

The Cowboy Chronicle

The Monthly Journal of the Single Action Shooting Society®

Vol. 25 No. 8

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August 2012

WINTER RANGE 2012

The SASS National Championship of Wild Bunch™ Action Shooting

By Larsen E. Pettifogger, SASS Life #32933



This is where it all started! The movie, *The Wild Bunch*, provided the inspiration for both the name of the SASS Board of Directors AND the Wild Bunch Action Shooting™ discipline! 1911s, big bore rifles, and '97 shotguns were part of both the Old West and the modern world before WWI. It's not Cowboy Action with a 1911, but it's fun none-the-less!

The *Wild Bunch*! The name alone evokes excitement. For the Single Action Shooting Society

(SASS) the name is of particular significance. It is the name of the founding fathers of SASS and the individuals that provide the leadership of SASS—Judge Roy Bean, SASS #1; General U.S. Grant, SASS #2; Tex, SASS #4; and Hipshot, SASS #7. It is the name of the infamous Hole-in-the-Wall gang from the end of what we call the “Old West.” Who can forget Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid? It is also the name of an iconic film by Sam Peckinpah. It is hard to visualize any SASS member that has not seen and been enthralled by *The Wild*
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SASS Cowboy Chronicle

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WINTER RANGE 2012

The SASS National Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting™

By Larsen E. Pettifogger, SASS Life #32933



The Thursday evening night shoot is always a blast! Nobody cares about scores—it's all about lighting up the nighttime sky with fire and brimstone belching from the muzzles of cowboy's firearms! When the .45-70 cuts loose, it's awesome—and the burning of the downrange props is always a sight to behold!

Phoenix, AZ – The awards ceremony for Winter Range 2011 ended about 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 20, 2011. By 2:00 p.m. the range was being taken down, and in a logistical miracle all of what had been Winter Range 2011 was removed from the range and stored by 5:00 p.m. on Monday. The Arizona Territorial Company of Rough Riders, the Rangers, and volunteers sat on the tailgates of their trucks to relax and have

some cool beverages. They also began what has become a tradition after every Winter Range—immediately reading the shooter comment sheets, discussing what went well, what could be improved or changed, and how to make Winter Range 2012 even better for the SHOOTERS. Winter Range 2011 had sold out. Winter Range 2012 was also sold out with a record number of shooters and vendors. Maintaining a consistently high
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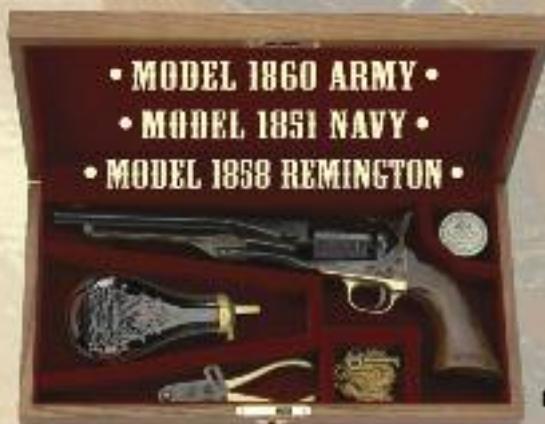


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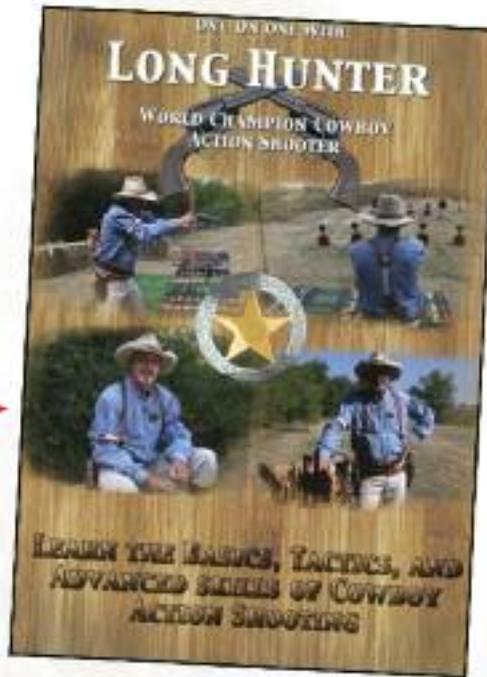
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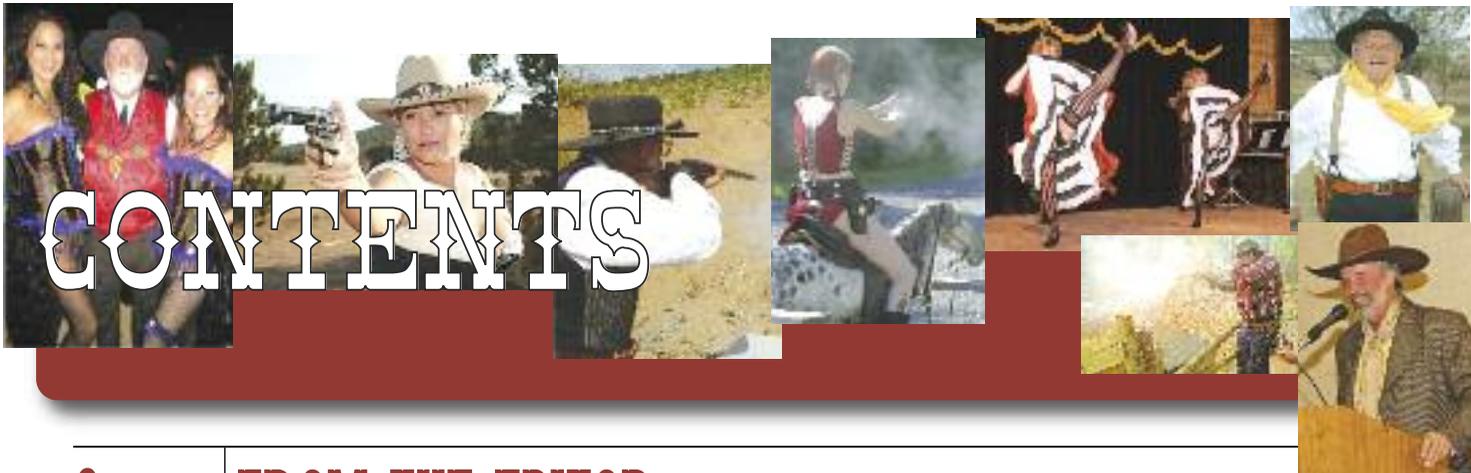
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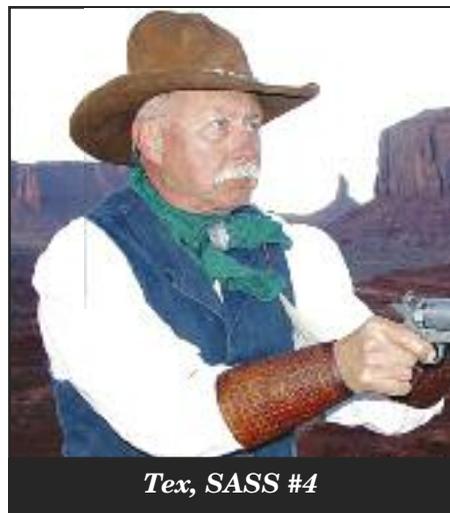
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After months of discussions the NRA and SASS finally came to an agreement for a permanent NRA Museum facility at END of TRAIL. The NRA established the Museum for END of TRAIL 2012 and displayed numerous well-known movie guns and other movie paraphernalia. Here (l to r) Punxsutawney Phil, SASS #5208 (Phil Scheier of the NRA) and Viper, SASS #20081, (Kayne Robinson, NRA Executive Director General Operations) deliver a check for their building to the General, SASS #2, to finalize the deal. The NRA has an amazing collection of firearms for future END of TRAIL displays ... be sure and pay them a visit!

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Tex, SASS #4

WILD BUNCH™

The Game

Is It Here to Stay?

By Tex, SASS #4

Is Wild Bunch™ Cowboy Action with a 1911? No.

Is it fun? Yes.

Is it an excuse to buy more guns? YES!

Will it promote additional membership in SASS? Hopefully.

For those who may not have been paying attention, Wild Bunch™ is a discipline within SASS. It represents the time period between the Old West and the modern era—early 1900s until World War I. It is epitomized by Sam Peckinpah's movie, *The Wild Bunch*, set just prior to WW-I. It requires period costumes (as do ALL SASS activities) and SASS aliases are respected. One's SASS badge works just fine. (Within SASS we have ONE badge, one set of SASS numbers, and one SASS alias registry—that's true for Action Shooting, Mounted Shooting, and Wild Bunch™.) Within SASS there is one membership—SASS membership—but there are a number of different disciplines in which one can participate.

Wild Bunch™ is now a couple of years old. Establishment of the discipline was spearheaded by a small group that quickly became known as the Wild Bunch™ RO Committee. They did an excellent job of creating a comprehensive Wild Bunch™ Shooters Handbook that formed the basis for the game (copies are available on the SASS website). As with any Handbook, it has evolved and will continue to do so as the game is further refined. Some of the philosophies adopted by this RO Committee include this was to be a "big bore" game with "honest" loads (rifle and pistol power factors of at least 150). While not a "bulls-eye" discipline, the targets would be set out far enough

where the front sights were actually a benefit on one's firearms! And, some of the rules many feel to be "over protective" in Cowboy Action were set-aside for Wild Bunch™. All the guns, including the '97 shotgun, were to be fully loaded at the loading table, and standardly, the shotgun targets are not "comstock" (meaning one shot only at each target!).

Today, SASS is seeing many clubs and annual matches holding Wild Bunch™ matches in conjunction with their regular Cowboy Action shoots. It's not a recommended practice to attempt to "integrate" the two disciplines, Cowboy Action and Wild Bunch™, but rather run each as separate events when hosted, for example, at an annual match.

Cowboy Action Shooting™ is SASS' core business. It's where we started, and where we intend to stay. Nearly 100,000 folks have joined SASS over the past 30 years and found a life-long attraction to this Old West game and the folks who play it. New friendships have developed within SASS over the years, Old West related businesses have been established and flourished, and many have adopted a life-style where they travel the country participating in match after match. Cowboy Action is "bread and butter" to SASS.

Having said that, however, it has been entertaining to watch the shooters participating in Wild Bunch™ competitions! One sees the same friendly competition and camaraderie one sees in Cowboy Action, and one sees the kind of joyful enthusiasm I can remember seeing in Cowboy Action when it first got started! The shooters are learning a new game, learning

about a new piece of equipment (the 1911), and getting a re-education in ammo making (the .45 ACP). There are many new failure modes to be accommodated with the 1911 than we ever had with the Single Action Army, and in my opinion, learning how to efficiently accommodate these failure modes is NOT something one wants to become good at! (It's far better to "fix" the 1911 so it's 100% reliable and ensure 100% of your .45 ACP ammo will operate correctly in your 1911!)

Many clubs here in the USA and overseas have objected to the "big bore" requirement—why can't we use rifles in .38 Special ... or why not let us use Broomhandle Mausers or period correct double action revolvers? Some do as an expedient to give folks a taste of the discipline, but in the end one must use the prescribed equipment in order to participate in major matches. The discipline, by current rules, is attempting to stay true to the *Wild Bunch* movie. And, yes, it becomes an excuse to buy more guns!

Will Wild Bunch™ result in more SASS memberships? Hopefully, yes. There has always been the thought the discipline will attract shooters from IPSC and other similar disciplines to SASS. Becoming proficient with lever action rifles and old-style shotguns would, of course, be a learning (and buying) experience ... but the biggest concern among many of these folks is the requirement for period costuming. (We've learned over the years the importance of costuming, so that requirement is not going away.) It's interesting, these Action Pistol folks don't think of their short pants and khaki or camo clothes

as "costumes" ... but they are more in "uniform" than our cowboys have ever been!

Today, the number of Wild Bunch™ Action Shooters is relatively small, especially as compared to Cowboy Action ... but the numbers are growing as is evident at Winter Range and END of TRAIL. Many clubs are starting to set aside special match days just for Wild Bunch™—here in the Albuquerque area we now have two clubs offering Wild Bunch™ shooting days. We even saw a "special" prize pool set-aside just for Wild Bunch™ competitors at this year's END of TRAIL. In fact, Wild Bunch™ has even caused SASS to introduce a new scoring system after 30 years! It's a system based upon category-only scoring where competitors earn points based on how well they shot relative to the stage winner for their category. So far, it seems to be working well!

