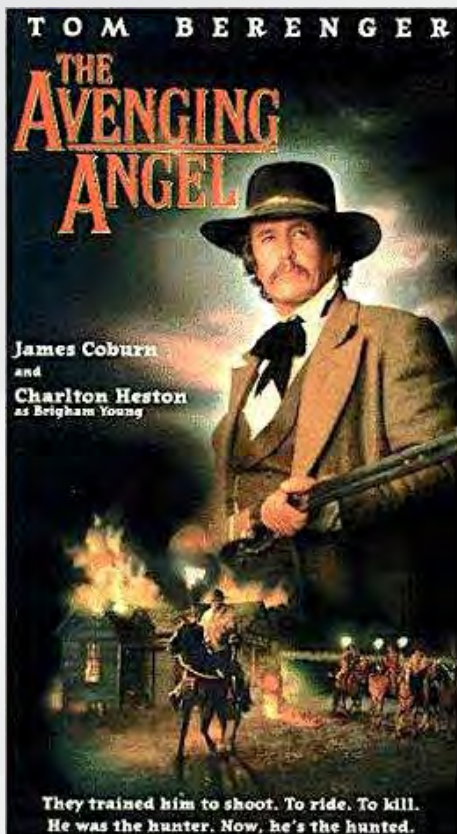
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05 for \$5.00
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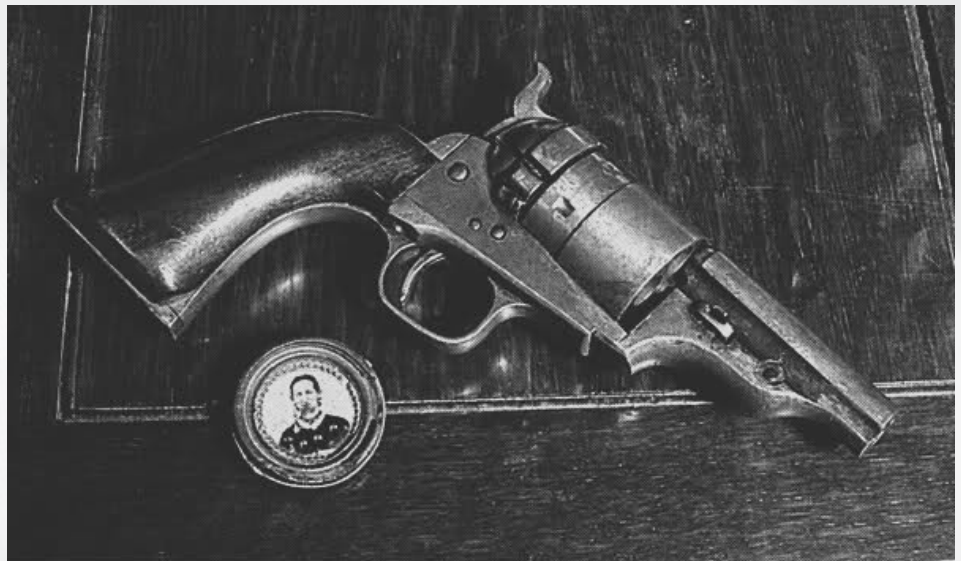
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KIRST KONVERTERS PART III TAYLOR'S PIETTA 1860 "AVENGING ANGEL" SNUB- NOSE .45 COLT KONVERTER PROJECT

BY TUOLUMNE LAWMAN, SASS# 6127

In the 1995 movie *The Avenging Angel*, Tom Berenger portrays Brother Miles Utley, a "Danite" bodyguard for the Mormon leader Brigham Young. Set in 1872 Utah, his job is to protect the "Prophet" (Young) from all enemies. In one of the early scenes in the movie, he follows two potential assassins into the Assembly Hall where Young is at the center of a meeting. While Utley is there, he becomes aware of a third threat, a mysterious caped and hooded figure. As the figure pulls a Remington two-shot .41 Derringer to kill Young, Utley pulls his three inch barreled snub-nosed 1860 Colt .44 revolver from a shoulder holster and kills the would-be assassin. For those who have not seen it, I don't want to be a spoiler. Let me just say Utley and his 1860 Henry rifle singlehandedly confront a dangerous conspiracy against the Prophet Brigham Young and a power



MARSHAL DALLAS STODENMIRE'S AVENGING ANGEL.



COMPONENTS FOR THE PROJECT.

struggle within the Mormon church itself. (The movie is one of my "dozen favorite" Westerns.)

Because of the movie, 2- to 3-inch barreled Colt percussion revolvers have become commonly referred to as "Avenging Angels," after the movie's title. Since I first saw the movie I have had a fascination with these snub-nosed Colts. As I am a fan of percussion revolver cartridge conversion, that is the direction my prior efforts have gone. Marshal Dallas Stoudenmire, after all, often used a .44 caliber, 1860 Colt cartridge conversion with a three-inch barrel. I have had several efforts in that direction through the years, but none I felt was entirely successful. I do feel, however, my latest effort, a Taylor's three-inch barreled .44 caliber snub-nosed 1860 Pietta, with Colt "Thunderer" style bird's head grips and a Kirst .45 Colt/Schofield gated Konverter is the perfect SSAS legal "Avenging

Angel" cartridge revolver.

A Bit of History

From a historical point of view, percussion revolvers, especially Colts, are very important. The Wild West as we know it was a short period of time. The earliest time period considered by most as the "beginning" of the Old West was the California Gold Rush in 1848. More often than not, though, it is thought to be the era from the end of the Civil War continuing until just after the turn of the Century. After 1900, the fences were up, the massive cattle drives were largely a thing of the past, the Native Americans posed little or no threat, and the last of the gangs like the Daltons and Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch disbanded. According to historian Frederick Jackson Turner's *Frontier Thesis* of 1893, the American Frontier was basically closed by 1890. He based this on information



LOADING GATE CHANNEL AFTER WORK WITH THE GRINDER.

gathered from the population density records of the 1890 census.

For the first 25 years of westward expansion, the percussion revolver was the only repeating sidearm available. Even after the advent of cartridge revolvers with the S&W No. 3 American Model in 1869 and the Colt Cartridge conversions in 1871, percussion revolvers were still the primary type of handgun used on the Frontier until the late 1870s. In fact, they were still very common throughout the West well into the 1880s. Of the 50-plus years of the Old West, more than two thirds was dominated by the percussion revolver. These percussion revolvers were primarily Colts.

Both during the Civil War in the east and the subsequent westward migration of displaced and disenchanted souls, the Colt 1851 Navy and 1860 Army were the favorites of soldiers, cowboys, lawmen, and badmen alike. Until 1878 when Colt introduced their 1873 "Frontier Six Shooter" in .44 WCF (.44-40), the term "Colt's .44 revolver" meant either a .44 1860 Army percussion revolver, a cartridge conversion of the 1860, or an 1871/1872 .44 Rimfire "Open Top" revolver. During the majority of the pre-Custer Indian/Cavalry conflicts, the .44 Colt 1860 Army model was the revolver used by both sides. Outlaws like Sam Bass and John Wesley Hardin favored the 1860 Colt Army for shootist work.

Starting in the late 1850s, Smith and

Wesson rim-fire revolvers were the only production handguns using self-contained metallic cartridges. Smith and Wesson held the rights to Rollin White's patent on "bored through revolver cylinders." Just prior to the Civil War, S&W began to produce their No. 1, No. 1½, and No. 2 revolvers. They were .22 and .32 caliber rim fires that loaded by tipping the barrel up. Though popular, they were rather anemic in the "fight stopping" power department. Their lack of stopping power caused the .36 and .44 caliber percussion revolvers to remain the "go-to" revolvers for serious stopping power and conflict resolution. It was natural, with the advent of metallic cartridges, that Colt revolvers would be eventually converted to fire them.

With the expiration of the Rollin White Patent for bored through cylinders in 1871, Colt, Remington, and others began making metallic cartridge revolvers. The Colt factory produced the most cartridge conversions. These were Richards and Richards-Mason models using ".44 Martin" centerfire cartridges. There were also many private "long cylinder" and "mystery" conversions that were done by gunsmiths in .44 Henry and other assorted calibers. Even the government's own Springfield Armory experimented with a two-piece conversion cylinder for the 1860 Army that was very similar to the modern R&D cylinder and the period two-piece conversion cylinders were widely used in Remington percus-

sion revolvers of all calibers.

Frontier modification of all makes of percussion revolvers, turning them into snub-nosed "belly guns," was also very common. Many gunsmiths in the Old West cut down full-sized Colts and Remingtons to short barreled revolvers for those who desired a concealable weapon more powerful than a typical .31 or .32 caliber pocket pistol.

Taylor's Pietta 1860 .44 With Three-Inch Barrele Snub-Nose

One of the leading manufacturers of replica 1860 Army revolvers is Pietta in Italy. Tammy Loy at Taylor's & Co. is one of the primary importers of Pietta firearms, including a wide selection of 1860 revolver replicas. The standard eight-inch barreled 1860 retails for a little over \$300. The Thunderer three-inch barreled snub-nosed model I obtained is about \$60 more, but well worth it. Considering they are not required to be shipped through an FFL, that makes them a doubly good buy! The Pietta sidearm is different from the standard "Avenging Angel" snub-nose though, as it has a bird's head grip instead of the standard Army grip seen in the movie.

I was very pleased with the Taylor's Pietta 1860 Thunderer I received. It comes with a fluted cylinder instead of the smooth cylinders of the eight-inch barreled 1860s. Aside from the fluted cylinder and the shortened barrel assembly (sans loading lever group), the main distinguishing feature is Pietta's use of the humped back strap and "birds head" grip of the 1878 Colt Thunderer and Lightning double action revolvers. It has gorgeous checkered, one-piece walnut grips, that seem to just sink into the palm of your hand perfectly. Uberti was the first modern manufacturer to offer these style grips on replica revolvers on their mid-2000s vintage "Thunderer" model 1873 single actions with 3.5- and 4-inch barrels. In my opinion, these bird's head Thunderer style grips are possibly the "coolist" of all single action grips. The Taylor's Pietta snub-nose can be had from other suppliers with a different birds head grip that does not have the humped back strap like that of the Taylor's version. The kind of bird's head grip without a hump just never felt right to me.

The Pietta 1860 models have a nicely polished, dark blue-black finish on the barrel, cylinder, and back straps. The frames and hammers have a very nice color case hardening. The trigger guard is also polished blued steel to match the steel back strap assemblies, instead of the brass trigger guard of the standard 1860 model. The wood to metal fit on my sample is absolutely excellent.

Both the hammer and trigger pull are light and crisp on the Taylor's Pietta 1860. The trigger pull is about 2.5 to 3 pounds, with almost zero creep. The 1860's timing is right on the money with the fluted percussion cylinder that came with it. There were no failures of the cylinder to lock up, even when resistance was applied by grabbing the cylinder with the non-cocking hand while cocking the hammer. The cylinder pin wedge was very snug and could not be pushed out by hand. I had to use a brass drift and hammer to remove it. The Pietta 1860 Thunderer's three-inch barrel comes with a small brass front blade sight. The rear sight is a notch in the top edge of the hammer when it is cocked. The overall fit and finish of the replica was about as perfect as you can get. Since there is no rammer assembly on the short barrel, a nice brass manual ramrod is included with the snub-nose.

Kirst's Konverter

Walt Kirst has been interested in Cartridge Conversion revolvers for many years. A talented machinist and inventor, he had done some custom conversions of percussion revolvers. About 20 years

ago, he came up with the idea of a drop-in cylinder to convert an 1858 Remington into a .45 cartridge revolver. His initial design had a solid back plate and a five-shot cylinder. A little later, he came up with a gated version that required a channel to be cut in the recoil shield. Eventually, Walt came up with a five-shot conversion cylinder for the 1860 Colt clones. These are gated and require milling or grinding out a channel in the Colt recoil shield for the cartridge to load and eject through. Walt was kind enough to send me one of these 1860 Colt Gated Konverters to convert the 1860 Pietta .44 into a cartridge revolver.

Kirst Konverters are SASS legal even though they are five-shot cylinders. In the case of the 1860 Konverter, you simply lower the hammer down so the firing pin is between two chambers when not being fired or in the holster. When you cock the hammer, the cylinder rotates to the first cartridge and locks in place for firing.

Some basic information from the Kirst Konverter Website:

- Made from strong, heat-treated 4140 steel or stainless steel.
- CNC machined, blued or polished, and assembled in the U.S.A.
- No F.F.L. paperwork is required to purchase one.
- Double or triple the calibers of your percussion revolver.
- Increase your shooting time while decreasing loading time.
- Kirst offers matching ejectors for many Konverters.

The unit is basically "drop in," but Piettas may require some minor fitting

to cycle correctly. (Uberti's, especially recent ones, can have some timing issues because of Uberti relocating the cylinder hand farther from the arbor than older ones.) With that said, the gated Konverter can be used without modifying the recoil shield. You simply remove the cylinder to load and unload it, as you would with an R&D conversion cylinder.