The Cowboy Chronicle has published a few articles over the past couple of years regarding Wild Bunch™ Action Shooting. The RO Committee has indicated an interest in submitting a monthly column dealing exclusively with the discipline. SASS welcomes the editorial material!

From all appearances, SASS Wild Bunch™ Action Shooting is here to stay. If you haven't tried it, you should. It's loads of fun, it's different, and it's an opportunity to try and learn something new! If the past is any indication of the future, Wild Bunch™ Action Shooters will be more than happy to lend equipment and a helping hand to shooters new to the discipline—it's the Cowboy Way! 🤠



Another Great ESSAY!

After reading Col. Dan's article regarding "inalienable" rights, I realized how subtle the changes are to unsuspecting citizens. I thought it would be redundant to congratulate him on another fine essay, as he receives so many accolades. I apologize. I was remiss.

His latest article depicts a leader about whom I fantasize. If one with his qualities could possibly make it to the forefront in politics, he would be slammed by the news media, or have a mysterious death!

As much as I don't want to believe it, I feel there are not enough patriots to save our country. The sacrifices of our Founding Fathers, I fear, are not to be duplicated today.

M.B.

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Well, we did it! No, not Long Jim Hancock and me. Not the rest of the Cowboy Memorial Chapel Committee, Palaver Pete, Cree Vicar Dave, and Singin' Sue. *WE* did it. All the members of SASS who supported the Chapel fund by sending in donations, held fund raisers for the Chapel, donated goods for our raffles, dropped money in the offering plate at Cowboy Chapel services, or just gave us a word of encouragement. It truly was a worldwide effort—winners of raffle prizes were from all over the USA, Canada, Australia, and a few countries in Europe!

Yes, as Palaver Pete will tell you in another article, we reached our goal of \$75,000 to build the Cowboy Memorial Chapel. But, the efforts are not done, and the Committee is not resting after our efforts to meet our goal have been realized, since there is still more to do! Pews, hymn books and hymn boards are needed, a pulpit needs to be obtained, we need to plant grass and flowers and ... ok, maybe trying to get grass to grow there is a bit of a stretch, but the building is just a barn without the things inside that make it functional as a Chapel. At END of TRAIL's non-denominational service, most people sat on hay bales. (Easy to spot who had been to the Chapel service later by spotting who had straw sticking to their pants or skirts!)

In order to finish the Chapel, and more importantly, to make sure there is sufficient funds to maintain it, paint it when needed, and do future improvements, we need to raise more funds. We have discussed having, for example, a small Old West style cemetery outside the Chapel with tombstones for John Wayne, Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, and the host of other western stars that inspired us in our youth. It would certainly make the Chapel look even more authentic and go with the theme of the town. This is not included in the \$75,000 target that was set for the construction of the building.

As you may remember, we had raffles in the past for items donated by many of the vendors that support the sport so generously. We have changed the way we are handling these items this year. Instead of a raffle, in which you could win anything from a buffalo robe to a frilly hand made hat, we are going to focus on using the SASS Wire Saloon (<http://sassnet.com/forums/index.php?showforum=16>) as an auction site. We are anticipating having the auctions run for a period of three months. This page can be accessed either by clicking on the SASS homepage Cowboy Chapel link under Charities and then following the links from there, or going directly to the Saloon page and looking for the pinned links.

Items up for auction will be listed at the top of the forum page. Clicking on the particular item you wish to bid on will get you to a

*By Maurice 'Mo' Lasses, SASS Life/Regulator #65309
Cowboy Memorial Chapel Co-Chair*



Two services were held Sunday morning at END of TRAIL. Afterwards the hay bales were stacked in the middle of the room ... this was officially a "barn" until SASS obtained the final inspection certificate from county officials! Caulking and paint are needed for the outside, and all the "nice" trimmings are still needed for the interior.

thread that looks like a normal Saloon thread (as if anything in the Saloon is normal!). The top post will have a complete description of the item, the suggested retail price from the donor (or estimated value if one of a kind), the minimum starting bid, and the date the auction will end.

You may then place a bid of at least the opening bid on the thread, and each bid after that must be higher. We will require that bids be in whole dollars and in at least \$5 increments. High

bidder at the end of the auction will be the winner and will have 10 days to contact SASS about payment. Once payment is received, shipping information will be obtained and the item shipped once all information, permits, or FFL issues are finalized.

As this is being written, the Committee is still getting donations, so keep your eyes peeled for the auctions going live on www.sassnet.com.

You will not be disappointed when you see what we have to offer! 🤠

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While the federal and many state governments have chosen to ignore the 150th anniversary of America's greatest conflict, Civil War enthusiasts will play a major role in bringing the events of 1861-1865 to the country's consciousness. One of these organizations is the North-South Skirmish Association (N-SSA), the oldest and largest Civil War shooting sports group in the nation. Commemorative events will continue at all National Competitions during the four-year observance. The unique event planned for October's 126th National will be particularly special as Cadets from The Virginia Military Institute (VMI) battle the Rifle Team from Virginia Tech (VT) in a



N-SSA instructor John Zebelean coaches Virginia Military Institute (VMI) cadet Ike Williamson in the appropriate handling of a Civil War musket. VMI will take on Virginia Tech in a special musket match at the N-SSA 126th National Competition October 5-7, 2012 at the Association's home range, Fort Shenandoah, near Winchester, Virginia.

VMI photo by John Robertson

special musket match.

Both schools' teams began familiarization and training with Civil War muskets during the spring. VMI is coached by Lt. Colonel Bill Bither (US Army) aided by N-SSA advisor Tom Magno. Virginia Tech is led by N-SSA advisors

Ken Stiles and Rick Hinson. Magno, Stiles, and Hinson are experienced N-SSA shooters and have donated considerable time and effort to the upcoming competition. "I knew the VMI cadets were familiar with firearms and am delighted at how quickly they have adapted to

the firearms technology of 150 years ago," said Magno. Stiles echoes that perspective: "It took me years to make the progress these cadets have made in only a few months. I'm really impressed."

The musket match is scheduled for Friday, October 5, 2012 starting at noon during the N-SSA 126th National Competition. Each ten-member team will shoot at 32 clay pigeons mounted on a cardboard backer. The first team to break all their targets will be the winner and receive special commemorative medals.

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

The 126th National Competition is scheduled for October 5-7, 2012 at Fort Shenandoah, just north of Winchester, Virginia. For more information about the N-SSA, contact Public Information Officer, Bruce Miller, at (248) 258-9007 or spar tan70@sbcglobal.net or visit our web site at www.n-ssa.org.

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Synopsis

The Hatfield-McCoy saga centers on “Devil” Anse Hatfield and Randall McCoy. Close friends and comrades during the Civil War, they returned to their neighboring homes — Hatfield in West Virginia, McCoy just across the Tug River border in Kentucky — to increasing tensions, misunderstandings, and resentments that soon exploded into all-out warfare between the families. As hostilities grew, friends, neighbors, and outside forces joined the fight, bringing the

two states to the brink of another Civil War.

I give the cast below because they were superb and many of them are well known, but not all, and they were all excellent:

Cast

Kevin Costner, Bill Paxton, Tom Berenger, Lindsay Pulsipher, Jena Malone, Matt Barr, Ronan Vibert, Andrew Howard, Sarah Parish, Mare Winningham, Noel Fisher, Powers Boothe, Boyd Holbrook, Max Deacon, Tom McKay, Greg Patmore, and Noah Taylor.

The credits for production are a little lengthy for inclusion here. The Director was Kevin Reynolds. There were several writers and at least nine varied producers, including Mr. Costner. The music is outstanding, and I plan on obtaining the CD whether I obtain the DVD or not.

The film is identified as a “western” probably because that is how the American movie critics and viewing public would almost always describe a film dedicated to gunplay and gun battles, and with a significant amount of horseback riding. But it’s a western in much the same way a story about Daniel Boone is a western, even if it occurs a far piece east of the Mississippi River, hard by the Allegheny Mountains (sadly, the movie was filmed in the mountains of Romania, but that’s show biz!). Whether there really was that much gunplay and horseback riding in the West Virginia-Kentucky hills in the latter part of the 19th century is arguable, but there was surely enough to write many a tale and spawn many a movie, and this famous feud has done just that. It should be noted, interestingly, that the Hatfield-McCoy feud was actually the most notorious of several feuds taking place in eastern Kentucky and neighboring areas at the time.

You can rest assured the His-

tory Channel will re-run this movie more than a few times as the years go by and if you enjoy westerns (am I kidding – with this audience?!?!?!), I cannot recommend it strongly enough. The story is exaggerated a little, but that is always allowed in movie making. All of us enjoyed the movies “Tombstone” and “Wyatt Earp” (coincidentally also starring Kevin Costner) in the 1990s, and we debate the fine points of that story incessantly, and we compare the movies with equal vigor. There is little doubt that neither movie portrays a totally accurate history of the events in question, so we should not expect anything particularly different from the History Channel’s depiction of the Hatfield-McCoy feud. On the other hand, I happen to know a little, or maybe more than a little, about that epic slice of Americana, and I can assure you this mini-series deals with it fairly and as accurately as anyone can possibly hope for in such a dramatization of a true story. They call it a true story, and I would not gainsay *The History Channel’s* use of that term.

I was prepared to be bored and annoyed and, instead, I was enthralled. The characterizations are deep and well developed, the actors portray these people well and exhibit their strengths and their flaws in as natural a way as if you, the viewer, are almost a participant in the event. It is impossible to take sides once you see how the awful facts play out, but each side’s victories will sit you upright while each side’s defeats will sink you low with sadness. And, as you might expect, each of these victories and defeats happen simultaneously—a heart-rending tale of misunderstanding and injustice you will never forget.

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A *History Channel* mini-series presented over the course of three nights, it takes its place, in my opinion, as one of television’s top-notch western movies.

Just in case you missed it or might be one of a very small number of people who do not know any of the details of this historical, decades long event, the following Internet details with respect to this mini-series will quickly bring you up to date:

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GERONIMO

Part Three

“Two small forays and defense of the Homeland”

Adapted by Sgt. Shuster, SASS Regulator #60835

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

Almost all the other Apaches were satisfied after the battle of Arispe, feeling Kas-Ki-Yeh had been avenged. But Geronimo still desired more revenge. For several months the Apaches were busy with the chase and other peaceful pursuits. Finally, Geronimo succeeded in persuading two other warriors, Ah-koch-ne and Ko-deh-ne, to go with him to invade the Mexican countryside.

The three warriors left their families with the tribe and went on the warpath. They were on foot and carried three days' rations. The Apaches entered Mexico on the north line of Sonora and followed the Sierra de Antunez Mountains to the south end of the range. Here the three decided to attack a small village. History does not remember the name of the village because Geronimo himself could not remember.

At daylight the Indians approached from the mountains. Five horses were hitched outside of a dwelling. The war party advanced cautiously, but just before they reached the horses, the Mexicans opened fire from the houses. Geronimo's two companions were killed. Mexicans swarmed on every side; some were mounted, some were on foot, and all seemed to be armed. Three times Geronimo

was surrounded, but he kept fighting, dodging, and hiding. Several times during the day, while in concealment, Geronimo had a chance to take deliberate aim at some Mexicans, who, guns in hand,



were looking for him. Geronimo's aim was perfect each time.

With the gathering darkness, Geronimo found more time to retreat toward Arizona. But the Mexicans did not quit the chase. Several times the next day, mounted Mexicans tried to head Geronimo off. They fired at Geronimo many times. But since Geronimo had no more arrows and could not return the fight, he depended upon running and hiding. Geronimo, very tired, had not eaten since the chase began, nor had he dared

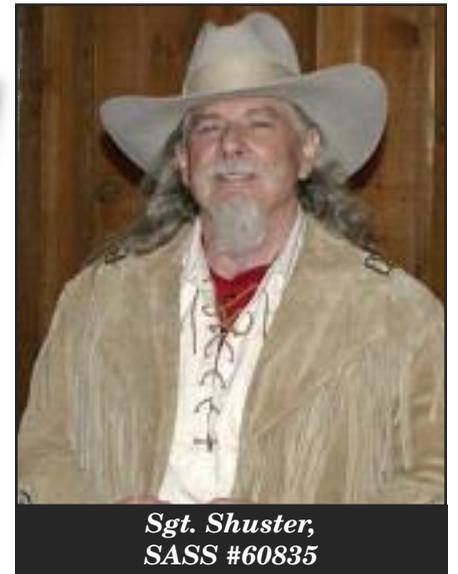
to stop for rest. During the second night, Geronimo got clear of his Mexican pursuers, but he never slackened his pace until he reached his home in Arizona. Geronimo came into the camp without booty, without his companions, exhausted, but not discouraged.

The wives and children of his two dead companions were cared for by their people. Some of the Apaches blamed Geronimo for the evil result of the expedition, but he said nothing. Having failed, it was only proper Geronimo should remain silent. But his feelings toward the Mexicans did not change; he still hated them and longed for revenge. Geronimo never ceased to plan for their punishment, but it was hard to get the other warriors to listen to his proposed raids.

Within a few months after this last adventure, Geronimo persuaded two other warriors to join him in raiding the Mexican frontier. On Geronimo's former raid, they had gone through the Nedni Apaches' range

into Sonora. This time the war party of three went through the country of the Cho-kon-en and entered the Sierra Madre Mountains. The Apaches traveled south, secured more rations, and prepared to begin their raids.

Geronimo had selected a village near the mountains, which they intended to attack at daylight. That night, while the Indians slept, Mexican scouts discovered their camp and fired upon them, killing one warrior. In the morning the braves observed a



Sgt. Shuster,
SASS #60835

company of Mexican troops coming from the south. The Mexicans were mounted and carried supplies for a long journey. The Apaches followed their trail until they were sure the Mexicans were headed for the Apache range in Arizona. With this knowledge, Geronimo hurried past them, and in three days the two warriors reached their own settlement.

The two Apache braves arrived at their village at noon, and at about three o'clock, those Mexican troops attacked the settlement. Their first volley killed three small Indian boys. Many of the warriors of the tribe were away from home, but the few who were in camp, under Geronimo's leadership, were able to drive the Mexican troops out of the mountains before nightfall. The Apaches killed eight Mexicans and lost five of their own—two warriors and the three boys.

The Mexicans rode due south in full retreat. Four warriors were detailed to follow them, and in three days these trailers returned, saying the Mexican cavalry had left Arizona, going southward. Geronimo was quite sure the Mexicans would not soon return to Apacheria.

* * * * *

SOURCES

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



Col. Richard Dodge,
SASS #1750

All SASS members and those who have studied the American West are aware the Mexican vaquero started it all by creating the traditions and techniques that guided the development of the American cowboy and the cattle industry. The story of the vaquero is an interesting one, and it reveals the fascinating history of California—and the American West.

Before Texas or California, even before the American Revolution, the Spanish occupation of Mexico and the American Southwest was based on the cattle industry. Spain's stronghold on the area lasted for some 300 years before being threatened by the southward movements of the Russian fur traders from the north. Fearing the intrusion into their New World Empire, they needed to establish a Spanish presence in California, which they did by sending Franciscan missionaries to Christianize California's Native American Indians and with a chain of missions and a source of trade based on their own well-established cattle industry.

For centuries, California had been believed to be an island of fabulous beauty and wealth—and they weren't too far wrong. California was a virtual island, one of the most remote places on Earth, separated from the rest of the world by the almost insurmountable barriers of the Pacific Ocean to the west, parched deserts and soaring mountain ranges to the east, and an impossible trek from Mexico City to the south.

The padres who made the arduous journey to California were a remarkable group of men. Most were second and third-born sons of an aristocracy that deeded everything

THE VAQUEROS

Creators of the American West

By Colonel Richard Dodge, SASS Life #1750

to the oldest son, leaving following siblings to the mercy and generosity of the eldest. This left few options for establishing one's career and fortune, with the military or priesthood being the most acceptable. Thus, many of those who entered the priesthood were highly educated men. In addition to the study of horsemanship, fencing, dancing, the arts, and all the other obligatory lessons of the aristocracy, as priests they learned languages, architecture, agriculture, and other skills necessary for surviving in the wilds to which they would be assigned.

So, California was to be settled with various levels of force by men highly educated, skilled in the arts and sciences, and filled with a determination born of righteous zeal. They established the beginnings of the American West in the form of the famous California missions running from Baja California in present day Mexico some 500 miles north, to beyond San Francisco along "El Camino Real," the "King's Road." Spaced a day's ride apart, most of the missions have now been restored, and they are indeed outstanding, beautiful works of art, designed by the padres and

built on the backs of the "Christianized" Indians.

The missions were granted huge tracts of land far larger than the huge cattle ranches of Texas

several decades in the future, and charged with raising cattle and sheep as a major product for Spanish trade. The missions' herds quickly grew into thousands of wild cattle roaming freely over hundreds of thousands of acres of mission lands.

Vast herds of free-ranging cattle require a means to control them. Thus, the padres had to train the Indians in their charge with the skills needed to manage the herds—horsemanship, roping, branding, breeding, butchering, and so forth. Traditionally, the horse was considered a weapon of war; only the landed aristocracy was allowed to ride, and death was a routine punishment for a peasant who broke the rule. But the padres had no choice; they had to train the Indians to work the herds, and that meant learning horsemanship. The time-honored equestrian skills of Old Spain were thus transplanted into California and within a couple of generations, these California Indians, who were naturally "in tune" with the behaviors and mind set of the horse, became splendid horsemen, some of the finest in the world. Sadly, for all their skill and pride in their craft, the vaquero began and remained a simple peon at the bottom of the social scale, never considered to be more than a lowly laborer. And, he laid the foundation for the American cowboy to follow some 40 years later.

Contact and trade with ships of other nations was forbidden. This turned out to be a foolhardy and unworkable arrangement, considering the natural curiosity and hospitality of the priests and the aggressive business practices of the Yankee traders who immediately recognized the wealth to be had.

Following Mexico's independence from Spain in 1821, Mexico attempted to exercise control over California. Several groups of settlers were sent to establish colonies, and large land grants, hundreds of thousands of acres each, were awarded to almost any who re-



The Vaquero lived in the saddle, rarely doing anything, except perhaps dancing, while afoot. As with the cowboy, he possessed great pride in his craft and station in life.



Training the horse was a much different proposition in old California than techniques employed by "bronc busters" in the southwest. A gentle confidence and trust-based approach often took as many as eight years to complete ... but the results were (and are!) outstanding.



Lassoing a California Grizzly was no child's play, but was common practice. The Grizzlies were often drug back to the Rancho where they were matched against a bull in a fight to the death.

quested them. Indeed, many Americans established homes and fortunes for themselves by fulfilling the requirements for Mexican citizenship at the time—learning Spanish, becoming Catholic, and marrying into a Mexican-Californio family. Many of California's important historical figures are among these families.

These settlers, the Californios, were subsequently almost abandoned by Mexico, due in part to the unmanageable travel conditions and by Mexico's own internal problems. Most of the administrators sent to Alta California were weak, corrupt, or incompetent—or all three. Despised by the Californios, they were ineffectual in imposing Mexico's rule.

In the early 1830s, the missions were secularized and sold as private property. Many were abandoned and began a long period of decay as the Rancho Period developed. Though it existed only from about 1825 until 1860, around 35 years, fading away with the Gold Rush and the arrival of the Americans, the Rancho Period is one of the most interesting and colorful periods in American history.

The Californios were free to develop their own culture and society, and they did. On close examination, their life closely paralleled that of the Old South, which existed at the same time, with wealthy landowners and a lower class of Indian servants—and vaqueros.

The Californio horseman, caballero and vaquero alike, existed in a unique environment that allowed a comfortable and thoughtful development of his craft. Beginning with a highly developed equestrian tradition, they literally lived in the saddle and rarely walked anywhere. The major tools the vaquero had for his survival were his rawhide reata and his knife. In the vast unfenced lands populated by very wild cattle with vicious, hooked horns and very dangerous California grizzly bears, a man

afoot was as good as dead.

With the time and traditions of fine horsemanship, the vaqueros developed a system of training their horses that was unhurried and remarkable in its results. Far different from the rough and tumble "bronc buster" of American cowboy fame, the vaquero normally took several years to train his mount and didn't consider it finished until the horse was about eight years old, after six to eight years of careful work. Beginning with the "bozell" or "hackamore," the vaquero led the young horse gently and confidently into a sure-footed, highly responsive, and trusting steed, introducing the bit only after the horse was ready for it after two or three years. These training methods are still practiced in California today, especially along the California coast from San Diego to Monterey. The horses are a sight to behold as they perform splendid feats with perfection under imperceptible cues from their riders.

The vaquero's horsemanship was his ultimate pride, and he proved it at every opportunity. It was basic technique for a man to rope a cow and throw it without dismounting from his horse. It's almost magic to see a horse standing patiently and seemingly unconcerned, then tuck his head and prick his ears at the slightest signal from its rider, ready to respond instantly to any command.

It was routine for a vaquero to ride out and rope a grizzly bear and drag it back to the rancho to be matched against a bull in an almost unimaginable fight to the death. More often, four or five vaqueros would go after a bear and secure the beast with several reatas to prevent it from attacking any one horseman. It must be remembered the California grizzly was the largest of the grizzlies on the North American continent; it's the California state symbol. These were not small animals—they were large, dangerous, and aggressive. This



The reata was often between 60 and 100 feet long—made from a single circular cut of cowhide. The loop could be over eight feet in diameter, to clear a bull's horns while roping.

practice is all the more remarkable in view of the horse's natural fear of bears. Any horse not so well-trained will panic and leave the country at first scent of a bear, with or without its rider.

As an added historical note, the terms "bull" and "bear" market come from this bloody spectacle. The bull's attack on the bear was an upward hook with its horns, while the bear moved to pull the bull downward. It is recorded the bear usually prevailed in these matches, though he was often seriously injured and was killed anyway for his pelt.

The reata was braided from strips of rawhide cut in a continuous circle from the center of a cowhide—a skilled leather crafts-

man could get a strip over 100 feet long from one hide. The reata was often 60 to 100 feet long, and the rider would throw a loop over eight feet across, necessary for passing over the cattle's long horns. The finished reata would stretch only so far, and the rider had to exercise great care when controlling a thousand pound steer not to stretch it too abruptly and break.

Many different casts were used, depending on the situation—backhand, over the top, backward, and so on. Often the bears were lassoed with the horse facing away from the bear to facilitate escaping the bear's charge.

Braiding was a popular vaquero art. Reins, quirts, headstalls, and

(Continued on page 19)

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Cat's Corner



Cat Ballou, SASS #55

WINTER RANGE Costume Contests

2012

By Larsen E. Pettifogger, SASS Life #32933

SASS, the closest you can get to the Old West without a time machine. We've all heard this mantra many times. SASS is a fantasy sport that tries to emulate the Old West or the classic "B" Western Hollywood movies of the past. We all shoot guns of the Old West, but the guns are only half the game. One of the unique aspects of SASS is that we are one of, if not the only, shooting sport where costuming is an integral part of the game we play. While baseball hats and tennis shoes might be more comfortable, it sure ain't Cowboy! For many dedicated SASS members when people ask about their "costumes" they respond, "what do you mean 'costume,' these are my everyday clothes." SASS for many has become almost a way of life. They strive for authentic costumes, and the pride and effort really shows, especially at the big shoots and the SASS Convention where cowboy and cowgirl shooters suddenly change into the height of 19th Century society after the sun goes down.

During the day the costume judges wander the firing line looking at the working costumes; the ones people shoot in. Wandering the shooting line and the vendor streets during the day you are apt to see cowboys fresh from a cattle drive, Vaqueros, bandits, lawmen, Indian braves and maidens, cowgirls, and shady ladies. When the weather is hot, you might see gents in their union suits and belles wearing 1890s swimming gear. Hop Sing has even been seen wandering about on occasion.