I wanted to go the gated route and found it was not hard at all to grind the channel in the recoil shield of the Pietta. I disassembled it and placed the Kirst gated recoil shield in place. I opened the gate and painted the area on the recoil shield that needed to be removed with black marker. Removing the recoil shield left a black shadow that guided my grinding. Don't worry, the placement of the channel does not have to be exact. There is plenty of tolerance in the alignment.

I used a Dremel grinder with a one-half-inch sanding drum and began to slowly grind. It took about five drums, but I changed when the grinding slowed. I started with a coarse 60-grit. When I got close, I switched to a 120-grit for a smoother finish. Periodically I would install the cylinder and recoil plate and attempt to eject a shell. After about 45 minutes, it was done. I polished the ground-out area with fine emery cloth then hit it with Birchwood Casey cold blue while it was still warm. I was actually surprised how easy it was.

From start to finish was less than an hour and a half. In the end, I had an 1860 Colt .45 Colt/Schofield cartridge firing three-inch-barreled Aveng-



THE COMPLETED PROJECT.



ing Angel. Even though the percussion cylinder is six shot and the .45 Colt/Schofield conversion cylinder is five-shot, the timing with the conversion cylinder is perfect. Kirst has maximized the angles of the indexing star on the rear of the cylinder to achieve enough rotation for the five-shot cylinder to rotate into place.

The only fitting I had to do was the wedge. Even with the percussion cylinder, when the wedge was inserted far enough for the retention spring to engage on the right side of the wedge hole, it was too tight to allow free rotation. This is not an uncommon occurrence with all 1851 and 1860 based revolvers, whether made by Pietta or Uberti. It is just a part of the 180-year-old "open top" design that goes back to the 1836 Patterson. Fortunately, it is very easy to fix on any "open top" design. The rectangular hole in the barrel arbor was smaller than the frame hole and was pushing the muzzle too tightly against the face of the cylinder. I removed a few swipes at a time from the front of the wedge (about 1/64") with a fine file until the Kirst cylinder turned free. I made it where the wedge now inserts far enough for the wedge spring to grab the outside edge of the notch, retracts with finger pressure, and allows free rotation of both cylinders.

Loading the Kirst 1860 is the same as loading a Colt Single Action Army. Pointing in a safe direction, cock the hammer to the first notch. This allows the cylinder to rotate freely in a clockwise direction. Open the loading gate and line up a chamber in the cylinder with the loading channel and insert cartridge. Repeat until all five chambers are loaded, then rotate the cylinder until you can lower the hammer where the firing pin rests between two cylinders. To unload, you reverse the process. With my loads, the cases fall out when you tip the muzzle up and rotate the cylinder slowly. If they stick, the brass ramrod that came with it for the percussion cylinder can be used from the front to knock the empty cases out. I keep it stowed in one of the cartridge loops on my belt, dividing the .45 caliber pistol ammo and the .44-40 caliber rifle ammo.

How Does it Shoot?

Kirst Konverters are made to be used with either black powder ammo or "Cowboy Action" loads that approximate



THE AUTHOR ATTACKING KNOCK DOWNS WITH HIS AVENGING ANGEL.

BP loads (under 1,000 fps). DON'T shoot Buffalo Bore ammo or any +P cartridges from a Kirst Konverter. In my test, I used Black Hills Cowboy .45 Schofield, Black Hills .45 Colt, or my load in a .45 Schofield case, using a 200-grain RN hollow based bullet that I also use in my 1911. In the Schofield case, my load approximates the appearance of the original 210-grain, healed bullet for the .44 Colt/Martin cartridge. The powder is six grains of Trail Boss.

With both Black Hills and my reloads, the Avenging Angel shot dead center but about three to four inches above point of aim at seven to ten yards, using a traditional two-hand hold. Black Hills Schofield did the best at about a sub-two-inch group. I aimed at a six o'clock position on a five-inch bulls-eye and hit about three inches above in the black. At a match, I use a "low, just below dead center hold" for a solid hit. This is very common with all the 1851/1860 Colt percussion and cartridge conversion revolvers, including originals.

After its initial range session, I took it to our local Nevada City Peacemakers monthly match. We are old school in several ways. One, we are relaxed and tend to have more challenging targets than your typical 2020 SASS match. One of the reasons is because of an injunction by a local environmental

group. We are barred from shooting steel targets. They thought they would shut us down with the court order, but we came up with a work around. Our rifle targets are pop cans (full so they blow when you hit them) or clay pigeons on the 25-yard berm. Pistol targets are 10" orange rubber self-healing disks at 25 yards and our seven-yard knock down rack. The 5"x10" steel knock downs have six inches of wood taped to them to absorb the bullets. Where there is a will, there is a way.

The Avenging Angel was the show pony of the match! Everyone loved it and wanted to handle it. I shot the knock downs clean the entire match. I used a low dead center (or high 6:00 o'clock hold), and nailed every one. Recoil from the six grains of Trail Boss under the 200-grain bullet was, to my surprise, very manageable! I credit the Thunderer style grips with the hump on the back strap for taming the buck and roar. I found the Avenging Angel was actually more controllable than my 5.5" Remington New Model Army (1858) with a Kirst gated Konverter, using the same load. It is quite possibly the favorite CAS revolver I have used in many years! It was just plain fun to shoot.

Conclusion

The Taylor's & Co. Pietta three-inch snub-nose 1860 Army and Kirst .45 Colt/Schofield Gated Konverter are a winning pair. If you shoot Plainsmen with percussion revolvers and also like shooting traditional cartridge classes in SASS, having a revolver that also allows you to do it all by simply changing cylinders is a real asset. For less than \$600 and change, you can have both a percussion and a cartridge Avenging Angel all in one. There is also the advantage that no FFL is required to purchase a percussion revolver, nor is one needed to purchase the cartridge Konverter cylinder.

Credits

The 1860 snub nose is from Tammy Loy at Taylor's & Co. at (540) 722-2017 or check the web-site at: www.taylorsfirearms.com.

The .45 Colt/Schofield conversion cylinder is from Walt Kirst at Kirst Konverters. Check out their web page at <https://kirstkonverter.com/>

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT RUBY RUTHLESS AT THE SASS OFFICE AT (505) 843-1320, OR EMAIL RUBY RUTHLESS DIRECTLY AT RUBY@SASSNET.COM

PROFILES



HOW I DEVELOPED MY ALIAS

BY FATHER KIT “COOL GUN” GARTH,
SASS #103314

Once I decided to participate in Cowboy Action Shooting™ and apply for membership with the Single Action Shooting Society®, I wanted to create an alias that was unique and yet as mysterious as the Old West itself. My alias had to tell a... NO, it had to **be** a story unto itself. And so my journey began.

First I developed my fictional bio as a preacher who, after graduating from Seminary in West Virginia and later joining the Union Army to fight for independence, married and settled down in Fairbank, Arizona to open his first

church. After his wife was killed by a group of Cowboys, he left the church in search of those who must face his revenge. This led him to the nearby town of Tombstone, Arizona.

Most of it was based on the storyline in the movie *Avenging Angel*, and thus I chose Kevin Sorbo’s character as my avatar to use on the SASS Forums. When shooting, I dress the role of that preacher.

I wanted a very unique, one of a kind alias, which led me to create an anagram that would provide a mysterious transition from my alias to a famous historical Old West event. I have always loved anagrams, words whose letters can be rearranged to create other words. For example, taking all of the letters in “Clint Eastwood” and using those same letters, you can spell “Old West Action”.

With this as my compass, I began the arduous task of working on my own anagram, putting together the name I would be known by in the SASS Community. This name would not only represent my bio as a preacher, but would transform itself into the story of the most famous gunfight of the Old West – the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral.

The task was not easy. I tried to use an anagram program, but it didn’t yield the results I wanted, so I resorted to a manual method. Using a color-coded process assigned to each letter, numerous variations were discarded before my alias finally appeared. That name became Father Kit “Cool Gun” Garth.

However, I wanted to do something truly unique, as I knew many SASS Members would later question such an unusual alias and how it came about. That’s when I decided to create a deck of cards that would tell the tale of the Earp brothers along with Doc Holliday and their confrontation with the Clanton and McLaury gang in Tombstone on that fateful day, October 26, 1881.

THE DESIGN PHASE

As a fan of magic card tricks, I decided to create a special deck of cards that would reflect the transition from my alias to this historical event. I searched the internet for an old west design for the back of the cards, and found a suitable match. I then assigned every letter of my alias to the back of each card. The deck would consist of only twenty-one cards, the exact number of letters in my alias.



THE KEY PLAYERS

For the front of the cards, I decided to use the key players from the event, as represented below. In determining which personality would appear on each card, I assigned the face cards to the Earp brothers and Doc Holliday, choosing Aces for Wyatt, Kings for Virgil and Queens for Morgan. The Jack was chosen for Doc Holliday representing his “Jack of all Trades” characteristics of dentist, gambler and gunfighter. The remaining players — Ike Clanton, Billy Clanton, Frank McLaury, Tom McLaury, Billy Claiborne — were given numeric card values of lesser values. Sheriff Behan was given the honor of being assigned the Joker, primarily based on his role leading up to the ensuing gunfight.

THE CARD LAYOUT

Now came not only the most difficult challenge, but the most rewarding, when I set the cards up in four separate poker hands. This required assigning each of the cards in my alias to become the cards in the event. Using the anagram layout, the depicted results were achieved. I then created a template in order to assign each portrait to its respective card and ensure it matched the card with the right letter on the back of it. The resulting poker hands were created: Straight, Full House, Royal Flush, Aces & Eights (Dead Man’s Hand).

THE STORYLINE

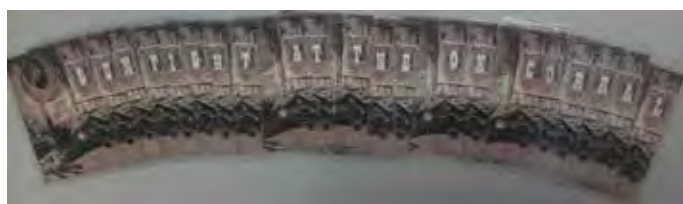
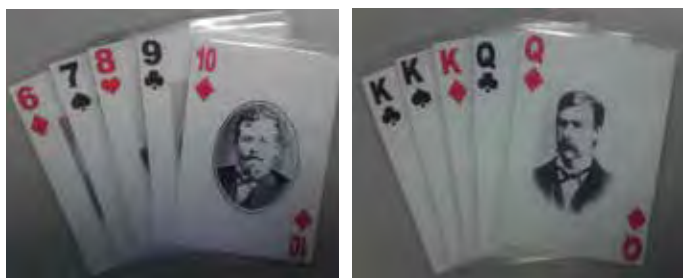
The reveal starts with the deck of cards laid out on a table spelling my alias — **Father Kit “Cool Gun” Garth**. They are then scooped up and laid back down on the table displaying the four separate



poker hands (along with the Joker card) as the following story shown is told:

Tombstone, Arizona, October 26, 1881 — There was trouble brewing between the Clanton Gang and the Earps. The Cowboys were calling out the Earps in a showdown. Virgil, Wyatt, and Morgan Earp headed STRAIGHT to the corner of Fremont and Third Streets to disarm the Cowboys. When they arrived at the lot next to C.S. Fly's Photographic Studio, they saw a FULL HOUSE — Ike and Billy Clanton, Tom and Frank McLaury, along with young Billy Claiborne. The JOKER of a sheriff, Johnny Behan, had said the Cowboys were unarmed. Likewise, the Cowboys saw the Earp brothers and Doc Holliday and not expecting a foursome, they became ROYAL-ly FLUSH-ed. A gunfight ensued in which some 30 shots were fired in less than 30 seconds, and when the dust settled, three Cowboys held a DEAD MAN'S HAND.

With the story complete, the cards would appear as illustrated — *Straight — Full House — Joker — Royal Flush — Aces and Eights (Dead Man's Hand)*. Upon scooping them back up and merely turning them over and laying them back out they spell **Gunfight at the O.K. Corral**, showing **Father Kit "Cool Gun" Garth** also spells **Gunfight at the O.K. Corral**.



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SETTING MY SIGHTS ON THE FUTURE

BY SASS KICKER, SASS #91899

As I conclude my second year of college at the University of Arizona, it's amazing how my life has transformed. My current mode of transportation for the past two years has been a bicycle and the university tram. I no longer own a car, and although I put in a 60-hour work and school week, it does not provide an income. Instead, it gives me the education and experiences I will need to be competitive in the medical field.

As a pre-med student pursuing an honors degree in physiology, I am completing a five-year degree in four. This means summer school is not an option, but a requirement. I have a steady diet of school, study, research, and labs. I am also an Emergency Room Intern at the University Medical Center. As part of this internship, my purpose is improving the patients' experiences and calming the fears of those who are experiencing a serious illness or injury.

While life has changed over the past two years, I am grateful to be a SASS Scholarship Recipient. The Scholarship has allowed me to focus on my studies, volunteer, and make crucial contacts that will assist me with my continuing education. I have been able to maintain my grade point average while taking rigorous courses such as advanced calculus and organic chemistry. During my freshman year, I was able to volunteer for Gardens for Humanity, help local high school students with their studies, and tutor college students in calculus. Last semester I was a preceptor for Chemistry 151, where I attended lectures, re-taught concepts, and provided office hour to assist peers. This semester I am taking three lab sciences, doing an internship, and conducting research in the area of protein lipid interactions. I want to thank the scholarship committee and its supporters for allowing me the choice to focus on my education instead of having to enter the work force. My family and I are able to afford my higher education due to the generous donors and the scholarship committee. Knowing I have many



expensive years of schooling ahead of me, it is a huge relief to know I will not be incurring debt from my undergraduate degree.

On behalf of the SASS community, I want to thank everyone for preparing me for the challenges I have met thus far. Being a Cowboy Action Shooter™ has taught me the value of a strong work ethic, integrity, and the importance of giving back to others. I have learned to appreciate the value of hard work and commitment and I am grateful to those who have influenced me along the way.

Finally, I would like to thank the

members of SASS, especially those who have guided me and those who donated to the SASS Scholarship. I would not be where I am today without your kindness and generosity. While I may not be able to shoot or participate to the extent I have in the past, I have not forgotten those who helped me along my journey. I promise to give back in every capacity in the future. To all of SASS, I give you my deepest gratitude for the love, support, and the financial aid you have provided me. I will always be passionate about Cowboy Action Shooting™ and I look forward to connecting with my SASS family.

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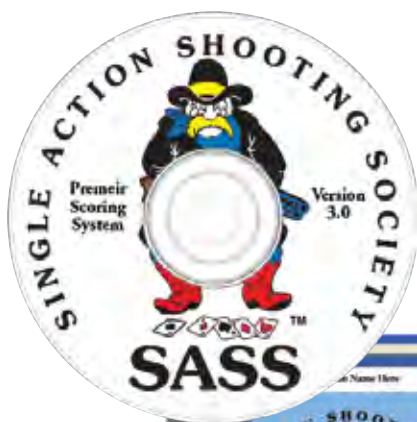


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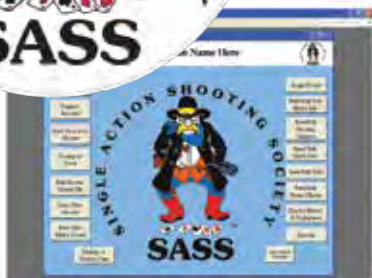
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CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Heffley Creek Gun Club Heffley Creek As Scheduled 250-573-2885 Gunfighter Jim N/A
Kamloops Target Sports Association Kamloops As Scheduled 250-573-2885 Gunfighter Jim Kamloops Target Sports Association
Valley Regulators Courtenay 3rd & 5th Sat 250-897-2194 Little Edgy Courtneay Fish and Game Protective Association
Victoria Frontier Shootists Malahat 2nd Sun 250-744-4705 Black Ashley Victoria Fish & Game Protective Association

NEW BRUNSWICK

Beau Bassin Range Riders Saint-Andre LeBlanc 2nd Sat 506-387-4543 Frenchy Cannuck Cap Pelee Gun Club

ONTARIO

Butler's Rangers Thorald 1st Sat & 4th Sun 905-374-3328 Grey Owl Decew Gun Club
Ontario Single Action Federation As Sch 905-891-8627 Bear Butte N/A
Ottawa Valley Marauders Cheney As Sched 514-792-0063 Highwall Drifter Eastern Ontario Handgun Club
Robbers Roost Hamilton Hamilton 2nd Sun 905-393-4299 Legendary Lawman Hamilton Angling and Hunting Association
Ruff's Regulators Cornwall As Scheduled 613-933-6798 Ruff Justice Cornwall Handgun Club
Wentworth Shooting Sports Club Hamilton 1st Sun 905-664-3217 Stoney Creek Wentworth Shooting Sports Club
Wild Turkey Posse Prescott As Scheduled 819-453-7816 Rooster Corrigan Greenville Fish and Game Club

QUEBEC

Centre De Tir Granby Multi-Sports N/A As Scheduled N/A N/A N/A
Club De Tir Beausejour N/A As Scheduled N/A N/A N/A

SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan Association of Wild West Shooters Saskatoon As Scheduled 306-749-7518 Granny One Shot Saskatoon Muzzle Loading Club

DENMARK

Association of Slesvigske Blackpowder Shooters Tonder 2nd Saturday +4560201365 Captain Wildbeard Tonder Shooting Range

FINLAND

SSASS Finland Loppi As Scheduled +358 50 5174659 Woodbury Kane Loppis Shooting Range

FRANCE

BBlack Rivers Roanne 3rd Sat 336 87 46 25 82 The Kid of Neckwhite Route de Charlieu
Buffalo Valley Châteauneuf-en-Thymerais As Scheduled 02 37 63 65 83 Slye Buffalo Avenir Sportif Thymarias
Bull Run Valley Sainte Opportune As Scheduled 06-47-52-09-37 Ben Calhound Association Spportive Flers Messei
CAS/SASS France Rocheford du Gard As Scheduled N/A Frenchie Boy Golden Trigger of Freetown

CLUB NAME	CITY	MATCH DAY	PHONE	CONTACT	RANGE LOCATION
East Valley	Dettwiller	As Scheduled	336 76 49 54 81	Cornelius Chesterfield	Club de Tir de la Licorne
Golden Trigger of Freetown	Puylagarde	As Scheduled	06-75-70-36-78	Cheyenne Little Colibris	A.S.T.PV
Green Hills Cowboys	Athis De L'Orne	As Scheduled	1 33 6 07 84 32 99	Vallombreuse	N/A
Joly's Saloon	Bernay	Oct-Nov	02-32-43-35-95	Myra Maybelle Shirley Reed Starr	Joly's Saloon
Loire Valley Regulators	Cornery	As Scheduled	33 6 88 267372	Marshall John McClane	Club de Tir Sportif de Touraine
Old West Gunfighter	N/A	As Scheduled	N/A	N/A	N/A
Reverend Oakley's Cowboy Klan	Nuits St. Georges	As Scheduled	+33685137754	Elliot Belt	N/A
Snake Valley	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

GERMANY

CAS Europe	Heerd	Wed	28235807	Hurricane Irm	TR-Dusseldorf
Cowboy Action Shooting Germany	Edderitz	Last Sat	+49 1609 76 52588	Marshal Heck	Tombstone Village
SASS Germany	Bocholt	Wed	28233426	Rhine River Joe	Caritz Springs

NEW ZEALAND

Ashburton Pistol Club	Ashburton	3rd Sun AM	+64 21 525 347	Kiwi Witch Doctor	Ashburton Pistol Club
Hokitikia Pistol Club Inc.	Hokitika	Sunday	+64 27 241 9111	Kid Rustler	Hokitiki Pistol Club

SOUTH AFRICA

Western Shooters of South Africa	Simon's Town	3rd Sat	+27 21 702 3070	Dusty Devil	False Bay Gun Club
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SWEDEN

SASS Sweden/ Thorsby Desperados	Torsby	As Scheduled	46 702711107	Ace Heart	Reito Torsby
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SWITZERLAND

Old West Shooting Society Switzerland	Kreuzlingen	As Scheduled	+41 79 909 92 70	Texas Knight	N/A
Red Sash Cowboy Association	Unterlunkhofen	As Scheduled	+41 (0) 56 6342278	Palouse Creek Hondo	N/A

UNITED KINGDOM

British Western Shooting Society	N/A	3rd Weekend	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shooters of the Cast Iron Shore	Liverpool	As Scheduled	N/A	N/A	Atlantic Leisure Sport Comple

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ALABAMA

Alabama Rangers	Birmingham	2nd Sun	205-369-2702	Cahawba Kid	Brock's Gap Training Company
North Alabama Regulators	Woodville	1st Sun	256-431-3737	Drake Robey	Cavern Cove

ALASKA

Alaska 49er's	Palmer	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	907-232-1080	Marshal Stone	Mat-Valley Sportsmans Shooting Range
Alaska 49ers Wild Bunch	Palmer	As Scheduled	907-232-1080	Marshal Stone	Mat-Valley Sportsmans Shooting Range
Golden Heart Shootist Society	Fairbanks	2nd Sat & Last Sun	907-479-9339	Drover Knutts	Chatanika Gold Camp

ARIZONA

Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association Inc	Phoenix	2nd Sat	774-420-1119	Birdie Cage	Ben Avery Shooting Facility
Arizona Yavapai Rangers	Camp Verde	4th Sat	480-266-1096	Pecos Clyde	Forest Service Road 9571
Bordertown Inc. Wild Bunch	Tombstone	As Scheduled	480-266-1096	Pecos Clyde	Tombstone Livery
Bordertown, Inc.	Tombstone	As Scheduled	520-290-8599	Quicksand	Tombstone Livery
Colorado River Regulators	Lake Havasu City	2nd Sun & 4th Sat	928-669-8707	Mike L. Phikzit	Lake Havasu Sportsman's Club
Colorado River Shootists	Yuma	4th Sun	209-613-4598	Dirty Harriet	Adair Range
Cowtown Cowboy Shooters	Peoria	1st Sun & 3rd Sat	480-773-2753	Barbwire	Cowtown Shooting Range
Cowtown Wild Bunch Shooters	Peoria	2nd Sun	602-721-3175	Wild Bodie Tom	Cowtown Shooting Range
Dusty Bunch Old Western Shooters	Casa Grande	4th Sat	520-568-2852	Squibber	Casa Grande
Los Vaqueros	Tombstone	3rd Sat	520-235-0387	Myles Houston	Tombstone Livery
Mohave Marshalls	Golden Valley	3rd Sun	831-588-8936	Loco John	Mohave Sportsman Club
NAZty Bunch	Flagstaff	3rd Sat	928-526-3794	Coconino Pistolero	Northern Arizona Shooting Range
Rio Salado Cowboy Action Shooting Society	Mesa	1st Sat	480-982-7336	A. J. Bob	Rio Salado Sportsman's Club

CLUB NAME	CITY	MATCH DAY	PHONE	CONTACT	RANGE LOCATION
Whiskey Row Gunslingers	Prescott	2nd Sun	949-422-9961	Wolfe Lehr	Whispering Long Tree Range(Prescott Action Shooters)
White Mountain Old West Shootists	St. Johns	3rd Sat	928-245-6276	Fred Sharps	Northeastern Arizona Shooooters Association

ARKANSAS

Judge Parker's Marshals	Fort Smith/Van Buren	3rd Sat and Sun	479-651-2475	Naildriver	Old Fort Gun Club
Mountain Valley Vigilantes	Hot Springs National Park	1st Wkd	501-337-9368	Bulldog McGraw	Mountain Valley Sportsman's Association
Outlaw Camp	Heber Springs	2nd, 4th & 5th Sat	501-362-2963	Ozark Red	Outlaw Camp

CALIFORNIA

5 Dogs Creek	Bakersfield	1st Sat & Sun	661-549-7916	Panhandle Red	Five Dogs Creek Shooting Range
Buffalo Runners	Rail Road Flat	Sat Before 2nd Sun	530-676-2997	Grizzly Peak Jake	Taylor Park
Cajon Cowboys	Devore	2nd, 4th, & 5th Sat	760-900-5199	Pasture Patti	Gem Ranch
California Rangers	Sloughhouse	2nd Sat	209-304-4772	Buckhorn Woodie	Sacramento Valley Shooting Center
California Shady Ladies	Sloughhouse	4th Sat	916-447-2040	Lady Gambler	Sacramento Valley Shooting Center
Canyon Oaks Shootists	Sylmar	2nd Sun	626-644-5368	Dusty Sagerider	Canyon Oaks Sportsmans Club
Chorro Valley Regulators	San Luis Obispo	2nd Sun & Prec. Sat	805-286-1188	Sinful	San Luis Obispo Sportsman's Association
Dulzura Desperados	Dulzura	2nd Sat	619-997-2755	Reuben J. Cogburn	South Bay Rod and Gun Club
Escondido Bandidos	Escondido	1st Sat	858-735-2354	Rustler	Escondido Fish & Games Assoc.
Gold Country Wild Bunch	Sloughouse	3rd Sat	530-713-4194	Sutter Lawman	Sacramento Valley Shooting Center
Hawkinsville Claim Jumpers	Yreka	4th & 5th Sat	530-467-4045	Wichita Belle	Dodge Range
Helldorado Rangers	Ukiah	3rd Sunday	707-391-5991	Lead Nickel	Ukiah Gun Club
High Desert Cowboys	Palmdale	3rd Sun	661-579-6917	Doc Silverhawks	Desert Marksmen Rifle & Pistol Club
High Sierra Drifters	Rail Road Flat	2nd Sun	530-676-2997	Grizzly Peak Jake	West Point Rod & Gun
Kings River Regulators	Clovis	3rd Sun	559-268-1115	Sierra Rider	Fresno Rifle & Pistol Club
Mother Lode Shootist Society	Jamestown	1st Sun	209-795-4175	Sioux City Kid	Mother Lode Gun Club
Murieta Posse	Sloughhouse	3rd Sun	530-676-2997	Grizzly Peak Jake	Sacramento Valley Shooting Center
Pozo River Vigilance Committee at Lazy Arrow	Santa Margarita	4th Sat	805-801-8750	Roger Rapid	Camatta Ranch/Lazy Arrow Adventures
Richmond Roughriders	Richmond	2nd Sun of Even Months	925-250-0737	Leapin Otis	Richmond Rod and Gun Club
River City Regulators	Davis	1st Sun	707-227-5905	Napa Belle	Yolo Sportsmen's Association
Robbers Roost Vigilantes	Ridgecrest	1st & 3rd Sat	760-375-7618	Nast Newt	Ridgecrest Gun Range
Sunnyvale Regulators	Cupertino	3rd Mon Night	650-464-3764	Shaniko Jack	Sunnyvale Rod and Gun Club
Sunnyvale Regulators Wild Bunch	Cupertino	4th Mon	408-264-5647	Lucas McDennis	Sunnyvale Rod and Gun Club
The Cowboys	Corona	4th Sun	949-235-4437	Razorback Red	Raahauges Shooting Enterprises