At night the mood changes. People put on their Sunday go-to-meeting clothes. There are gentlemen in suits, ladies in their finest ball gowns, soldiers, sailors, a

President or two, and everyone's favorites – the saloon girls and soiled doves. At night contestants wearing their finest outfits go before the judges. The quality is always exquisite; many of the costumes are handmade. The accouterments are often originals—period jewelry and heirlooms on the ladies with the gents showing off their antique pocket watches and handcrafted antique watch chains, fobs, and other items. Those wearing military uniforms are accurate down to the last button. It is a tough job for the judges picking the winners. Here are the winners for Winter Range 2012.

Winners			Couple		
Shooting Costumes			UK Dane ,		
<i>Man</i>	Rev Barry M Deep, SASS #38104	CA	SASS #19478 CA		
<i>Woman</i>	Pinto Annie, SASS #27966	WA	& Cruzan Confusion, SASS #39081 CA		
<i>Boy</i>	Damascus Jon, SASS #87751	AZ	<i>Gentleman</i>	Wild Horse John, SASS #85994 WY	
<i>Girl</i>	Miss Mean Jean, SASS #89774	CA	<i>Lady</i>	Schoolmarm Hudson, SASS #88921 AZ	
<i>Gun Cart</i>	Tequila Sunshine, SASS #3984	NH	<i>Lady B-Western</i>	Lily Orleans Mason, SASS #46755 NM	
Evening Costumes			<i>B-Western</i>	Slick McClade, SASS #69490 LA	
<i>Junior</i>	Ranger Ty, SASS #47518	AZ	<i>Military</i>	Captain Dan Blodgett, SASS #75655 AZ	
<i>Junior Girl</i>	Ivy Hills, SASS #90928	WA	<i>Saloon Girl</i>	Ms. Clancy, SASS #46433 AUS	
	& Holly Hills, SASS #90929	WA			

Working Costumes



Working Lady—
Pinto Annie, SASS #27966



Working Girl—
Miss Mean Jean,
SASS #89774



Working Man—
Rev Barry M Deep,
SASS #38104



Working Boy—
Damascus Jon, SASS #87751



Best Guncart —
Tequila Sunshine,
SASS #3984

Evening Costumes



**Best Dressed Military—
Captain Dan Blodgett,
SASS #75655**



**Best Dressed Junior—
Ranger Ty, SASS #47518**



**Best Dressed Couple—UK Dane,
SASS #19478, & Cruzan
Confusion, SASS #39081**



**Best Dressed
B-Western—
Slick McClade,
SASS #69490**



**Best Dressed Lady—
Schoolmarm Hudson,
SASS #88921**



**Best Dressed Junior Girls—
Ivy Hills, SASS #90928, &
Holly Hills, SASS #90929**



**Best Dressed Lady
B-Western—
Lily Orleans Mason,
SASS #46755**



**Best Dressed
Saloon Girl—
Ms. Clancy,
SASS #46433**



**Best Dressed Gentleman—
Wild Horse John,
SASS #85994**



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MOOSE THE COWBOY WAY

By Kaniksu Kid, SASS #26415

In Idaho, moose hunting is by special permit issued to winners of a drawing, with the season lasting two weeks. The drawing is a once-in-a-lifetime situation and, after 34 years of trying, I finally drew a permit for the 2008 season. While I was essentially hunting in my "backyard," the Panhandle National Forest, my hunt was unique. As a passionate Cowboy Action Shooter, I shoot Frontiersman and am enthusiastic about blackpowder, so for my hunt I used my long-range cowboy rifle, a Model 1873 Springfield Trapdoor .45-70 manufactured in 1882 with standard iron sights.

My hunt was the first two weeks of November 2008, and considering I had waited more than three decades to land this coveted tag, I was really worried about having only a two-week window to land my bull. I hunted the first Saturday and Sunday without seeing a thing. On Monday I came across a smaller bull and missed, leading to a lot of ribbing from my brothers, Waddie Bill, SASS #24722, and Mr. Shorty, SASS #23771, both of whom had taken moose previously.

Tuesday morning (Election Day), I came up over a hill and spotted a bull standing on a ridge with a cow nearby. I asked myself if he would let me get closer. He



The 127-year-old Trapdoor was inadvertently left behind and covered with fresh snow. After a thorough strip-down and cleaning, it was as good as new!

must have been more interested in the cow because he ignored me. I got to about 80 yards and decided not to push my luck any further, and shot from there. The cartridge was a 535-grain lead cast bullet loaded with 60 grains

of 2F blackpowder. It was a one shot kill. When I found the bullet, it had gone completely through the moose and a rib bone. It weighed out at 438 grains.

The bull went down and started sliding off the ridge into a

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The .45-70 535 gr. bullet went all the way through the bull and subsequently weighed out at 438 grs.



creek bed, which made things much more difficult. I taught government and economics at Sandpoint High School in Sandpoint, Idaho, for 30 years and was the school's head wrestling coach for 17 years. There are many former student athletes in the area and as luck would have it, one who is a logger came by. Using log chains and choker cables, we were able to hook on and drag the animal to a more convenient spot.

As my brothers and I began dressing out the animal, it started snowing rather steadily. In our speed to beat the weather things became somewhat hectic. Once it was dressed out, I had to get the meat to the processing plant, which is owned by one of my former students and wrestlers. Then I had to deliver the cape I had promised to the taxidermist, who is also a former student and wrestler. In all the activity, I hadn't noticed I had left my rifle lying on the hillside, and it became covered with snow. It wasn't until I unloaded the rig that evening I realized the rifle was missing.

The next morning I went back up the mountain to the area of the kill. With the help of a pole magnet and a little reconnoitering, I found the rifle under several inches of snow, not too much worse for the wear. A thorough strip down and cleaning and it was as good as any 127-year-old rifle. As I look back, I am still amazed with all the modern firearms and optics, I trusted a once-in-a-lifetime two-week opportunity to 19th century technology. This cowboy stuff really gets in your blood!

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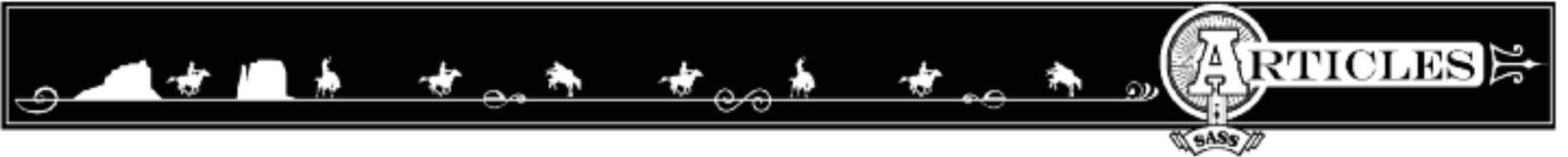
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❁ GREAT EXPECTORANTATIONS ❁

By Chilkoot, SASS #58803

Every conceivable aspect of cowboy life and doin's has been examined over and over again by a myriad of articles and periodicals, but I can't for the life of me recall even one mention of a practice so widespread and so offensive to genteel folk as to cause it to have been a fineable misdemeanor. I refer to the launching of a lugee or the propelling of tobacco tinged spittle into free flight. Being a young lad in the late 1940s and living in a rural area, I was for-

tunate to have observed the last gasps of some prodigious spitters, before the practice began its decline brought on by societal disdain and the onset of the pre-rolled cigarette. Although chewers and dippers weren't always smokers, cigarettes were an acceptable alternative, and much easier to dispose of when the time came.

Harry Shore, a local farmer, was a sort of local hero amongst the boys at the firehouse. It was claimed Harry could hit the spit-

toon at 12 feet every time and no one was in danger from a ricochet. During my 20 years in the Air Force, I came in contact with many such artists. Smoking on the flight line was discouraged, for obvious reasons, near aircraft. One of the best was Sgt. Lincoln Smith from Tennessee, who could hit the yellow tip of the top blade on a standing propeller of a B-29, a distance of at least 12 feet! Twelve feet seems to have been the physical limitation for this endeavor.

No more digression. Movies, especially westerns, provide plenty of examples of expectorant launches in memorable scenes of our favorite shows. Following are a few: Strother Martin as the mine owner in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, the "hiring scene." Strother always followed his shot with the declaration, "Bingo!" and a lip-drying sleeve. The Man with No Name displayed no spectacular launches in all of his so-called spaghetti westerns, but you just knew what was coming after the shot, which

seemed to be a leftover fragment of cigarillo rather than a build up of saliva cum Mail Pouch. For my money, in this trilogy, the best was in *Fistful of Dollars*. One of the four gunsels who insulted No Name's mule gives a full face frontal launch of a voluminous symmetrical wad of such beauty and realism one has to, instinctively, dry one's lip! Now, Josey Wales, on the other hand, nailed a dog between the eyes, ditto a beetle, ditto an expired outlaw, and then, coached by Chief Dan George, spits before pulling his smoke wagon on the Comancheros. Tuco's volley in *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*, aimed at The Man with No Name's face, earned Eli Wallach a right smart slap in his!

There are so many examples it's hard to recount them all. I know I've probably forgotten your favorite Lugee Launch, and I think you'll agree this aspect of the cowboy's daily life is long neglected, but with so much raw material available, maybe someone will write an article about the subject! 🐾

The Vaqueros . . .

(Continued from page 13)

other leather tack were braided with thin strips of leather into stunning works of art. The Californio reins were braided and joined at a loop where they were held by the rider's hand. From this loop dangled a three-foot long braided fall, ending in a wide, flat strip of leather like found on a quirt. The vaquero's horse didn't need to be "ground-tied" as was the practice with the American cow pony; it would remain where it was when the rider dismounted, leaving the reins looped over the saddle horn.

Their saddle was developed from the military saddle of the conquistadors, adding a wide, flat horn for roping and wide skirts to protect horse and rider from the brush. The American cowboy's saddle evolved from this vaquero saddle with various regional differences, again to suit the tastes and needs of each region. The horn became smaller and taller, the skirts became smaller, the cantle lower or higher, the pommel wider or narrower—true treasures

of American folk art.

"Vaquero" became "buckaroo" in American lingo; "la reata" became "lariat," only two of many words assimilated into our language from the Californio vaquero. The rodeo, ("ro day o" in Spanish), came from the vaquero tradition of competing and displaying their riding expertise. The Californios loved racing their prized steeds and waged frightening sums on the outcomes of even impromptu races. Snatching up a handkerchief or a chicken buried to its neck in the sand while riding at full gallop was a very popular game—at which almost every vaquero was competitive.

The vaqueros—as did all Californios—loved to dance; it was one of the few things they would do dismounted. Fandangos were held in a three-sided enclosure called a "ramada" (another familiar word); the mounted vaqueros would gather at the open end of the ramada to watch. When the time came for the man to join in a dance, he would dismount, remove his spurs and hang them on his saddle horn, join the dance, then remount to wait

until the next dance.

The American cowboy shared this love of dance, and stories have been told of young men riding amazing distances to take a girl to a dance and return her home. The American cowboy inherited the vaquero's immense pride in his craft and in his station in life. Though he was at the bottom of the social order in the Old West, the cowboy envisioned himself as nothing less than nobility and the equal of any man. And he was right. Alas, the vaquero was never romanticized as was the American cowboy.

The next time you "cowboy up,"

it might be worth a thought back to the proud vaquero who was a product of the California missions and the ranchos, and who was the creator of the history and traditions we all love and share.

References:

Clayton, Lawrence; Hoy, James F; Underwood, Jerald (2001). *Vaqueros, cowboys, and buckaroos: The Genesis and Life of the Mounted North American Herders*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press.

Freedman, Russell; *In the Days of the Vaqueros*; Clarion Books; New York; 2001. 🐾

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“Less Is More”

Do-It-Yourself Gamer Gunsmithing Of **THE RUGER VAQUERO** ~ Part 1 ~ And Related Shooting Techniques

By Wyatt Berry Stapp Earp, SASS #76992

The title plays on a prior “More Is Less” how-to article about legal low-power loads for the .45 Long Colt cartridge. This article originated as a checklist for a complete makeover of the Ruger Vaquero that involves removal of the lawyer-proof transfer bar (as shown by Figure 1) and lightening Ruger’s lawyer-proof frame-mounted firing pin rebound spring such that the heavy factory hammer spring could also be substantially lightened. Taking this article to its conclusion results in the re-creation of a Colt-like Ruger revolver that is SAFE ONLY WITH 5-ROUNDS—none of them being under the hammer.

The project could be performed leaving the transfer bar in-place as shown below.

Now that lawyers are involved,

this article is written for informational purposes by presenting my personal experiences in this matter. Despite referenced to “gunsmithing,” I am not a professional gunsmith and do not do gunsmithing for others. Accordingly those publishing this material, those offering parts and supplies noted herein, and the author assume zero liability for any actions, or consequences thereof, that may be undertaken by readers of this publication whether or not the perceived instructions are followed. Ruger revolvers utilize springs under considerable tension and the use of safety glasses is required when removing them. For safety, a full-face shield is suggested when engaging in any sort of grinding work. Any mention of equipment from other sources is for the read-



Figure 2. “Gunsmithed” Ruger New Vaquero With Transfer Bar and Original Factory Parts



Figure 1. “Gunsmithed” Ruger New Vaquero Without Transfer Bar and With GrandMaster/PowerCustom Competition Hammer.

ers’ convenience and does not constitute any sort of endorsement or recommendation. Furthermore any perceived criticism of others’ products or services in this article must be tempered by performance expectations versus the cost of those products or services. With respect to shooting recommendations, please keep in mind my scores range among the lower half at most SASS matches. However, my stage times are coming down due to helpful instruction from kind posse members, watching instructional videos, and considerable work on my 1873 Uberti and now my Rugers

With respect to safety, my namesake is reported to have experienced an accidental discharge on Sunday January 9, 1876 while playing cards at the Custom House Saloon in Wichita, Kansas. His revolver slipped from its holster and in falling to the floor the hammer, which was resting on a car-

tridge, is supposed to have caused the discharge. “The ball passed through his coat, struck the North wall, and passed out through the ceiling ... The event caused a lively stampede from the room.” One wonders if such an occurrence on a Sunday in a saloon could be construed as an act of God.

In the sport of Single Action Revolver Shooting under the auspices of the Single Action Shooting Society, “gaming” can have a somewhat negative connotation and is mentioned in the title for fun and alliterative purposes. However, please remember that the gunfight, as portrayed in the media, with the man in the white hat waiting for the man in the black hat to make his move is an illusion. Of course, there were gunfights between those seeking to right an insult to honor or property (frequently under the influence of liquor); however, a bonafide gunfighter would rarely let himself be drawn into this type

of trouble and drew his firearm only when the odds were on his side. The gunfighter relied on the cold-blooded science of “getting the drop” on an opponent. My name-sake, in his law enforcement duties, relied on quick action to “buffalo” the objects of his wrath by hitting them over the head with his gun rather than shooting them. Gunsmithing efforts, such as those herein, are just an extension of an historical tradition. Some, reading this article, might say I am “gaming” my responsibilities by not including full instructions for basic disassembly and reassembly. However, the supplemental notes and directions clearly identify such resources and in the case of Kuhnhausen’s superb book, the exact pages therein. Although Kuhnhausen provides incredibly detailed directions for keeping the revolvers within factory specifications, he does not address how to make the revolvers operate best for Cowboy Action Shooting™ BY SERIOUS COMPETITORS WHO UNDERSTAND THEIR FIREARMS AND HOW TO HANDLE AND SAFELY SHOOT THEM UNDER TIME PRESSURE.

Continuing on the premise of the prior article, my cartridge ignition expectations for a New Small-Frame Vaquero are based upon:

- The generally-reputed relatively soft characteristics of Federal brand primers in contrast to others.
- Replacement of the Ruger factory 17-pound spring with a 14-pound after market Wolff spring.
- Replacement of Ruger parts with either the:
 - * Standard GrandMasters/PowerCustom Hammer, Trigger, Transfer bar, and Free Spin Pawl, or
 - * New registered GrandMasters/PowerCustom Competition Hammer available “in-the-white,” Free Spin Pawl, and no Transfer Bar
- I would prefer to be able to work the hammer by “slip thumbing”, i.e., holding the trigger back after the hammer is cocked and then just using my thumb to operate and release the hammer. My goal is for a light hammer pull that would allow it to be easily cocked by just bending the joint in middle of my thumb as it would appear that Evil Roy is doing in his instructional videos. Heretofore, with a 14-pound spring, to cock the hammer I had to rotate my wrist or the joint at the base of my thumb—both of which tend to move the gun off-target rather than the straight-back motion

associated with flexing the middle joint of the thumb.

My concerns commenced with noticing that:

- The sides of the hammer were being scratched by contact with the frame (slightly reducing the effectiveness of the hammer spring), which could be expected since I had technically paid a firm only for installation of the products and no gunsmithing. From having been a happy customer of Long Hunter Shooting Supply (www.longhunt.com) in other transactions, I know that this firm narrows the hammers slightly to prevent such contact issues.
 - The 14-pound hammer spring provided reliable ignition, but the firing pin was not being fully driven out of the frame by close observation of the unloaded revolver from the side while the action was cycled.
 - Having purchased an Evil Roy model of the Cimarron/Uberti Colt-clone, with the alleged old-fashioned leaf mainspring instead of the modern coil springs used by Ruger, I was chagrined to find the hammer tension was less than what I was able to achieve with the Ruger equipped with a 14-pound reduced-power Wolff hammer spring. Attempts to cut coils off the Wolff spring resulted in ignition problems.
 - Working the loading table at my local club’s SASS matches, I have noticed that competitors’ Ruger hammers did not have the cut-out for the transfer bar.
- After innumerable attempts at refinishing the hammer, removing burrs from the recess into which the hammer fell, with the revolver assembled, and lubrication with space-age fluorocarbon grease and miracle oils, I resorted to actually reading Jerry Kuhnhausen’s superb shop manual I had bought (along with the takedown guides noted in the TOOLS AND SUPPLIES section) for the purpose of understanding how to replace the factory hammer and trigger springs. A full list of all referenced tools and materials may also be found at the end of this series of articles.
- In detail-reading the formidable Kuhnhausen book, and in talking with characteristically helpful gunsmiths when I inquired about doing the work and with folks at my SASS-affiliated club, the Memphis Gunslingers (at the Memphis Sport Shooting Association), I gradually came to the conclusion that every major spring in the revolver acts in opposition to the hammer spring:
- The “ping” heard after starting
- (Continued on page 41)



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Captain Baylor modeling the Mernickle Evil Roy Slim Jim rig with matching shotgun belt.

(Photo by Lorrie Lott, Mr. Quigley Photography)



DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR Cops vs CowBOYS

By Captain George Baylor, SASS Life #24287

Founders Ranch, New Mexico, May 2012 – First, what is “Cops vs. Cowboys,” and why are they fighting? Let’s see, historically the gunfight near the OK Corral was cops, okay, three cops, and one civilian, and cowboys all using really terrible tactics. Not good to be a cowboy that day. More recently Cops vs. Cowboys are matches between SASS clubs and policemen, each using their favorite firearms.

Cowboys, of course, use state-of-the-art 19th century six-shooters, lever-action rifles, and double barrel or ‘87 or ‘97 shotguns. Cops use their duty side-arms, such as

Glocks or 1911s, their duty rifle, usually something that started life as an AR-15 clone that has been taken over by the Borg, and a shotgun that might be duty or might be an IPSC competition gun, such as a 10-shot Benelli semi-auto. Well, gee, that sounds even less fair than the OK Corral, doesn’t it? 21st century vs. 19th century?

This is where, unlike real gunfights where there are no actual

rules, we make rules to “level the playing field.” Yeah, that’s the ticket. Let’s start with requiring five rounds in the magazines of the cops’ duty pistols. Most of them carry at least 10 rounds in their pistols, so they’d have a bit of an advantage not having to switch pistols. Mag changes are *roughly* equivalent to switching pistols as far as time goes.

Then we make them start with their rifles hammer down on an empty chamber, loaded magazine, just like our rifles. And since some of those semi-auto shotguns can really fly when they’re loaded, we’ll use cowboy rules on shotguns, meaning you load them on the clock.

Hmm, sounds like the cowboys are getting all of the advantages. Well, not quite. Since we can’t shoot at fairly close steel plates with 5.56 mm NATO rounds, we put up paper targets for the cops’ rifles. To make it even, put one of the cowboy targets on top of each cop target and use it as a stencil to paint the non-scoring part of the target a contrasting color. Or, if you’re lazy or short on paint, just put up a big ol’ IPSC target. After all, the cops are the good guys, so they need all the help they can get.

Well. Yes and no. They’re good guys, but they don’t need much help. There have been Cops Vs. Cowboys with stages written by the cops, and it wasn’t pretty. They have neat electronic optics on their ARs, and 100-yard targets are a *lot* easier to hit than with a ‘73 with a big Grabber or Speed Sight front sight. On the other hand, I’ve never seen a ‘73 with dead batteries!

For three years Buffalo Range Riders, who shoot monthly at Founders Ranch, New Mexico, have put on a charity Cops Vs. Cowboys event. This year the charity was



Greg Rackle shot on the cops side.



Amber Ale wowed the cops with her shooting, beating all but one of them. The white targets were for the cops shooting 5.56 in their ARs. The black ones next to them were for the cowboy rifles.



Cowboy Action Shooter Boggus Deal shot funny looking guns for a cowboy, but typical of the cops. He also dressed funny.

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This year's event had a five-stage cowboy match and a five-stand shotgun match added because Founders Ranch now has a neat Five-stand Shotgun range.

I have to warn you. The cops tended to dress funny for this event. They nearly all wore baseball caps, and they wore short-sleeved t-shirts and polo shirts, some with, horrors, *advertising* all over them. And, of course, most were wearing tennis shoes or combat boots. But they let them shoot anyway.

Loading table rules were appropriately modified. Cops carry their duty pistols with a round in the chamber, and, if the pistol has one, safety on. Some double action pistols don't have thumb safeties, and the Glock has the safety on the trigger. Nobody wants to mess with their muscle memory and make the cops start with an empty chamber, a la Wild Bunch. So at the loading table they loaded their pistols with a magazine with five rounds in it and chambered a round and made safe, then re-holstered. Rifles were essentially in the same condition as ours, a designated number of rounds in the magazine, and an empty chamber. So they had to chamber a round just as we do. Shotguns started empty.

Pistols could either be re-holstered when empty or grounded, empty, slide locked back, the shooter's choice. Re-holstering required dropping the slide and applying the safety, if there was one. Generally I thought grounding was faster, and safer, but possibly a bad habit to develop for someone using the gun in real gunfights. It should be noted that 3-Gun, like Wild Bunch, requires grounding the gun, empty with the slide locked back.

Some of the ARs could really fly. Others malfunctioned, resulting in a lot of authentic cop gibberish (G rated, of course). Rifle malfunctions seemed to be the biggest problem, but there were a few pistol and shotgun malfunctions on our posse.

The cops weren't used to load-

ing their shotguns on the clock. Several carried competition ammunition carriers that helped a lot. One cop had no planned method of carrying shotgun ammunition and staged rounds or stuck them in his belt. At least once he missed and had no makeup ammunition.

Sadly, one of the people dressing funny and shooting Borg-like guns was a cowboy who turned traitor on his pard, Boggus Deal. He was wearing a shirt with Ergo Grips all over it (his employer). His pistol was a wide-bodied 1911 that would hold about 300 rounds. The rifle was an AR with more battery-powered components than a 10 year old's Christmas. The shotgun was a semi-auto Benelli with a magazine extension that would probably have stuck out past a 30" barrel. He loaded it a lot like a '97, throwing a round in the ejection port. Firing it left the chamber open, so it went fast. Some of the others put the rounds in the mag tube, which took a little time. But then when they fired, the 4-5 rounds were gone in a split second. Shotgun targets ranged from two to five on a stage.

Cowboys, of course, shot the match the way they usually do. I cheated and used two hands and smokeless ammunition. It didn't help. I kept firing one round and wondering why there was no smoke.

Our posse had one Buckaroo. I didn't see any buckaroo cops, though. I don't know why.

Amber Ale captivated all the cops on our posse by generally waxing them, finishing 3rd overall. One left muttering about wishing he could shoot like a girl. Most of us are used to getting beaten by Amber Ale, so the cowboys didn't think much about it.