COLORADO

Black Canyon Ghost Riders	Hotchkiss	4th Sun	970-835-8871	Fandango Dave	Stengel Gun Range
Colorado Shaketails	Hanover	1st Sun	719-338-5912	Shootin Hoosier	Frontier Sportsman's Club
Front Range Shootist	Loveland	See Website	970-302-9760	Short Barrels	Front Range Gun Club
Montrose Marshals	Montrose	2nd Sun	970-240-0419	Silver Rings	Montrose Rod & Gun Club
Northwest Colorado Rangers	Craig	4th Sat	970-208-3196	Black Mountain Cat	Bears Ears Sportsman Club
Windygap Regulators	Cortez	1st Wkd	970-739-9705	Stumble Leena	Windygap Regulators

CONNECTICUT

CT Valley Bushwackers	Coventry	2nd Sat	860-384-0543	Double Tap Taylor	Manchester Sportsman Association
Ledyard Sidewinders	Ledyard	1st Sat	860-536-0887	Yosemite Gene	Ledyard Sportsman Club

FLORIDA

Antelope Junction Rangers	Clearwater	2nd Sat	727-798-0994	Moog	Wyoming Antelope Club
Big Bend Bushwhackers	Woodville	3rd Sat	850-443-7882	Deadeye Davis	Tallahassee Rifle and Pistol Club
Cowford Regulators	Jacksonville	4th Sat	904-316-0644	Misfire Mordecai	Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club
Doodle Hill Regulators	Ruskin	4th Sun	910-797-7110	Shelleen	Gun Craft Inc. Range
Fort White Cowboy Cavalry	Fort White	2nd Sat	352-222-4214	Confederate Colt	Fort White Gun Club
Ghost Town Gunslingers	St. Augustine	1st Sat	904-669-2620	Chicken Scratch	Ancient City Shooting Range
Gold Coast Gunslingers	Sunrise	1st Sat	786-256-9542	George Washington McLintock	Markham Park Pistol and Rifle Range
Hernando County Regulators	Brooksville	1st Sun	517-622-4372	Shoulda Dun Gun	Hernando Sportsman's Club, Inc.
Okeechobee Marshals	Sebastion	2nd Sat	561-371-5507	Amaduelist	Indian River County Shooting Range
Panhandle Cowboys	Cantonment	2nd Sun	850-932-3955	Jeb Stuart Foley	Escambia River Gun Club

CLUB NAME	CITY	MATCH DAY	PHONE	CONTACT	RANGE LOCATION
Red Hills Rangers	Midway	2nd Sat	850-459-5472	Cassalong Hopidy	Talon Training Group
Roughshod Raiders	Gainesville	4th Sun	352-317-2357	Delta Glen	Gainesville Target Range, Inc.
Southwest Florida Gunslingers	Punta Gorda	3rd Sat & 4th Sun	239-634-1898	Vaquero Tom	Hansen Range and Gun Club
Weewahootee Vigilance Committee	Orlando	1st Sat	407-729-8057	Dead-Aim Dave	Central Florida Rifle and Pistol Club
GEORGIA					
Georgia Piedmont Regulators	Eastanollee	2nd Sat	770-540-7612	Rolan Kraps	Georgia Mountain Shooting Association
Tennessee Mountain Marauders	Ringgold	3rd Sat	423-827-2527	Hurricane Charly	Phoenix Farms
IDAHO					
Hells Canyon Ghost Riders	Moscow	3rd Sat	208-882-1888	Zebra Dunn	Bernard Peterson Memorial Range
Oregon Trail Rough Riders	Boise	2nd Sun & 3rd Sat	208-466-0061	Gem Hunter	Black's Creek Rifle Range
Snake River Western Shooting Society	Jerome	4th Sat	208-731-6387	Missy Mable	Jerome Rod & Gun Club
The Portneuf Vaqueros	Pocatello	3rd Sat	208-540-0367	Varmit Hunter	Gate City Sports Shooting Association
Twin Butte Bunch	Rexbury	3rd Sat	208-745-6150	Idaho Rusty Bucket	N/A
ILLINOIS					
Border Bandits	Rockford	4th Saturday	815-721-2280	Dry Fire	NIRPC
Good Guys Posse	Winnebago	4th Sun	815-923-2191	Cornbread Lawman	Dry Gulch Ranch
Illinois River City Regulators	Chillicothe	2nd Sun	309-243-7236	Granville Stuart	Chillicothe Sportsmen's Club
Illowa Irregulars	Milan	3rd Sun	309-236-5082	Justice James Newton	Milan Rifle Club
Kishwaukee Valley Regulators	Waterman	1st Sun	815-501-9421	Six Fingered Shootist	Aurora Sportsmen's Club
Marion County Renegades Wild Bunch	Sandoval	3rd Sat	618-267-6952	Shell Stuffer	Centralia Trap Club
INDIANA					
Wabash Rangers	Cayuga	4th Sat	217-267-2820	Henry Remington	Clark's Shooting Range
Westside Renegades	Evansville	4th Sat	812-459-2153	Tinhorn Timmy	Westside Sportsmen's Club
Wolff's Rowdy Rangers	Bristol	3rd Sat	574-536-4010	Justice D. Spencer	St. Joseph Valley Rifle and Pistol Association
IOWA					
Fort Des Moines Rangers	Indianola	1st Sun	515-491-0267	John Wesley Hardin	Central Iowa Shooting Sports
Outlaw's Run	Red Oak	2nd Sun	712-621-5726	Capt. Jim Midnight	Red Oak
Turkeyfoot Cowboys	Elk Run Heights	1st Sat	319-215-0340	Grizzly Red	Turkeyfoot Long Rifles Range
Zen Shootists	Nevada	2nd Sat	515-783-4833	Sergeant Duroc	Scorpion Gulch
KANSAS					
Butterfield Gulch Gang	Chapman	1st Sun & 3rd Sat	785-479-0416	Flinthills Dawg	Clark's Station
Capital City Cowboys	Topeka	4th Sun	785-220-4203	Badmoon Rison	Capital City Gun Club
Chisholm Rowdys	Benton	4th Sun	785-224-4918	Chisholm Kid	Chisholm Trail Antique Gun Association
Free State Rangers	Parker	1st Sun, 3rd Sat, & 5th Sun	913-244-4960	Beans Haney	N/A
Millbrook Wranglers	Hill City	2nd Sun	785-421-2537	Grandpa Buckten Millbrook	Mill Brook Station Shooting Range
Powder Creek Cowboys	Lenexa	2nd & 4th Sat & 4th Wed	816-507-2887	K. C. Ranger	Powder Creek Shooting Park
KENTUCKY					
Green River Gunslingers	Bowling Green	2nd & 5th Sat	270-792-9001	Yak	Green River Gun Club
Hooten Old Town Regulators	Mckee	1st Sat	859-749-9292	Appalachian Alan	Hooten Old Town
Kentucky Long Rifles Cowboys	Morehead	2nd Sat	606-462-3278	Longshot Ace	Kentucky Long Rifles Club
Kentucky Regulators	Boaz	1st Sat	270-556-4082	Shenandoah Slim	Kentucky Regulators Gun Club Inc
Knob Creek Gunfighters Guild	West Point	1st Sun	406-231-2329	Shaddai Vaquero	Knob Creek Gun Range
LOUISIANA					
Bayou Bounty Hunters	Amite	2nd & 4th Sat	225-771-9923	Dusty Sometimes	Florida Parishes Skeet Club
Deadwood Marshals	Sorrento	1st & 3rd Sat	504-458-1898	Doc Spudley	Deadwood Marshals
Up The Creek Gang	Lake Charles	2nd & 4th Sat	337-274-3625	Hellbender	Lake Charles Gun Club
MAINE					
Maine Marshals	Berwick	As Scheduled	207-272-7119	Tyler Tornado	Sanford Springvale Fish and Game

CLUB NAME	CITY	MATCH DAY	PHONE	CONTACT	RANGE LOCATION
MARYLAND					
Damascus Wildlife Rangers	Mt. Airy	2nd Sat	301-717-9672	Chuckaroo	Izaak Walton League of America
Eas'dern Shore Renegades	Sudlersville	1st Sat	410-924-7284	Gunpowder John	Delmarva Sportsman Association
Thurmont Rangers	Thurmont	1st Sun	240-285-7673	Cash Caldwell	Thurmont Conservation and Sportsman Club
MASSACHUSETTS					
Danvers Desperados	Middleton	As Scheduled	781-599-1930	Pittsburg Mac	Danvers Fish & Game Club
Harvard Ghost Riders	Harvard	As Scheduled	978-456-6971	Grazer	Harvard Sportsman's Club
MICHIGAN					
Hidden Valley Cowboys	Sturgis	3rd Sun	574-349-3764	Johnny Rebel	St. Joseph Conservation and Sportsmans Club
Johnson Creek Regulators	Plymouth	4th Sat	313-686-8416	TG Wild Dogie	Western Wayne County Conservation Club
River Bend Rangers	Niles	2nd Sat	269-684-1782	Paul Puma	Bend of the River Conservation Club
Rocky River Regulators	Utica	3rd Sun	248-709-5254	Terrebonne Bud	Detroit Sportsmen's Congress
Rocky River Regulators Wild Bunch	Utica	As Scheduled	248-709-5254	Terrebonne Bud	Detroit Sportsmen's Congress
Saginaw Field and Stream Club	Saginaw	As Scheduled	989-585-3292	Katie Callahan	Saginaw Field and Stream Club
Sucker Creek Saddle & Gun Club	Breckenridge	3rd Sat.	989-832-8426	Kid Al Fred	N/A
Wolverine Rangers	Kimball	As Scheduled	734-612-0570	Sinola Kid	Blue Water Sportsman's Association
MINNESOTA					
Cedar Valley Vigilantes	Morristown	1st & 3rd Sat	612-384-9115	Riverboat Red	Ahlman's Gun Shop
Fort Belmont Regulators	Jackson	2nd Sun	507-822-5214	A J Royal	Des Moines Valley Sportsman's Club
Granite City Gunslingers	Kimball	2nd & 5th Sat	320-979-1745	Timber Jack Thompson	Kimball Rod and Gun Club
MISSISSIPPI					
Gulf Coast Gunslingers	Lumberton	1st & 3rd Sun	504-722-8988	Cooper York	Lamar County Shooting Range
Mississippi Peacemakers	Mendenhall	3rd Sat	662-417-0250	Buck Bow	Purgatory/Peacemaker
Mississippi River Rangers	Byhalia	3rd sun & 4th and 5th Sat	901-490-0183	Jered Maddox	Rabbit Ridge Ranch
MISSOURI					
Bear Creek Volunteers	Walnut Shade	2nd Wkd	417-501-1886	Alice K. Grierson	Liberty Range
Butterfield Trail Cowboys	Walnut Shade	1st & 3rd Wed & 4th Weekend	417-759-9114	Smokie	Ozark Shooters Sports Complex
Gateway Area Shootist Society	Barnhart	3rd Sun	314-846-2904	Doc Slogun	Arnold Rifle and Pistol Club
Liberty Land and Cattle Company	Walnut Shade	3rd Fri & Sat & 5th Sat	217-209-2548	Two Gun Gentleman Jack	Liberty Range Bear Creek Shooting Complex
Southern Missouri Rangers	Marshfield	4th Wkd	417-839-8325	Two Shot Hoss	Outlaw Range
The Ozark Posse	Cassville	1st Sat	417-846-5142	Tightwad Swede	N/A
MONTANA					
Sun River Rangers Shooting Society	Augusta	1st Sat/Sun apr-oct & 4th Sat apr-oct	406-452-3015	Montana Wrangler	N/A
Bitterroot Buckaroos	Hamilton	1st Sat	406-531-4116	May B. Shecann	Whittecar Rifle & Pistol Club
Black Horse Shootists	Great Falls	Wkd of 3rd Sun	406-727-7625	J. E. B. Stuart Montana	Great Falls Shooting Sports Complex
Gallatin Valley Regulators	Logan	2nd Sat	406-388-2902	El Hombre de Montana	Manhattan Wildlife Association
Montana Territory Peacemakers	Billings	4th Sat	406-254-9414	Lascivious Latigo	Billings Rod & Gun Club
Rocky Mountain Rangers	Noxon	2nd Full Wkd	406-847-0745	Jocko	Noxon Rod and Gun Club
NEBRASKA					
Eastern Nebraska Gun Club	Louisville	2nd Sun	402-643-5000	Crooked Creek	Eastern Nebraska Gun Club
Lincoln Area Regulators	Bennet	1st Sat	402-429-2277	Mustang Gregg	Izaak Walton League, Chapter 65
Platte Valley Gunslingers	Alda	Sunday	308-380-4682	Stirrup Trouble	Heartland Public Shooting Park
NEVADA					
Battle Born Rangers	Fernley		775-250-4554	Irish Ike	N/A
Desert Desperados	Las Vegas	3rd Sun	702-419-7024	Nasty Nels	Desert Sportsman Rifle and Pistol Club
Eldorado Cowboys	Boulder City	1st Sun & Prec. Sat	702-429-4102	Lady Glitter	Boulder Rifle & Pistol Club
Silver State Shootists	Carson City	3rd Sun	775-586-9178	Tahoe Bill	Carson Rifle & Pistol Range