And yes, despite the semi-auto weapons and the huge rifle targets, a cowboy was first overall, Mica McGuire. LEO Ferlin Ortega was First LEO and 2nd Overall. Top ten had five cops, five cowboys.

At the end cowboys were letting cops shoot their guns, and a cop or two promised to come to some of the local matches. Additionally photographers from a couple of local papers were there to cover it. The publicity can't hurt.

If your club wants to do a Cops and Cowboys match, you will need everything you would need for a good SASS match plus the ability to coordinate with local police departments (local being defined as anybody you can expect to come to the match. It might be a 50-mile radius or 200 miles. At this match the cops' entry fees were sponsored by Falcon Industries, which probably made it easier to recruit cops.

You will need to add to your normal safety briefing enough



**Sandiko Kid, a Buckaroo, shot on the cowboy's side.
Sadly there were no buckaroo cops.**

items to cover shooters shooting "different" guns than we shoot and different disciplines. Cops don't consider it a cardinal sin to put a shotgun down with an empty round in it, or, for that matter, to walk to the unloading table with it in it. Things you take for granted need to be explained to them. On the other hand, common sense firearms and range safety is ingrained into them, and they can all shoot quite well.

We have beginners all the time who were not shooters until they came to SASS. This is not a problem with cops. It's refreshing that they call unloading table monitors "Sir."

Workers included Singin' Sue and Shanley Shooter, Wild Shot, Garrison Joe, Vaquero Luna, Crazy Clara Belle, Mrs. Slick Shot, Les Phalanges, and Shirley Shooter.

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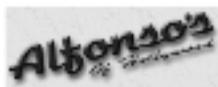


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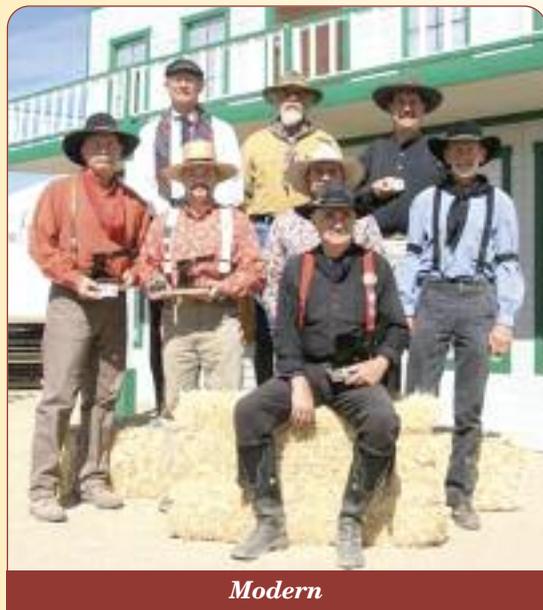
(Continued from page 1)

Bunch. It is also the name of the new and fast growing sport of Wild Bunch Action Shooting™. Begun as a SASS Cowboy Action Shooting™ side match, Wild Bunch Action Shooting™ has grown into its own sport with its own rules.

In Cowboy Action Shooting™, we try to recreate the Old West, the period from the end of the Civil War through the 1890s. The guns, the clothing and the personas used (except for B-Western) are all from this time period. The Old West was considered over after 1900. However, in the remote regions of the West, particu-



Madame Ginger from Norway



Modern

larly along the border with Mexico, the Old West lingered on. A few years into the 20th Century cowboys and lawmen could still be seen riding their horses and shooting their blackpowder handguns, rifles, and double barrel shotguns. Mixed in, however, were those new fangled horseless cartridges, smokeless powder,

semi-automatic firearms, and pump shotguns. The clothing was a hodge-podge of 19th century western wear, military uniforms, and new styles from the more populated areas of the country. It was that time period from the turn of the 20th Century up to the First World War. Instead of Wyatt Earp and Billy the Kid, in Wild Bunch Action Shooting™ the shooters are more apt to emulate Blackjack Pershing and Pancho Villa!

In Cowboy Action Shooting™ the Territorial Governors help determine the rules and set policy. For this game the Wild Bunch has established a Wild Bunch Action Shooting™ Committee to draft rules and oversee the evolution of the sport. (In either sport, THE Wild Bunch has the final say for all rule and policy decisions.) The Wild Bunch Action Shooting™ Committee consists of four dedicated individuals: Evil Roy, Pecos Clyde, Happy Jack, and Texas Jack Morales.

Early in the development of Wild Bunch, the decision was made this should be a major caliber and major power factor sport. It was also determined there should be no equipment race. Thus, there is only one handgun allowed—the Colt 1911 in .45 ACP and its clones and one shotgun—the Winchester 1897. There is a little flexibility with the rifle. Any Cowboy Ac-

tion Shooting™ main match rifle is allowed as long as it is at least .40 caliber. The minimum power factor for both the pistol AND rifle is 150. (This compares to a minimum power factor in Cowboy Action Shooting™ of 60.) The only deviation from these initial firearm requirements is the IAC 1893/97 is now allowed in Wild Bunch. In Cowboy Action Shooting™ the shotgun is always staged open and empty. The 1893/97 is not allowed in Cowboy Action Shooting™ because there is a perception the enlarged loading port might be a competitive advantage. In Wild Bunch, however, the shotgun is staged fully loaded, hammer down on an empty chamber. Shotgun misses cannot be made up in Wild Bunch, so there are few if any reloads. Thus, it was felt the 1893/97 offered no advantage in Wild Bunch. In addition, the trench gun version of the '97 is also allowed in Wild Bunch Action Shooting™.

The rallying call at a Wild Bunch safety meeting is the admonition that Wild Bunch is NOT Cowboy Action Shooting™ using a 1911! What are some of these differences? First and foremost is that this is a major caliber match. As previously noted, ammunition for the handgun and the rifle must both meet a power factor of at least 150 and the lightest bullet that can be used is 180 grains. Because of the higher power factor, Wild Bunch targets are frequently knockdowns, dueling trees, and other types of reactive targets. Wild Bunch is not bulls-eye shooting. However, a Wild Bunch match features more complex stages than typically found at most Cowboy Action Shooting™ matches and requires speed, movement, and accuracy.

The higher power ammunition also allows more flexibility in stage design as, for example, the rifle can be shot last. In Wild Bunch only the shooter may touch their firearms. At the end of a stage, the shooter is the only one that can move his/her

Winners

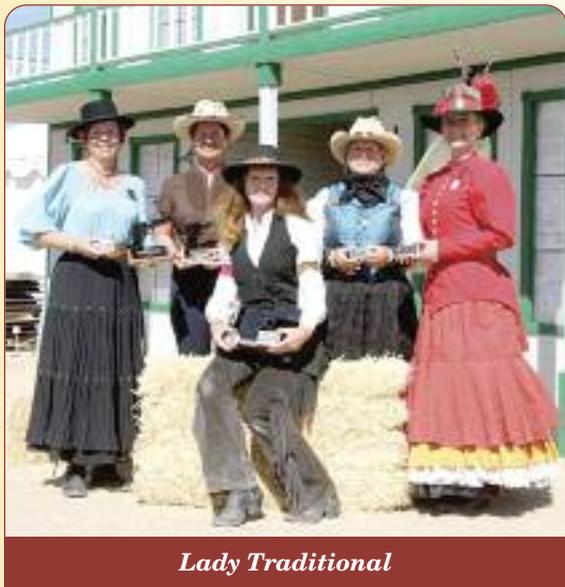
Over All		
<i>Man</i>	Evil Roy, SASS #2883	CO
<i>Lady</i>	Texas Tiger, SASS #74829	NM
Categories		
<i>Modern</i>	Evil Roy	CO
<i>L Modern</i>	Half-A-Hand Henri, SASS #9727	NM
<i>Traditional</i>	Long Hunter SASS #20389	TX
<i>L Traditional</i>	Texas Tiger	NM



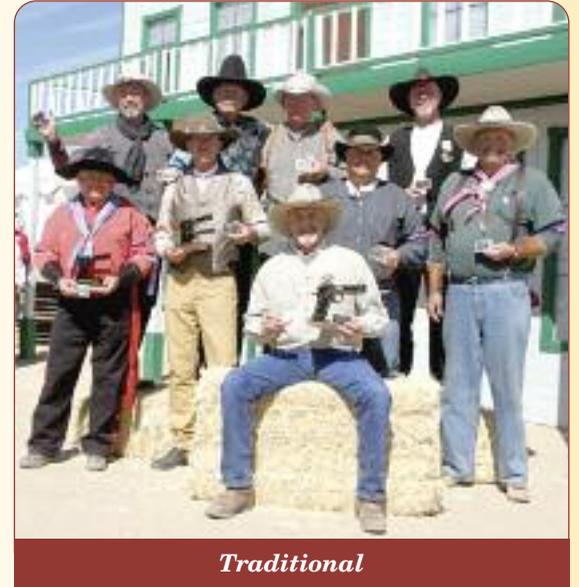
Lady Modern

firearms to the unloading table. The same goes for handling malfunctions. Only the shooter may clear a malfunction. If the shooter cannot clear the firearm, it cannot be handed off, it must be safely staged with the muzzle down range. After shooting the 1911, it is NOT reholstered at the end of the shooting string. It must be cleared prior to leaving the firing line. Once cleared, it may then be holstered and is not removed from

(Continued on page 26)



Lady Traditional



Traditional

WINTER RANGE 2012

(Continued from page 25)

the holster at the unloading table. Dropped ammunition and magazines may be retrieved. (In Cowboy Action Shooting™ dropped ammunition is dead.)

And, perhaps, the biggest difference is that Wild Bunch has only four categories—Traditional, Lady Traditional, Modern, and Lady Modern. For a more detailed look at the rules and to have any questions about Wild Bunch answered, visit the Wild Bunch Action Shooting™ website. Go to the SASS homepage, scroll down, and click on the large WILD BUNCH ACTION SHOOTING banner.

The Wild Bunch committee acknowledges there is a learning curve in any new sport and that change can only come through experience. And, they are learning FAST! Last year's Winter Range National Championship was the largest Wild Bunch match ever held. What was learned and how did it affect the 2012 National Championship? First, to put things in perspective, the typical

Cowboy Action Shooting™ stage is the familiar 10-10-4 (ten revolver, ten rifle, and four shotgun). A Wild Bunch stage is more likely to be something like 25-10-6. (Twenty-five pistol, ten rifle, and six shotgun). The stages are also more complex and the targets more of a challenge to hit, and you see few, if any, sub-20 second stages by even the fastest Wild Bunch competitors. There are also very few clean matches. There were, in fact, no clean Wild Bunch competitors this year!

At Winter Range 2011 there were 12 stages shot over two days. This made for very long days and exhausted shooters. There were also a lot of misses and the chronographing of the shooters' pistol and rifle ammunition took considerable time. (Remember, the minimum power factor is 150, and if a shooter's ammunition does not make power factor, it is a match DQ.) The 2011 match was run on Tuesday and Wednesday, so that meant the Wild Bunch shooters could not participate in the Cowboy Action Shooting™ warm-ups or side matches. For 2012, the number of stages was reduced to ten and the maximum number of shooters allowed to sign-up for the Wild Bunch match reduced. The targets were placed to be challenging, but still hittable by the average shooter. The chronographing procedure was changed to try and speed up the process. And, the match began on Monday to allow the Wild Bunch competitors to wind down, shoot a practice match, and get in some side matches on Wednesday in preparation for the start of the Cowboy Action Shooting™ match on Thursday.

These changes made a great event even better. A few shooters thought the targets were too close. A few thought they were too far. But, the VAST majority thought the target placement was just right. Virtually everyone also liked the reduced number of stages and the expedited chronographing procedure. Many shooters commented the match was not easy, nor was it hard. It was challenging, and that is what a Wild Bunch match is supposed to be. Others noted with the different target placement in this year's match the time difference between average shooters and the better shooters was closer (mainly because of fewer misses), and this made for a

much more satisfying match.

Although in many countries it is more difficult to get access to semi-automatic pistols than it is here in the United States, Wild Bunch is also taking root in Europe.