CLUB NAME	CITY	MATCH DAY	PHONE	CONTACT	RANGE LOCATION
NEW HAMPSHIRE					
Pemi Valley Peacemakers	Holderness	As Scheduled	603-648-6641	Crystal Creek Chris	Pemigewasset Valley Fish and Game Club
White Mountain Regulators	Candia	As Scheduled	603-957-0377	Dead Head	Kinnicun Fish & Game
NEW JERSEY					
Jackson Hole Gang	Jackson	4th Sun	732-547-7578	Papa Gray	Central Jersey Rifle & Pistol Club
Quinton Mavericks	Quinton	2nd Sunday	302-750-2381	Yellow Mike	Delaware Blues Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc.
Shongum Wiley Coyotes	Oxford	3rd Sun	973-219-9585	Johnny Swan	Shongum Sportsman Association
NEW MEXICO					
Bighorn Vigilantes	Edgewood	1st Sat	505-286-0830	German George	Founders Ranch
Buffalo Range Riders	Edgewood	1st Sun	505-323-8487	Garrison Joe	Founders Ranch
Buffalo Range Riders Mounted	Edgewood	2nd Sat	505-379-8957	Chili Cowboy	Founders Ranch
Gila Rangers	Mimbres	2nd Sat	575-956-5221	Hands	Fowler Land and Cattle Company
High Desert Drifters	Edgewood	2nd Sat	505-550-9230	Jim Miller	Founders Ranch
Monument Springs Bushwhackers	Hobbs	4th Sat.	575-408-2177	Curley Bill Jones	Hobbs Gun Club
Picacho Posse	Las Cruces	4th Sat.	575-644-3317	Fast Hammer	Butterfield Shooting Range
Rio Grande Renegades	Albuquerque	2nd Wed, 3rd Sat, 4th Sun, 5th Wkd	505-301-4993	Rich Diamond	Albuquerque Shooting Range
Rio Grande Renegades Wild Bunch	Albuquerque	3rd Sun	505-263-1181	Mica McGuire	Albuquerque Shooting Range
Tres Rios Bandidos	Farmington	2nd & 4th Sun	505-632-9712	El Mulo Vaquero	San Juan Wildlife Federation
NEW YORK					
Boor Hill Regulators	Chester	1st Sun	845-782-0760	Tom Payne	Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club, Inc.
Circle K Regulators	Ballston Spa	3rd Sun	518-368-3535	Annabelle Bransford	Kayaderoseras Fish & Game Club
Circle K Rough Riders Wild Bunch	Ballston Spa	As Sch	518-584-9869	Roy Cassidy	Kayaderoseras Fish and Game Club
East End Regulators	West Hampton Beach	1st Sun	516-640-8082	South Pass Kid	Long Island Practical Shooters, Inc.
Holliday's Rough Riders	Blasdell	5th Sun	716-838-4286	Rev. Dave Clayton	Blasdell Rod and Gun Club
Pathfinder Pistoleros	Fulton	1st Sun	315-420-4952	Blackjack Belle	Fulton, NY
Sackets Harbor Vigilantes	Watertown	4th Sun	315-788-1168	Mr. Stryker	Sackets Harbor Sportsman's Club
Tonawanda Cowboys	Pendleton	3rd Sat	716-544-1638	Rusty Rick	Tonawanda Sportsman's Club
NORTH CAROLINA					
Buccaneer Range Regulators	Leland	2nd Sat	910-330-7179	Jefro	Buccaneer Gun Club Inc.
Carolina Cattlemen's Shooting and Social Society	Creedmoore	2nd Sat	919-791-9816	J. M. Brown	Sir Walter Gun Club
Cross Creek Cowboys	Wagram	3rd Sat	910-470-4891	High Noon Henry	Wagram Sportsmen's Association
Iredell Regulators	Statesville	4th Sat	704-677-0554	Tin Can Sailor	Iredell Lodge - FOP #10
Neuse River Regulators	Hevelock	Every Sat	252-354-4275	Bronco Kid	Sure Shot Gun Sports
North Carolina Cowboys, Inc.	Salisbury	As Scheduled	919-920-7819	R. J. Gatling	Rowan County Wildlife Association
Old Hickory Regulators	Rocky Mount	1st Sat	252-908-0098	Wendover Kid	Old Hickory Gun Club, Inc.
NORTH DAKOTA					
Dakota RoughRiders	Moffit	As Scheduled	701-400-5648	Bohunk Charley	Fried Family Marksmanship Complex
OHIO					
Big Irons	Middletown	1st Sat	513-304-3505	Deadwood Stan	
Blackhand Raiders	Nashport	2nd Sun	614-313-6122	Iron Horse Garrett	Dillon Sportsman Center
Brown Township Regulators	Malvern	Last Sat	330-904-5166	Sixgun Seamus	Brown Township Sportsman's Club
Central Ohio Cowboys	Circleville	4th Sun	614-563-6034	Stagecoach Hannah	Pickaway County Sportsmans Club
Greene County Cowboys	Xenia	1st Sun	937-422-4595	Ruger Ray	Greene County Fish & Game Association
Miami Valley Cowboys	Piqua	2nd Sun	937-219-4376	Mean Gun Mark	Piqua Fish & Game
Ohio Valley Vigilantes	Mt. Vernon	4th Sat	614-870-3462	Useless Houston	N/A
Shenango River Rats	Masury	2nd Sat & Last Thurs	440-693-4210	Slow Mo Derm	Brookfield Tri-District Conservation Club
Wild Wild West Point Cowboy Action Shooting	West Point	2nd Sun	330-386-6975	Blue Eyed Bob	West Point Rod & Gun Club
OKLAHOMA					
Indian Territory Single Action Shooting Society	Sand Springs	2nd Sun, 3 Sat, & 4th Wed.	918-519-0927	Bad Crooked Aimes	Tulsa Red Castle Gun Club
Oklahoma Territorial Marshals	Arcadia	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	405-373-1472	Flat Top Okie	Oklahoma City Gun Club

CLUB NAME	CITY	MATCH DAY	PHONE	CONTACT	RANGE LOCATION
Shortgrass Rangers	Grandfield	1st Sat & 3rd Sat	405-640-5650	Oklahoma Spuds	N/A
Tulsey Town Cattlemen's Association	Tulsa	2nd & 4th Sat	918-697-7396	Dry Gulch Deryl	Tulsa Gun Club
OREGON					
Dry Gulch Desperados	Milton-Freewater	1st Sat	509-520-2789	Pinto Annie	East End Rod & Gun Club
Horse Ridge Pistoleros	Bend	1st, 3rd, & 5th Sun	541-848-7260	Big Casino	Central Oregon Shooting Sports Association
Horse Ridge Pistoleros Wild Bunch	Bend	1st, 3rd, & 5th Sun	541-848-7260	Big Casino	Central Oregon Shooting Sports Association
Merlin Marauders Cowboy Action Shooting Possee	Grants Pass	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	541-226-7814	New Hope Kid	Josephine County Sportsmans Association Park
Old 97 Railroad Rangers	Redmond	2nd & 4th Sat	541-548-3198	Tetherow Tex LaRue	Redmond Rod and Gun Club
Oregon Old West Shooting Society	Albany	3rd Sun & 4th Sat	541-760-0884	Barry L Plotz	Albany Rifle & Pistol Club
Orygun Cowboys	Sherwood	4th Sat	503-539-6335	Kansan	Tri County Gun Club
Table Rock Rangers	Eagle Point	1st Sun & 2nd Sat	541-944-2281	Jed I. Knight	Jackson County Sports Park
PENNSYLVANIA					
Blue Mountain Rangers	Hamburg	3rd Sun	610-334-3499	Tombstone Coty	Shartlesville, PA
Boot Hill Gang of Topton	Topton	1st Sun	610-704-6792	Lester Moore	Topton Fish & Game Association
Chimney Rocks Regulators	Hollidaysburg	2nd Sat	814-695-7064	Colorado Smith	Hollidaysburg Sportman Club
El Posse Grande	Muncy Valley	4th & 5th Sun	570-337-3974	Black Hills Barb	North Mountain Sportsman's Association
Elstonville Hombres	Manheim	4th Sun	717-648-7491	Circuit Rider Jeff	Elstonville Sportsman's Association
Heidelberg Lost Dutchmen	Newmanstown	2nd Sun	717-675-7322	High Spade Mikey Wilson	Heidelberg Sportsman Association
Jefferson Outlaws	Spring Grove	3rd Sat	443-392-1615	Red-Eyed Kid	Jefferson Rifle Club
Matamoras Mavericks	Milford	2nd Sun	570-686-3618	Ziggady Zag	Matamoras Rod & Gun Club
Perry County Regulators	Ickesburg	1st Sat	717-307-6374	Farmer Brown	Ickesburg Sportsmen's Association
Welsh Mountain Regulators	Gap	2nd Sat	484-802-7122	Blaze Crittenden	New Holland Rifle and Pistol Club
SOUTH CAROLINA					
Belton Bushwhackers	Belton	2nd Sat	864-363-3147	Slippery Stew	Belton Gun Club
Geechee Gunfighters	Ridgeville	4th Sat	843-737-3501	Doc Kemm	Palmetto Gun Club
Hurricane Riders	Galivants Ferry	3rd Sat	843-756-6351	Palmetto Jack	Horry Chapter Wildlife Action
Moonshine at Dark Corner	Travelers Rest	1st Sun.	941-264-75722	Fancy Filly	N/A
SOUTH DAKOTA					
Black Hills Shootist Association	Pringle	3rd Sun	612-817-2212	Boulder Canyon Bob	Pringle Shooting Range
Cottonwood Cowboy Association	Clark	As Scheduled	605-532-5212	Dakota Nailbender	Cottonwood Cowboy Range
Medicine Creek Road Agents	Oncida	1st Sun	605-222-5145	Iron Mender	Medicine Creek Road Agents Shooting Range
TENNESSEE					
Memphis Gunslingers	Lakeland	1st Sun & 2nd Sat	901-490-4195	Bitterroot Jak	Memphis Sport Shooting Association
Ocoee Rangers	Cleveland	4th Sat	423-595-3819	Ocoee Red	Cleveland Hunting Rifle & Pistol Club
ORSA's Oak Ridge Outlaws	Oak Ridge	2nd Tues & Sat	865-567-1574	Horse Doc	Oak Ridge Sportsman's Association
TEXAS					
Badlands Bar 3	Clarksville	4th Wkd	903-272-9283	T-Bone Dooley	Badlands Bar 3
Butterfield Trail Regulators	Anson	3rd Sat	325-669-5903	Smilin Joe	Anson
Comanche Trail Shootists	Midland	1st Sat	432-557-6598	Dee Horne	Timberline Ranch
Comanche Valley Vigilantes	Cleburne	4th Wkd	817-980-7206	Shady McLarry	Ormsby Ranch
Green Mountain Regulators	Marble Falls	4th Sat	254-449-0082	Reckon	Joma Enterprises LLC
Gruesome Gulch Gang	Plainview	3rd Sat	806-729-5887	Eli Blue	N/A
Lone Star Frontier Shooting Club	Cleburne	2nd Wkd	214-850-9695	Texas Banker	Ormsby Ranch
Oakwood Outlaws	Oakwood	2nd Full Wkd	214-384-3975	Denton Dancer	Shank Ranch
Old Fort Parker Patriots	Groesbeck	3rd Wkd	903-720-7270	Bent Barrel Betty	Old Fort Parker Gun Club
Orange County Regulators	Orange	1st & 3rd Sat	409-267-1091	Texas Gator	Orange Gun Club
Rio Grande Valley Vaqueros	Pharr	4th Sun	956-648-7364	Dream Chaser	Pharr Rifle and Pistol Club
South Texas Pistoleros	San Antonio	1st & 3rd Sat	210-213-9812	Latigo Lee	A Place To Shoot Inc.
Tejas Caballeros	Blanco	3rd Sat	210-870-9411	Mia Jameson	Texas Republic Ranch

CLUB NAME	CITY	MATCH DAY	PHONE	CONTACT	RANGE LOCATION
Texas Historical Shootist Society	Columbus	2nd Sat & 3rd Sun	281-830-8188	Texas Mulehead	Brune Ranch
Texas Riviera Pistoleros	George West	2nd & 5th Sat	361-384-9450	Dusty Lawdog	Gamble Gulch Range
Texas Ten Horns	Leonard	1st Sat & Sun	972-658-4347	Hairtrigger Hayes	Top Gun Shooting Sports
Texas Troublemakers	Brownsboro	1st Sat	903-539-7234	Lefty Tex Larue	Troubletown Range
Thunder River Renegades	Plantersville	1st & 4th Sat	281-785-2397	Osage Mike	N/A
Willow Hole Cowboys	North Zulch	3rd Sat	979-696-1300	Def Willie	Thomason Ranch

UTAH

Dixie Desperados	Hurricane	2nd & 4th Sat	85246	Navajo Kelly	Southern Utah Shooting Sports Park
Dixie Desperados Wild Bunch	Hurricane	1st & 5th Sat	435-773-8916	William Waddy	Southern Utah Shooting Sports Park
Mesa Marauders Gun Club	Lake Powell	3rd Sat	435-272-1708	Copper Queen	Gunsmoke Range

VIRGINIA

Bedford Liberty Long Riders	Bedford	1st Sun	434-942-7369	Thunder Colt	Bedford Rifle and Revolver Club
Cavalier Cowboys	Montpelier	1st Sun & 2nd Wed	804-307-2980	Major B.S. Walker	Cavalier Rifle and Pistol Club
KC's Corral Cowboy Shooting Association	Mechanicsville	3rd Sat	804-400-2869	Ricochet Kid	Black Creek Gun Club
Mattaponi Sundowners	Shacklefords	3rd Sun & 4th Sat	804-241-5418	Potter County Kid	West Point Gun Club
Pepper Mill Creek Gang	King George	4th Sun	540-775-7417	Justice Deadly	Northern Virginia Gun Club
Pungo Posse Cowboy Action Club	Waverly	1st & 2nd Sat	757-635-6198	Beartooth Les	Sussex Shooting Sports
Rivanna Ranger Company	Charlottesville	2nd Sat	434-286-6949	Dunderberg Drifter	Rivanna Rifle and Pistol Club
Virginia City Marshals	Fairfax	1st Tues	540-351-0211	Lawman Mays	NRA Headquarters Range

WASHINGTON

Apple Valley Marshals	East Wenatchee	3rd Sat	509-679-0847	First Chance	North Central Washington Gun Club
Beazley Gulch Rangers	Quincy	Last Sun	509-787-1782	An E. Di	Quincy American Legion Gun Club
Mima Marauders	Olympia	2nd Sat	360-352-1393	Diablo Dalton	Evergreen Sportsman Club
Northeast Washington Regulators	Colville	1st Wkd	509-684-2325	A. T. McGee	Ricochet Junction
Pataha Rustlers	Dayton	2nd Sat	509-520-2789	Pinto Annie	Patit Range
Rattlesnake Gulch Rangers	Benton City	4th Sat	509-628-0889	Ricochet Robbie	Tri Cities Shootig Association
Renton United Cowboy Action Shooters	Renton	1st Wkd	425-432-3534	Cedar County Sheriff	Renton Fish & Game Club
Smokey Point Desperados	Arlington	2nd Sun	425-335-5176	Mudflat Mike	Marysville Rifle Club
Windy Plains Drifters	Medical Lake	Sat & Sun 2nd & 4th Wkd	509-953-1113	Svenska Annie	Windy West Plains Range
Wolverton Mountain Peace Keepers	Ariel	3rd Sat (Mar-Sept)	360-901-5688	Evergreen Rose	Wolverton Mountain Gun Club
Yakima Black Rock Bunch	Moxee	2nd Sat	509-576-0866	Hondo Red	Sun Valley Shooting Park

WEST VIRGINIA

Cowboy Action Shooting Sports	Great Cacapon	4th Sun Mar to Oct	304-289-6098	Last Word	Singing Hills Ranch
Dawn Ghost Riders	Hinton	1st Sun	304-832-6550	Blue Ridge Rooster	Dawn Sportsmen's Club
Henderson Wilds Justice League	Williamstown	3rd Sun	740-516-6624	Thaddeus Jones	Henderson Wilds
Kanawha Valley Regulators	Eleanor	2nd Sat	304-397-6188	Eddie Rebel	Putnam County Park Gun Club

WISCONSIN

Crystal River Gunslingers	Dayton	2nd Sat	920-722-4105	James Rosewood	Chain O'Lakes Conservation Club
Hodag Country Cowboys	Rhinelanders	2nd Sat	715-493-0152	Singleshot Virgil	Hodag Sports Club
Rock River Regulators	Beloit	1st & 3rd Sat	608-931-4821	Stoney Mike	Beloit Rifle Club
Western Wisconsin Wild Bunch	Holmen	2nd Sat	608-790-3260	Flyen Doc Koyote	Holmen Rod and Gun Club
Wisconsin Old West Shootists, Inc	Glenwood City	2nd Sun & 4th Sat	715-790-9959	Colonel Carbine	WOWS Station

WYOMING

Bessemer Vigilance Committee	Casper	1st Sun & 3rd Sat	307-267-1155	Smokewagon Bill	Stuckenhoff Sport Shooters Complex
Border Vigilantes	Cheyenne	3rd Sat	307-287-6733	Assassin	Otto Road Shooting Range
Cheyenne Regulators	Cheyenne	1st Saturday	303-968-7616	Kid Kent	4276 Calico Hill Ranch Road
Colter's Hell Justice Committee WSAS	Powell	1st Sat	307-254-2090	Yakima Red	Heart Mountain Rod and Gun Club
Great Divide Outlaws	Rawlins	4th Sat	307-320-7250	Slingin Lead	Rawlins Outdoor Shooting Complex

SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS 2020 ANNUAL MATCHES

CLUB NAME	DATE	CONTACT	PHONE	EMAIL	CITY	ST	WEB SITE
AUSTRALIA							
SASS Heartland Territorial Championship	7/23-26	Jackaroo	+61418523573	brtssw@gmail.com	Ashmore City	July	www.thegamblerwedaleinleadfriend.com
SASS Australian Regional Championship	10/2-4	R. C. Shot	+61 447 831 154	russell.behrns@mmem.com.au	N/A	October	www.ssa2.org.au
CANADA							
Palmer's Gulch Provincials	7/2-6	Gunfighter Jim	250-573-2885	gunfighterjim@telus.net	Heffley Creek	BC	heffleycreekgunclub.ca
SASS Eastern Canadian Regional Championship	7/15-18	Drop Dead Dave	613-213-3022	d_nixer@hotmail.com	Prescott	ON	www.sasseasterncanadianregional.com
SASS Eastern Canadian Wild Bunch Regional Championship	7/15-16	Legendary Lawman	905-393-4299	peterandliz2012@gmail.com	Prescott	ON	www.sasseasterncanadianregional.com
Showdown in the Valley	8/1-2	Little Edgy	250-897-2194	edgy52@gmail.com	Courtenay	BC	www.valleyregulators.com
SASS WESTERN CANADIAN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Shootout at Bounty Gulch	8/5-8	Wild Whiskey Wade	306-230-3788	trentunterer@live.ca	Saskatoon	SK	www.sawws.com
SASS CANADIAN NATIONAL WILD BUNCH CHAMPIONSHIP Shootout at Twin Rivers Cowntown	9/2-3	Gunfighter Jim	250-573-2885	gunfighterjim@telus.net	Kamloops	BC	www.ktsa.ca/
SASS CANADIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Shootout at Twin Rivers Cowntown	9/5-6	Gunfighter Jim	250-573-2885	gunfighterjim@telus.net	Kamloops	BC	www.ktsa.ca/
FINLAND							
North Star Trail	7/16-19	Finn Jake	35-840-060-6937	jouko.tolvanen@gmail.com	Loppi	July	www.cows.fi
FRANCE							
East Valley	4/10-11	Cornelius Chesterfield	336 76 49 54 81	pa.demont@free.fr	Detwiller	April	N/A
Three Days to Buffalo Valley	6/11-14	Slye Buffalo	02 37 63 65 83	selleriethymerais@orange.fr	Châteauneuf-en-Thymerais	June	N/A
SASS France Championship Cormery Railway Station	9/17-19	Yul Tattoo	N/A	N/A	Cormery	September	www.CTST37.fr
NEW ZEALAND							
SSASS New Zealand Wild Bunch National Championship	9/11-13	Prairie Dog Brown	+0273762670	prairiedogbrown@gmail.com	Ashburton	September	www.pistolnz.org.nz
SASS New Zealand National Championship	10/29 - 11/1	Kid Rustlers	+64 27 241 9111	N/A	Hokitika	October	N/A
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA							
Reunion Match	4/11	Horse Doc	865-567-1574	hackettps@aol.com	Oak Ridge	TN	www.oakridgeoutlaws.org
Shootout at Fort Miller	4/16-18	Snakebite	559-787-2943	snakebite4767@yahoo.com	Clovis	CA	www.kingsriverregulators.com
SASS Delaware State Championship Easdern Shore Round-Up	TBA	Cactus Whiskey	302-834-0396	bud649@aol.com	Sudlersville	MD	www.sassrenegades.com
Rootin' Tootin' Shootout II	4/18	Buck Bow	662-417-0250	montgomery38967@bellsouth.net	Mendenhall	MS	www.mississippipecanekmers.net
SASS Western Territorial Wild Bunch Championship	CANCELLED	Mokaac Kid	435-668-4613	mokaackid@gmail.com	Hurricane	UT	www.dixiedesperados.com
SASS SOUTHWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Land Run	4/22-25	Missouri Mae	405-517-8433	missourimae@gmail.com	Oklahoma City	OK	cowboy.okgunclub.org/
SASS Four Corners Regional	CANCELLED	Bit Younger	435-239-4014	clark_poulton@q.com	Hurricane	UT	www.dixiedesperados.com
Rattlesnake Gulch Roundup	4/23-26	Ricochet Robbie	509-628-0889	ricochetrobby@gmail.com	Benton City	WA	www.rattlesnakegulch.org
Cowford Stampede	4/24-25	Willy Whiskers	904-683-5624	willywhiskers@yahoo.com	Jacksonville	FL	cowfordregulators.com
SASS Indiana State Championship Ambush at Paradise	4/24-26	C. C. Top	574-354-7186	curttbaguns@gmail.com	Etna Green	IN	www.paradisepassregulators.com/
SASS Northeast Territorial Black Powder Championship Smoke in the Woods	4/25-26	Deadwood Stan	513-304-3505	jswanner@cinci.rr.com	Middletown	OH	April www.bigirons.com
SASS Louisiana State Wild Bunch Championship- Bushwack at Gator Pond	4/25-26	Duke City Deadeye	504-256-3780	erich505@hotmail.com	Sorrento	LA	www.deadwoodmarshals.com/
SASS Kentucky State Match- Shootout in the Hills	4/30 - 5/2	Copperhead Joe	606-599-5263	jeromejarvis61@gmail.com	Manchester	KY	www.ponderosa-pines.com
Diamond Dick's Cowboy Town Annual Match	4/30 - 5/3	Napa Sidewinder	707-226-9729	millerac01@yahoo.com	Sloughhouse	CA	www.cagunslingers.com
T-Town Shoot Out	5/1-3	Sheriff J. W. Hopkins	785-640-3742	sheriff.hopkins@hotmail.com	Topeka	KS	www.capitalcitycowboys.org
Ambush at Ricochet Junction	CANCELLED	Ranger Six	509-467-0553	gsfarris@yahoo.com	Colville	WA	www.newregulators.com/
Father Time Memorial Shoot	5/2-3	Wendover Kid	252-908-0098	pwmsfb@aol.com	Battleboro	NC	May N/A
Middle of the Road	5/2-3	Gem Hunter	208-466-0061	gepdaisy@msn.com	Boise	ID	May idahocowboyaction.org
Thunder in the Brush	5/3	Ricochet Kid	804-400-2869	adadoors@aol.com	Mechanicsville	VA	May www.kccsccorral.net
Spring Round Up	5/7-9	Persimmon Dan	812-453-3168	olddanriver@twc.com	Evanville	IN	May www.sidespotmus.com/facilities/commcites/spring-roundup
For the Heck of it	5/8-10	Pinto Annie	509-520-2789	pintoannie@cowboybullets.com	Dayton	WA	May ccs shooting.com
SASS Alaska State Wild Bunch Championship Shootout at Moose Nugget Flats	5/9-10	Marshal Stone	907-232-1080	wallingmtaonline.net	Palmer	AK	May www.alaskacowboyshooting.com
SASS Georgia State Blackpowder Championship Smokeout at South River	5/14	Fast Eddie	404-405-8266	fasteddie76308@hotmail.com	Covington	GA	May www.srscoyboy.com
SASS Georgia State Championship Stampede at South River	5/14-16	Fast Eddie	404-405-8266	fasteddie76308@hotmail.com	Covington	GA	May www.srscoyboy.com
Spring Roundup	5/15-17	Beans Haney	913-244-4960	monicahaney@hotmail.com	Parker	KS	May freestaterangers.com
SASS West Virginia State Blackpowder Championship Smoke over Buffalo Flats, XI	5/15-16	Eddie Rebel	304-397-6188	ecclark@suddenlink.net	Eleanor	WV	May www.kanawhavalleyregulators.com
Southeastern NM Shootout	5/15-17	Curley Bill Jones	575-408-21777	matray1220@yahoo.com	Hobbs	NM	May msbushwhackers.com
SASS Utah State Black Powder Championship	5/16	Fargo Kid	435-650-6544	fargokid@emerytelcom.net	Price	UT	May www.thecastlegetposse.net/
SASS New York State Wild Bunch Championship Muster At Fort Misery	5/16-17	Renegade Roper	518-275-1342	dischenab@gmail.com	Ballston Spa	NY	May www.circlekregulators.com
High Sierra Shootout	5/21-24	Chance McCall	916-425-5018	tom@tsvpainting.com	Rail Road Flat	CA	May https://cagunslingers.com/
SASS Mississippi State Championship Smokin' Guns at Rabbit Ridge	5/22-24	Jackalope Jeb	662-610-8278	jackalopejeb@art.net	Byhalia	MS	May mississippiriverrangers.org
SASS Pennsylvania State Championship North Mountain Shoot Out	5/22-24	Black Hills Barb	570-337-3974	basnyder1@comcast.net	Muncy Valley	PA	May www.elpossegrande.com
SASS Ohio State Championship Shootout at Hard Times	5/22-24	Mean Gun Mark	937-219-4376	meangunmark@earthlink.net	Piqua	OH	May www.miamivalleycowboys.org/
5th Annual Lazy Arrow ShootOut	5/22-24	Roger Rapid	805-801-8750	siminoff@siminoff.net	Santa Margarita	CA	May www.pvcatazayarrow.com
SASS Iowa State Championship Shootout at Coyote Gulch	5/22-24	Tuco	515-988-2301	tucold@msn.com	Indianola	IA	May www.fortdesmoinesrangers.com
End Of Road	5/22-24	Missy Mable	208-731-6387	missymable3232@gmail.com	Twin Falls	ID	May www.idahocas.net
Where the Old West Stayed Young	5/23-24	Sagebrush Burns	970-208-3196	270burns@gmail.com	Craig	CO	May www.bearsears.org
The 10th Annual Fracas at Frisco	5/23	Dirty Dan Paladin	479-633-2107	ddpaladin33@gmail.com	Rogers	AR	May www.arkansaslesregulators.org
May Mayhem	5/23-24	Pecos Steve	417-770-7516	sskopecs@basspro.com	Marshfield	MO	May www.so-mo-rangers.com
SASS Oregon State Championship	5/27-31	Arctic Annie	541-588-2722	tpalmer@wini.com	Redmond	OR	May rrandg.com/index.php/cowboy-shooting-discipline
SASS Utah State Championship	5/28-30	Jubal O. Sackett	801-518-3374	dbkimsey@hotmail.com	Salt Lake City	UT	May www.utahwar.com
SASS Texas State Wild Bunch Championship	5/30	Reckon	254-449-0082	ireckon357@yahoo.com	Marble Falls	TX	May www.greenmountainregulators.org/