Several shooters from other countries shot the Wild Bunch match and did quite well. One young lady from Norway, Madame Ginger, had never seen a Wild Bunch match and had no idea what a Wild Bunch costume should look like. Nevertheless, she made her own, and it came out fantastic! It is gratifying to see SASS has brought so many people together from so many places, and EVERYONE has a great time. One interesting anecdote about this year's match is the Wild Bunch trophies were a little *too* realistic! One of the European shooters had his trophy confiscated at the airport by the TSA! (Winter Range will be buying him another trophy and mailing it to him.)

What will we see for the Winter Range Wild Bunch National Championship in 2013? There were several requests to start the match at 9:00 am instead of 7:30 am. Given how smoothly and on time this year's match went, the later starting time will definitely happen. It was also suggested by several shooters the prohibition against touching other shooters' guns be slightly modified to allow expeditors to move guns to the unloading table to help reduce the time between shooters. The Wild Bunch Committee will certainly review this and other comments made in the shooter feedback forms and gather more feedback at the Wild Bunch World Championship at END of TRAIL 2012.

The Wild Bunch Action Shooting™ match sold out early for Win-



**Overall Winners—
Evil Roy and Texas Tiger
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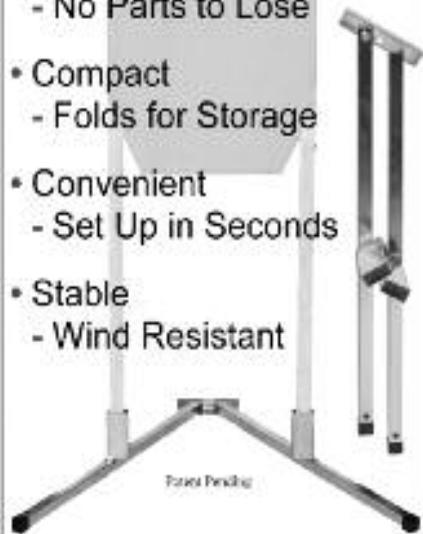


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The SASS National Championship of **Wild Bunch™** Action Shooting

ter Range 2011 and was sold out again this year. If you want to shoot Wild Bunch at next year's Winter Range, be sure to start practicing with your 1911, chronograph your ammunition, and make your plans early. Then get ready for an even bigger and better Winter Range Wild Bunch Action Shooting National Championship in 2013!!!

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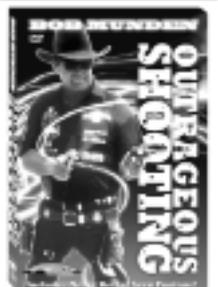
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WINTER RANGE 2012

(Continued from page 1)
level of excellence and striving to constantly make Winter Range better for the shooters is a labor of love for the Rough Riders. Here is how they do it.

Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance

About two weeks after Winter Range 2011 (after everyone has had a chance to wind down and rest) a General Board meeting is held. Winter Range is a not-for-profit corporation whose sole mission is to put on Winter Range. It has a General Board of up to 25 dedicated individuals that volunteer hundreds of hours of their time every year. Within the General Board is a five person Executive Board that handles the day-to-day operations of Winter Range such as maintaining the corporate records, taking care of legal issues and insurance, paying bills and maintaining Winter Range's financial records. At this wrap-up meeting representatives from the Ben Avery Shooting Range, the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, and others are present to give an assessment of any problem areas they identified. By the time this meeting is held, all of the shooter comments have been put into a computer matrix, and shooter likes and dislikes identified and discussed. There is a report from each Rough Rider on their area of responsibility, e.g., vendor coordination, facilities, communications, range operations, side match coordinators, entertainment, media coordination, scoring, awards, shooter door prizes, etc. Items are discussed, suggestions

made, and solutions proposed.

Once the majority of bills have been paid, a financial statement is presented to the Executive Board. A certain amount of money is set aside for new targets, props, and other items that will be needed for the next year's Winter Range. Suggestions are sought from the General Board and charities identified for contributions. Each year Winter Range contributes thousands of dollars to charities such as the Wounded Warriors, the SASS Scholarship Fund, Happy Trails, and numerous other national and local charities. After this meeting, Winter Range 2011 is closed out. About a month later, another meeting is held to begin the detailed planning for Winter Range 2012. What should be the theme? For Winter Range 2012 that was easy as 2012 is the 100th Anniversary of Arizona becoming a State. The stages would celebrate famous events in Arizona history. (The gunfight at the OK Corral, etc.) Ideas for new stage fronts are discussed. What should be on the Friday and Saturday night dinner menu? Who should be invited or hired for entertainment? What can be changed to make the Winter Range experience even better for the shooters, etc., etc., etc.? After that meeting, it gets HOT in Arizona. Planning continues throughout the summer,

vendor and shooter packets are mailed out, but a lot of the heavy outside work waits until the fall.

It Must be Fall, There's a Work Party Scheduled

Once the temperatures have

soda can launchers for aerial targets. They are much better than clay birds or charcoal, as they do not break on launch and fly at a consistent height and speed. When they are hit by one BB there is no



2

gotten down out of the 100s into the 90s, it's time to start the outdoor work. The contents of the containers are inspected to see how they fared in the summer heat, fronts removed and examined, targets inspected, and checklists made to make sure every item is repaired and repainted. **Photo 2.** New front designs are laid out and construction begun. **Photo 3.** Winter Range has for the past several years used



3

Overall	Winners	B-Western	Slick McClade, SASS #69490	LA	49'er	Long Hunter, SASS #20389	TX	E Statesman	Wilkes, SASS #28702	OR
Man	Cobra Cat, SASS #19275	L B-Western	Whirlwind Wendy, SASS #79889	CA	L 49'er	Addie Rose	AZ	Grand Dame	Running Bare, SASS #2323	CA
Lady	Addie Rose, SASS #24062	C Cowboy	T-Bone Dooley, SASS #36388	TX	S Senior	Evil Roy, SASS #2883	CO	Side Match Winners,		
Top 16 Winners		C Cowgirl	Half-A-Hand Henri, SASS #9727	NM	L S Senior	Two Sons, SASS #12636	IN	Long Range Rifle		
Top Cowboy	Robyn DaVault, SASS #87360	Duelist	Grazer, SASS #38845	MA	Cowboy	Cobra Cat	CO	Single Shot	Colt Colton, SASS #9738	CA
Top Cowgirl	Hey You, SASS #64946	L Duelist	Dixie Bell, SASS #5366	UT	Cowgirl	Hey You	TX	Optical	Equalizer Bill, SASS #35614	NM
Categories		S Duelist	Ruff Cobb, SASS #7548	CO	Wrangler	Red River Ray, SASS #33254	NC	Bucky O'Neill Military Rifle		
F Cartridge	Lead Ringer, SASS #87957	Gunfighter	Lightning Cat, SASS #19274	CO	L Wrangler	Texas Tiger, SASS #74829	NM	Bolt Action	Judah Macabee, SASS #64095	AZ
L F Cartridge	Honey B. Quick, SASS #47009	L Gunfighter	Granny Annie, SASS #37063	IA	Buckaroo	Rattlesnake Wrangler, SASS #54580	TX	Rifle Caliber	Sand Dab Sam, SASS #69632	CA
F C Duelist	Billy Boots, SASS #20282	Senior	Hells Comin, SASS #56436	AZ	Buckarette	SASS Kicker, SASS #91899	AZ	Buffalo Rifle	Lunger, SASS #78045	WA
L F C Duelist	Painted Filly, SASS #86383	L Senior	Etta Mae, SASS #12478	AZ	Junior	Campo Kid, SASS #82432	KY	Quigley	Rick O'Shea Maxwell, SASS #84975	MN
Frontiersman	Split Rail, SASS #24707				L Junior	Sugar Cookie, SASS #71327	AZ			

THE SASS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING™

doubt it has been hit, as there is a stream of liquid flying through the air. If more than one BB hits them, they explode. No arguments about hits and misses!

For 2012 it was decided to add a little excitement to the aerial target launcher by having a bowling ball trip the launcher. Detailed plans were drawn (any device used at Winter Range has to be heavy duty to make sure it will stand up to 750+ shooters) and a local steel fabrication facility contracted to build the bowling ball ramp. **Photo 4.** These work parties take place on several weekends throughout the late summer and fall.



4 Testing the Bowling Ball Launcher

Winter Range tries to replace roughly 1/3 of its targets each year. Over the past couple of years the main match plates have gone from 16" to 18" and now most are 20". Each target is inspected and anything that looks suspect is re-welded or replaced. For 2011 and 2012 with the introduction of the SASS National Wild Bunch Action Shooting Championship, many new knockdown targets and other types

of reactive targets were acquired to meet the demands of the Wild Bunch shooting scenarios.

Each year Winter Range tries to have at least two new fronts constructed to keep a fresh face for returning shooters. Old fronts are repainted and repaired or redesigned to give a different appearance from the year before. Again, the goal is to keep everything exciting for both new and returning shooters. Throughout the late summer and fall, board meetings are held to get progress reports from each Rough Rider on how they are progressing with their work assignments. The really intense work begins in September of each year.

In September Winter Range holds its corporate annual meeting. That is when old board members retire and new ones are elected. Board members are nominated based on what they do for local clubs, experience as a Winter Range Ranger, and other contributions to SASS and the shooting community.

If they accept the nomination, they appear at the annual meeting and give a presentation, explaining who they are, their shooting and organizational experience, what they have done for SASS, and what they think they can do for Winter Range. Ballots are passed out, and if elected, the new board member serves two years. Board members that serve at least six years get Winter Range "trustee" status when they retire

from the board. All board actions for the previous year are reviewed and ratified and the minutes of the meeting filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission.

A General Board meeting then follows the annual meeting and each board member discusses their area of responsibility, how they are progressing, and whether they need additional help or funds to complete their projects. Every year costs go up, so the budgets for different projects are discussed in detail. For example, Winter Range takes pride in putting on a world class Championship and in giving awards befitting a world-class event. First place is a Remington bronze statue. These statues weigh between 22 and 40 pounds depending on which statue is selected each year. The cost has risen and the statues must be ordered from a foundry several months in advance of Winter Range. When received, they are mounted on a two inch thick piece of solid walnut. The 2nd through 5th place shooters receive Garmin statues. Bronze buckles are awarded for 1st through 10th places. For 2012, the buckles for

the 1st place shooters were also silver and gold plated. Each year the costs of these awards have risen and are a significant budget item.

Winter Range is held at the Ben Avery Shooting Facility in North Phoenix. Winter Range is simply one user group with a signed user agreement with Ben Avery. There are 143 other user groups that also have signed user agreements with Ben Avery, not to mention the thousands of individual shooters that use the range on a daily basis. After negotiating with some of these other user groups, Winter Range has built three permanent buildings at Ben Avery. However, EVERYTHING else used at Winter Range has to be built, purchased or rented, and then brought to the site for the annual Winter Range event. This year, the match started two days earlier than in the past to accommodate the SASS National Championship of Wild Bunch Action Shooting. This presented even more challenges for setting up Winter Range. Ben Avery is a busy *(Continued on page 30)*

Bucky O'Neill Military Rifle					
Single Shot	Hey Granpa, SASS #60902	OR	Sporting Clays	Arizona Redneck, SASS #49989	AZ
Pistol Caliber	Shootin Straight, SASS #82888	WA	Speed Events		
Long Range Pistol	H. F. McCawley, SASS #92869	AZ	Speed Shotgun		
Plainsman	Lefty Eastman, SASS #20645ca		Cowboy	Hells Comin,	AZ
Cowboy Shotgun			Cowgirl	Hey You	TX
Blackpowder			Speed Rifle		
Trap	Elliott James, SASS #2804	AZ	Cowboy	Deuce Stevens, SASS #55996	MI
Skeet	R C Hammer, SASS #42253	AZ	Cowgirl	Raven Moon, SASS #82325	CA
Sporting Clays	Big Iron Buster, SASS #9361	WA	Speed Pistol		
Smokeless			Cowboy	Rattlesnake Wrangler, SASS #54580	TX
Trap	Territorial Ryder, SASS #31939	OR	Cowgirl	Two Sons	IN
Skeet	Solomon Star, SASS #208	CA	Pocket Pistol		
			Cowboy	Territorial Ryder	OR
			Cowgirl	Dixie Bell	UT
			Derringer		
			Cowboy	Waterloo Bill, SASS #82340	CA
			Cowgirl	Hey You	TX