CLUB NAME	DATE	CONTACT	PHONE	EMAIL	CITY	ST	WEB SITE
SASS Alabama State Championship Shootout At Cavern Cove	6/4-6	Marshal T. K. D.	256-262-4545	gofftkd@bellsouth.net	Woodville	AL	April www.northalabamaregulators.com
Shootout at the Painted Desert	6/5-7	Monty Rio	928-243-4471	bco173rd@yahoo.com	St. Johns	AZ	June www.wmows.com
The Great Spagetti Western	6/5-6	Kid Ricky Bobby	214-507-7993	packceith@yahoo.com	Leonard	TX	June www.texas10thorns.org
The Reckoning on the Rock	6/5-7	Saddlespur Kate	414-659-7650	SaddlespurKate@yahoo.com	Beloit	WI	June www.rockriverregulators.com/
SASS MA, CT, and RI State Championship	6/5-7	Yankee	781-985-0183	yankeesas266@gmail.com	Harvard	MA	June www.harvardghostriders.com
Raid by the Lake	6/6	Rustler	858-735-4610	coltsixshooter@gmail.com	Escondido	CA	June www.escondidobandidos.org
The Hold Up At Medicine Creek	6/6-7	Medicine Creek Johnny	605-280-4097	rodewig@venturecomm.net	Onedia	SD	June www.medicinereckroadagents.weebly.com
All Shotgun Classic	6/7	Oldahoma Spuds	405-640-5650	jim@kerrteam.com	Lawton	OK	June www.shortgrassrangers.homestead.com
SASS Kansas State Championship Prince of the Pistolers	6/11-13	K. C. Ranger	816-507-2887	kc.ranger.pcc@gmail.com	Lenexa	KS	June www.powdercreekcowboys.com
SASS Maryland State Championship Thunder Valley Days	6/12-14	Dogmeat Dad	301-253-0578	cmlmparis@compuserve.com	Damascus	MD	June www.wildliferangers.com
SASS California State Wild Bunch Championship	6/12-14	Tully Mars	925-783-3800	locketbryan@yahoo.com	Sloughhouse	CA	June www.cagunslingers.com
SASS Gunfight on the Green River	6/13	Tyrel Cody	615-388-2105	jcothron@gmail.com	Bowling Green	KY	June www.greenrivergunslingers.com
SummerFest- New Shooter Intro; Demo (not a match)	6/13	Dusty Sagerider	626-644-5368	pgk@flash.net	Sylmar	CA	June www.canyonakssportsmansclub.org
SASS North Dakota and South Dakota State Championship Peace in the Valley	6/18-21	Wild River Rose	701-793-4116	wildriverrose5@aol.com	Enderlin	ND	June www.shenyenvalleypeacekeepers.com
The Revenge	6/19-21	Stumble Leena	970-799-1133	jenniferstewart35071@yahoo.com	Montrose	CO	June www.windygapregulators.com
Women's Wild West Shootout and Magnificent 7	6/20-21	Ozark Belle/ Ozark Shark	214-206-5807/214-415-6363	tracygar@charter.net/ theozarkshark@gmail.com	Marshfield	MO	June www.so-mo-rangers.com
SASS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP END OF TRAIL	6/17-27/2021	SASS HQ	505-843-1320	sass@sassnet.com	Founders Ranch	NM	June www.sassnet.com/EOt/index.php
SASS MOUNTED WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP END OF TRAIL	6/24-27/2021	Chili Cowboy	505-379-8957	SNUCCI@aol.com	Founders Ranch	NM	June www.brrmounted.com
SASS Virginia State Blackpowder Championship Smoke on the Mattaponi	6/27	Potter County Kid	804-241-5418	97graves@gmail.com	West Point	VA	June www.westpointgundclub.com
SASS Wisconsin State Blackpowder Championship Smoke in the Hills	6/27-28	Tracker Jack Daniels	715-643-2011	trackerjackdaniels@gmail.com	Glenwood City	WI	June www.wowsinc.org
Hell on Wheels	7/1-5	Assassin	307-287-6733	chrshrdyh@aol.com	Cheyenne	WY	July www.bordervigilantes.com
SASS Shootout at Pawnee Station	7/3-5	Red River Wrangler	970-225-0545	RRW52503@gmail.com	Nunn	CO	July www.pawnestation.com
SASS Alaska Territorial Championship Shootout Under The Midnight Sun	7/3-5	Marshal Stone	907-232-1080	walling@mtaonline.net	Palmer	AK	July www.alaskacowboysshooting.com
SASS Idaho State Championship Renegade Shootout	7/8-11	Gem Hunter	208-466-0061	gepdaisy@msn.com	Boise	ID	July idahocowboyaction.org
SASS Minnesota State Championship North Star Showdown	7/9-13	Timber Jack Thompson	320-979-1745	dloesq@yahoo.com	Kimball	MN	July www.gcgunslingers.com/
SASS Alaska State Championship	7/10-12	Drover Knutts	907-479-9339	rd8734@outlook.com	Fairbanks	AK	July www.ghsfairbanks.org
Shootout On the Sun River	7/10-13	Robert Powers	406-761-1169	robertpowers4@bresnqn.net	Augusta	MT	July www.sunriverangers.weebly.com
Iron Cowboy Challenge	7/10-12	Assassin	307-287-6733	chrshrdyh@aol.com	Cheyenne	WY	July www.bordervigilantes.com
Shootin' for the Brand	7/11	Calamity Di Bar	580-847-2210	dibartoma@me.com	Albany	OK	July rrvcowpokes.weebly.com
SASS Nebraska State Championship Showdown on the Prairie	7/16-18	Stirrup Trouble	308-380-4682	dsayers@eaglecom.net	Alda	NE	July www.plattevalleygunslingers.com/
SASS Montana State Championship Battle at Black Horse	7/16-19	Jeb's Lady	406-727-7625	dlfaf@charter.net	Great Falls	MT	July www.blackhorseshootists.com
Oregon Trail Shootout 20th Anniversary	7/17-19	T. J. Maverick	541-910-4244	tjmaverick@charter.net	La Grande	OR	July www.lgrpc.com
Hell on the Prairie	7/18-19	Oldahoma Spuds	405-640-5650	jim@kerrteam.com	Lawton	OK	July www.shortgrassrangers.homestead.com
SASS Nebraska State Blackpowder Championship	7/19	Stirrup Trouble	308-380-4682	dsayers@eaglecom.net	Alda	NE	July plattevalleygunslingers.com/
BSSG	7/25	Homestake Drifter	406-656-4097	ar129@aol.com	Billings	MT	July www.montanaterritorypeacemakers.org/
Hooten Memorial Shoot	7/31 - 8/1	Appalachian Alan	859-749-9292	alanbillips@yahoo.com	Mckee	KY	July www.hootendowntown.com/
Mason Dixon Stampede	7/31 - 8/2	Dutch Coroner	202-330-8545	dutchcoroner82128@gmail.com	Thurmont	MD	July www.tcandsc.org
SHOOTOUT at ELK RUN	7/31 - 8/2	Ranger Mathias Fischels	319-240-2224	ted.simon@mcshi.com	Elk Run Heights	IA	July www.turkeyfoot.org
SASS Wisconsin State Wild Bunch Championship	7/31 - 8/2	Flyen Doc Koyote	608-790-3260	kunesmark@gmail.com	Holmen	WI	July www.wildbunch.com
SASS Minnesota State Wild Bunch Championship Return to Agua Verde	7/31 - 8/2	Timber Jack Thompson	320-979-1745	dloesq@yahoo.com	Kimball	MN	July www.gcgunslingers.com/
SASS Washing State Championship West Match	8/1-2	Scarlett BlackHeart	253-405-7121	jelaverne@gmail.com	Renton	WA	August www.rucasowboys.com/
SASS Oregon State Wild Bunch Championship	8/1-2	Texas Jack Morales	451-420-3955	guntraders@gmail.com	Bend	OR	August www.hrp-sass.com/
SASS WESTERN REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Chorro Valley Shootout	8/5-9	Sinful	805-286-1188	michaeltgarripee@yahoo.com	San Luis Obispo	CA	August www.chorrovallyregulators.com
SASS Vermont State Championship Green Mountain Mayhem	8/7-9	Doc McCoy	802-363-7162	docmccoy@gmavt.net	St. Johnsbury	VT	August www.vtcowboys.com
Mayhem at the Mounds	8/7-8	Diablo Dalton	360-352-1393	daltongang222@aol.com	Olympia	WA	August www.mimamarauders.com/
SASS NORTHEAST REGIONAL Championship Guns of August	8/7-9	Deadwood Stan	513-304-3505	jswannet@cinci.rr.com	Middletown	OH	August www.bigirons.com
SASS NORTHWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	8/13-16	Missy Mable	208-731-6387	missymable3232@gmail.com	Jerome	ID	August www.idahocas.net
Besemer Jail Break	8/14-16	Smokewagon Bill	307-267-1155	hooverpatwilliam@hotmail.com	Casper	WY	August N/A
Annual Pig Roast	8/14-15	Reviewier Ratler	989-400-1057	mpijdon@gmail.com	Breckentridge	MI	August www.SuckerCreek.org
Wolverton Mountain PeaceKeepers 15th Annual Match "Tombstone"	8/21-23	Evergreen Rose	360-903-6316	baughma@yahoo.com	Ariel	WA	August www.wolvertonmtpeacekeepers.com
SASS New Mexico State Wild Bunch Championship	8/22-23	Bogus Deal	505-506-5783	tbogus@hotmail.com	Edgewood	NM	August www.facebook.com/LosPistolerosWBAS/
SASS California State Championship Last Stand at Chimney Rock	9/2-6	John Ringo	714-469-2184	jsanderson714@gmail.com	Lucerne Valley	CA	April www.doublerbarregulators.com
SASS Texas State Championship Comancheria Days	9/3-5	A. D.	210-862-7464	joeneumann@sbglobal.net	Comfort	TX	April www.texicanrangers.org
SASS Michigan State Championship Wolverine Rangers Range War	9/4-7	Sinola Kid	734-612-0570	sinolakid@gmail.com	Kimball	MI	September www.wolverinerangers.org
SASS Arkansas State Championship Shoot'n in the Shade	9/4-6	Bulldog McGraw	501-337-9368	bulldogmcgraw@outlook.com	Hot Springs	AR	September www.mvsaonline.com
Annual Old Time Shoot	9/5-6	Big Casino	541-848-7260	bigcasino@bendbroadband.com	Bend	OR	September www.hrp-sass.com/
Rough Rider Roundup	9/5-7	Rod-Iron-Rip	701-223-3085	ripsroast@bis.midco.net	Moffit	ND	September www.dakotaroughriders.com
SASS Kansas State Wild Bunch Championship	9/5-6	K. C. Ranger	816-507-2887	kc.ranger.pcc@gmail.com	Lenexa	KS	September www.powdercreekcowboys.com
SASS Nevada State Wild Bunch Championship	9/7-8	Bordello Fellow	503-997-1255	gadevoret1@hotmail.com	Fernley	NV	September www.northernnevadacas.com
SASS Oklahoma State Championship- Southwest Showdown	9/9-12	Tomanator	580-847-2210	claytoma@gmail.com	Albany	OK	September rrvcowpokes.weebly.com
SASS Illinois State Wild Bunch Championship	9/10-11	Billy The Avenger	217-971-6107	chuckey13@hotmail.com	Sparta	IL	September logincowboys.org/linno-sas-ws-championship-2019
24th Annual Roop County Days	9/10-12	Irish Ike	775-250-4554	jeich455@charter.net	Fernley	NV	September northernnevadacas.com
Standoff at Smokey Point	9/11-13	Mudflat Mike	425-335-5176	tmperin@comcast.net	Adlington	WA	September www.smokeypointdesperados.org
SASS New Mexico State Championship - The Geronimo Trail Shootout	9/11-13	Captain Clark	575-644-9327	lncolt@gmail.com	Silver City / Mimbres	NM	September www.gilarangers.com/
SASS Colorado State Championship 8th Annual Return of the Buffalo to the Plains	9/11-13	Sixty-Nine Cent Wizard	970-396-9010	sixty9centwizard@aol.com	Briggsdale	CO	September www.briggsdalecountyshootists.com
SASS Illinois State Championship	9/11-12	Billy The Avenger	217-971-6107	chuckey13@hotmail.com	Sparta	IL	September logincowboys.org/linno-sas-ws-championship-2019
Shoot and Toot	9/12	Gooch Hill Drifter	406-539-9400	ardebern@gmail.com	Logan	MT	September sites.google.com/site/gallatinvalleyregulate2/
The Bushwhack	9/12	Slippery Stew	864-363-3147	slippystew1229@gmail.com	Belton	SC	September www.beltonbushwhackers.com
Northwest Territorial Shoot	9/12-13	Gem Hunter	208-466-0061	gepdaisy@msn.com	Boise	ID	September idahocowboyaction.org
SASS Four Corners Territorial Black Powder Championship Smoke at the Gate	9/12	Wolf of North Springs	435-650-4449	castlegateposse@gmail.com	Price	UT	September www.thecastlegateposse.net/
Gunfight along the Chisholm Trail	9/12-13	Chisholm Kid	785-224-4918	bill.allman@att.net	Benton	KS	September ctaga.com

CLUB NAME	DATE	CONTACT	PHONE	EMAIL	CITY	ST	WEB SITE
SASS MIDWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP Gunsmoke	9/16-19	Bronco Kate	507-269-2230	brconcokate45@gmail.com	Morristown	MN	September www.cedarvalleyvigilantes.com
Gunfight in Dixie	9/17-19	Bitterroot Jak	901-490-4195	thetroudbum@mac.com	Lakeland	TN	September www.memphisgunslingers.com
SASS New York State Championship Heluva Rukus	9/18-20	Maurice "Mo" Lassie	518-752-5184	donadler@hotmail.com	Ballston Spa	NY	September www.circlecregulators.com/
SASS Oregon State Black Powder Championship Smoke Over Saddle Butte	9/18-20	Holy Rider	541-953-6149	HolyRider45@gmail.com	Shedd	OR	September www.owows.com
Ambush at Canyon Walls	9/18-20	May B. Shecann	406-531-4116	johnnyand.may@gmail.com	Hamilton	MT	September www.BitterrootBuckaroos.com
SASS Missouri State Wild Bunch Championship Pershing's Own	9/19-20	Col. Benjamin H. Grierson	417-501-1886	colgrierson@earthlink.net	Walnut Shade	MO	September bearcreekvolunteers.com/
Shootout At Helledorado	9/22-27	Tagalong Trish	707-778-1291	epreid@comcast.net	Ukiah	CA	September www.ukiahgunclub.com
Comin' At Cha	9/23-26	T-Bone Dooley	903-272-9283	tbonedooley@aol.com	English	TX	September www.badlandsbar3.com
SASS Missouri State Championship Show-Me Shootout	9/24-26	Long Shot John	417-299-7635	easymav12@yahoo.com	Marshfield	MO	September www.so-mo-rangers.com
SASS Missouri State Blackpowder Championship Show-Me Shootout	9/24	J-Bar	417-522-9892	rdbyran1944@gmail.com	Marshfield	MO	September www.so-mo-rangers.com
SASS West Virginia State Championship Appalachian Showdown	9/25-27	Last Word	304-289-6098	lastword@citlink.net	Largent	WV	September www.wvcass.org
Shootout at Shakey's Gulch	9/25-27	Justice D. Spencer	574-536-4010	jjdarrigan@msn.com	Bristol	IN	September www.wolfsrowdyrangers.com/
Drifter Daze	9/25-27	Svenska Annie	509-953-1113	resherman1@gmail.com	Medical Lake	WA	September windy-plains-drifters.com
Fall Roundup	9/25-27	Justice James Newton	309-236-5082	djmfmfour@gmail.com	Milan	IL	September www.milanrifle.club
29th Annual Orygun Trail's End-Aces & Eights	9/26	Kansan	503-539-6335	kansandave@aim.com	Sherwood	OR	September www.oryguncowboys.us/
SASS Ohio State Wild Bunch Championship	9/26	Ruger Ray	937-422-4595	rugerray@aatt.net	Xenia	OH	September www.greencountycowboys.com
Shootout on the Sandy Creek	9/26	Sixgun Seamus	330-904-5166	sixgunseamus@gmail.com	Malvern	OH	September browntownshipregulators.com/
SASS Oklahoma State Wild Bunch Championship Red Dirt	10/2-4	Hondo Tweed	405-694-5270	hondotweed@gmail.com	Arcadia	OK	October cowboyokgunclub.org
Comanche Moon Shootout	10/3-4	Dee Horne	432-557-6598	selzmilton@gmail.com	Midland	TX	October www.comanchetrailshootists.org/
SASS Nevada State Championship Eldorado	10/3-6	Lady Glitter	702-429-4102	ladyglitter@cox.net	Boulder City	NV	October www.eldoradocowboys.com
Rifleman's Holiday	10/3-4	Monty Rio	928-243-4471	bco173rd@yahoo.com	St. Johns	AZ	October www.wmows.com
Huntsman World Senior Games	10/6-10	Bit Younger	435-239-4014	clark_poulton@q.com	Hurricane	UT	October www.dixiedesperados.com
SASS Tennessee State Championship Regulators Reckoning	10/8-10	Whiskey Hayes	931-703-8274	Bill_May@b-f.com	Wartrace	TN	October www.wartraceregulators.com/
SASS Wisconsin State Championship Fandangio	10/9-11	Flyen Doc Koyote	608-790-3260	kunesmark@gmail.com	Holmen	WI	October www.wildbunch.com/
Buzzard Boil	10/9-11	Double Tap Taylor	860-384-0543	ljfisherman@yahoo.com	Coventry	CT	October www.CTValleyBushwackers.com
Mayhem on the Mountain	10/9-11	Ozark Outlaw	501-362-2963	ozarkoutlaw357@yahoo.com	Heber Springs	AR	October www.outlawcamp.com
SASS Arkansas State Blackpowder Championship	10/9-11	Ozark Outlaw	501-691-0088	ozarkoutlaw357@yahoo.com	Heber Springs	AR	October www.outlawcamp.com
The Branson Triple Classic	10/15-17	Smokie	417-759-9114	jeffedunaway@cs.com	Walnut Shade	MO	October www.btc-sass.com/
Peaceful End of Track at High Sierra	10/15-18	Grizzly Peak Jake	510-702-8064	trb94611@yahoo.com	Railroad Flat	CA	October https://cagunslingers.com/
SASS New Jersey State Championship Purgatory in The Pines	10/16-18	El Diablo Gringo	973-662-0785	davidharrison@servpro9326.com	Jackson	NJ	October www.jacksonholegang.com
Border Wars	10/16-18	Beans Haney	913-244-4960	monicahaney@hotmail.com	Parker	KS	October freestaterangers.com
SASS Hawaii State Championship	10/16-18	Shoo-Fly Kid	808-870-1796	jason@jasonwolford.com	Lahaina	HI	October valleyislesportshootersclub.com
Ridin' the Trail	10/17-18	Smilin Joe	325-669-5903	kjackson4@sbcglobal.net	Anson	TX	October N/A
SASS Arizona State Championship Bordertown	10/20-25	Quicksand	520-290-8599	pikecoyle@msn.com	Tombstone	AZ	October www.bordertowncas.com
Fall Fandangio	10/21-22	Mrs. Falling Rock	505-269-5812	jennastellum@gmail.com	Albuquerque	NM	October www.riogranderenegades.org
SASS Southeast Regional Ambush at Cavern Cove	10/22-23	Marshal T. K. D.	256-262-4545	goffikd@bellsouth.net	Woodville	AL	October www.northalabamaregulators.com
Hot Lead in Deadwood	10/23-25	Doc Spudley	504-458-1898	docspudley@bellsouth.net	Serrento	LA	October www.deadwoodmarshals.com/
SASS Texas State Blackpowder Championship Regulators Revenge	10/24-25	Reckon	254-449-0082	ireckon357@yahoo.com	Marble Falls	TX	October www.greenmountainregulators.org/
Showdown 2020	10/31 - 11/1	Shady McLarry	817-980-7206	rickeymarsh@charter.net	Cleburne	TX	October www.comanchevalley.org
Shootout at Usery Pass	11/3	A.J. Bob	480-982-7336	bigbadbob03@aol.com	Mesa	AZ	November www.riosaladocowboys.com/
SASS Kansas State Blackpowder Championship	11/6-7	K.C. Ranger	816-507-2887	kc.ranger.pcc@gmail.com	Lenexa	KS	November www.powdercreekcowboys.com
Turkey Shoot	11/8	Silver Rings	970-240-0419	pckinco@yahoo.com	Montrose	CO	November N/A
SASS South Carolina State Championship Rampage at Ridgeville	11/12-13	Doc Kemm	843-737-3501	dockemm10@gmail.com	Ridgeville	SC	November www.palmettogunclub.org
Hangin' at Coyote Creek	11/13-15	Dusty Sometimes	225-771-9923	Kevin.Bodden@uss.dhs.gov	Amite	LA	November www.bayoubountyhunters.com
SASS California State Black Powder Championship	11/13-15	Lucas McDennis	408-489-2049	lucasmcdennis@gmail.com	Morgan Hill	CA	November www.coyotevalleycowboys.com
Dulzura Duststorm	11/14	Reuben J. Cogburn	619-997-2755	csheml@cox.net	Dulzura	CA	November www.dulzuraesperados.com
Bradshaw Mountain Reunion	11/14	Birdie Cage	774-420-1119	birdie_cage@hotmail.com	Phoenix	AZ	November www.acsainc.com

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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 500-800 words is a good target to shoot for, but shorter pieces are also fine. Match reports on larger events, like END of TRAIL, Winter Range, and Regional and Divisional matches may run 1000-1500 words if necessary. 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 *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 should 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, two to 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.