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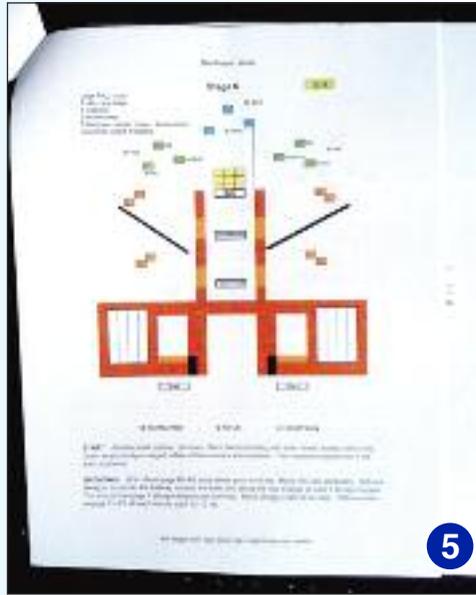
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WINTER RANGE 2012

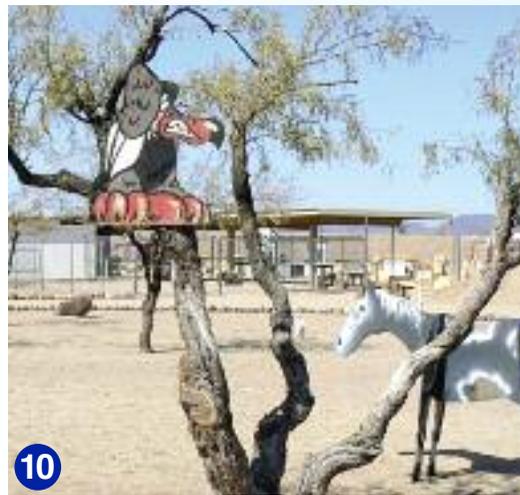
(Continued from page 29)

range and the shooting facilities are reserved up to a year in advance. In some cases there are matches taking place in bays that will be used by Winter Range right up to a day or two before Winter Range begins. So, these matches must be worked around during set-up. The logistics for accommodating 800 Cowboy Action Shooting™ competitors, 125 Wild Bunch competitors, 100 Mounted Shooters, and several thousand visitors has become a major enterprise. So much so the Winter Range board was expanded from 20 to 25 members. Check lists are finalized, and the off-site work continues until February.



As Easy as Painting by the Numbers

5



10

Photo 7. As the fronts are unloaded, various construction teams will assemble the stage fronts. Photo 8. The last items to come out of their containers and be delivered to the range are the hundreds of decorations that provide ambiance and a more enjoyable environment for the shooters. Photos 9, 10, and 11.

Often times these detail items aren't "noticed" by the shooters, but the range would look barren and unappealing without them, and their absence would be noticed. Hay bales are then brought in to provide seating, splatter control, and crowd control. Posts have to be hammered into the rock hard ground and ropes strung to keep visitors a safe distance from the firing line. Then comes the really hard part. Meeting the scrutiny of



11

pot, they are installed. If an area of the range looks a little naked, decorations are brought in to fill the space. If the colors on a prop don't match, they are repainted. When the ladies are done with their inspection and everything is up to Winter Range standards, the range is ready to greet the shooters and visitors.



The Targets are Set

6

The Transformation Begins

Winter Range 2012 was scheduled to begin at 7:30 a.m. on Monday, February 20. Approximately two weeks before that date a transformation of the desert landscape begins. First, in the parking lot where vendors' row and the main tent will be, all the concrete parking bumpers have to be moved. Then the main tent goes up closely followed by the vendor tents. During this time final meetings with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office take place to finalize traffic flow, shooter parking, and day and nighttime security. The Emergency Medical Teams are re-contacted and their schedules finalized. Fire inspections are scheduled and have to take place before the main tent can be used. Health inspections have to take place, etc., etc. The list seems endless and gets longer every year. Finally, the heavy lifting begins.

On Wednesday, February 15, the shooting bays are marked with spray paint to show the firing line, major prop locations, and target placement. Construction handbooks that are color coded to match

the markings on the ground are handed out to the teams that will build each stage. Photo 5. First to be moved are the targets. (Since the stage fronts will make going downrange with trailers difficult once they are erected.) Trailers are loaded with the targets needed for each stage and taken to their bays. Photo 6. Several bays have two sets of targets, as many of the Wild Bunch targets are different from the Cowboy Action Shooting™ targets. As each bay is filled with targets, other trailers begin hauling the stage fronts and props to their



The Props Delivered

7



8

Set Up and Almost Done



9

The Match

Bright and early Monday morning, February 20, Winter Range is officially open and the Wild Bunch Championship begins. (For a look at the Wild Bunch match, see the separate article on the Wild Bunch Action Shooting National Championship.) After the Wild Bunch match is concluded, the targets are moved and replaced with the Cowboy Action Shooting™ match targets and everything staked and made ready for the Cowboy Action Shooting™ main match.

Wednesday is side match day

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12



It Ain't Done 'Til the Beautification Committee Says So!

and the most labor-intensive day of the match. In addition to the 20 members of the Arizona Territorial Company of Rough Riders, there are also 45 Rangers. The Rangers are a special breed of people that volunteer anywhere from a week to two weeks to work full time for Winter Range. They are amazingly dedi-

cated and are the backbone of the set-up and takedown effort. They also make sure everything is working during the match and are on-call to repair any fronts or targets that might break during the match. (Fortunately, there have been no equipment failures at Winter Range for several years.)

Next there are 100 volunteers, mostly shooters that have extended a helping hand. Ben Avery is over 1,650 acres and is the largest public range in the country. Thus, the side matches spread out for over a mile from the clay bird side matches on the west to the long range side matches on the east with everything else in between—speed rifle, speed pistol, speed shotgun, derringer, pocket pistol, Plainsman ... it's all there for the shooters to enjoy. **Photo 13.** It takes almost 150 people to man the side matches on Wednesday, and there is so much to do a shooter must look at the schedule carefully and plan their day wisely!

Thursday morning is the opening ceremony and the shooter safety meeting for the first shooting wave. Winter Range has a tradition of



13

It's a Long Walk on Side Match Day

making a comical safety video each year that is intended to be entertaining, but also informative. This year due to an actors' strike, all of the performers in the video were puppets. Hopefully, everyone got a kick out of them. After the safety meeting, the shooters go to the line, and it is the moment of truth. Will the shooters enjoy the stages, will there be any equipment malfunctions, has anything been forgotten?

But first everyone paused for a moment to remember all our friends that have passed in the last year. A squadron of military trainer aircraft flew over the range in the Missing Man formation and one plane peeled off right over stage one. **Photo 14.** It was an awesome sight and they have been invited back for

Winter Range 2013.

As the day wears on and each wave goes to the line, the feedback is positive and the Rough Riders breath a collective sign of relief. The entire year is spent planning and working for only one thing—to put on the best shoot possible for the shooters.

Thursday is a long day. The main match goes on all day. In the afternoon there is a swap meet in the main tent, and that night there is the blackpowder night shoot. In keeping with the Arizona History theme, the night shoot is a battle between Geronimo and the soldiers at Fort Apache. For the finale, there is a Gatling gun shooting .45-70 blackpowder rounds and both sides lose as the fort and Indian camp
(Continued on page 32)

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WINTER RANGE 2012

(Continued from page 31)
 both burn to the ground. **Photos 15 and 16.**

Late Thursday night one of Arizona's famous windstorms blew through Ben Avery and two fronts were severely damaged. The Rough Riders and Rangers were up at the crack of dawn repairing the damaged structures. By the time the first wave of shooters arrived on Friday morning, the damage had been repaired and the range was ready for action.

Winter Range is the National Championship and takes place in a winter resort city. As a conse-

quenced, shooters range from the top competitors in the world to shooters whose main interest is the good weather and meeting old friends. The stages are, therefore, varied to provide a challenge to the top shooters and fun for all shooters. Many shooters commented that Winter Range was a true championship match. It was challenging for the champions; yet, the targets were hittable and fun for beginners. The temperatures for the match were in the mid-80s with very low humidity, and everyone had to remember to drink plenty of water. Shooters from the north and northeast liked their warm winter break. Others commented they had shot the match several times before, but each year everything

looked fresh and there were different props every year. Saturday dawned and the action continued. Out on the range, among other things, was a train, a full-size riverboat, an actual saloon, Fort Sinclair, and Coosie's General Store. **Photos 17, 18, 19 and 20.**

There was also a jail with a long hallway to run down and shoot out of the doors and windows. At the saloon, there was a rolling ore car. At the General Store was the rolling bowling ball and soda can aerial target. A couple of stages had falling plates. The varied stages kept everyone entertained



14

Missing Man Formation

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16

It was a Draw!



17



18

and presented as many different shooting scenarios as possible. Saturday ended and everyone, the Rough Riders and the shooters, breathed a sign of relief. The match was over, but the fun continued.

There's Gonna be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight

In a multi-day event the shooters are only shooting part of the day. Filling the rest of the day is as important to a great shooter experience as the actual shooting. That's where the vendors and entertainment come in. Sponsors and vendors turn a shoot into an event. Their support helps make large shoots possible. They provide prizes and provide something to do for the shooters and their families in the off-hours. This year there were 100

THE SASS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING™

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vendors at Winter Range providing everything a Cowboy Action Shooter could want. There were firearms from a number of importers. There were clothes galore, ammunition, laser engraving, regular engraving, reloading accessories, and pretty much everything else a shooter could want all located in one place. **Photos 21 through 23.**

And then there was the **FOOD!** There were hot dogs, turkey legs, barbeque, ribs, burgers, burritos, kettle corn, ice cream, and pretty much something to meet everyone's tastes.

Photo 24. Once again Winter Range's main match sponsor was Wild West Mercantile and the major sponsors were Phil Doornbas, F.LLI Pietta, and Cimarron Firearms Company.

The entertainment was spread throughout the day to keep shooters, their families, and the thousands of visitors occupied. There was the Rhinestone Roper and his Wild West show, an authentic 1890s brass band for the evening events,



strolling guitar players, prestidigitators, and you could even meet Wyatt Earp roaming through the streets of vendor row. Wyatt is his real name, and he is the great-grandnephew of the original Wyatt Earp. Word has it next year Doc Holiday may make an appearance!

Winter Range has a full size saloon with a bar, mirror behind the bar, and a piano. It was built as a shooting façade. However, after the shooting ended on Saturday, it sponsored
(Continued on page 34)

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21



One of Four Vendor Rows



SASS COWBOY ACTION MATCH MANAGEMENT & SCORING SYSTEM

Simply the Best Way to Track, Monitor and Manage All of Your Cowboy Action Shooting Match Needs!

The Match Management & Scoring System

The Match Management & Scoring System uses MS Access as its database engine. Since the install program includes the MS Access runtime module you won't need to purchase any additional software.

If you own MS Word the Match Management & Scoring System will extract mail merges for name and address labels. You can create your own specialized match certificates and the system will merge category winners into these templates.

During annual or regional matches you can track many different criteria, such as: dinner tickets, gun cart rentals, registration input (whether your registrations come from your web site, regular mail, e-mail, etc).

The Vendor registration module includes space management and tracking of payments and sponsorship fees. This module also prints vendor badges and dinner tickets.

The Match Management & Scoring System is capable of scoring by rank points, total time or category total time just by selecting the check box you want.

You're also able to track misses, penalties and bonuses so shooter can track their progress.

Annual Support

After the first 6 months there is an annual support fee of \$60.00 per year. This support fee covers all program updates, e-mail and telephone support.

CURRENTLY IN USE BY OVER 100 CLUBS

Benefits

- Track misses, penalties & bonuses
- Scores are computed
- Computerized posse assignments
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- Print individual personalized score cards
- Easy extraction to Excel
- Score by individual or by posse/stage
- Print your own certificates
- Print confirmation letters
- Print dinner tickets
- Mailing labels
- Vendor registration
- Event tracking
- Integrated mail merges with MS Word
- Much, much more

SASS Match Management & Scoring System - ORDER FORM

Match Management & Scoring System\$325.00

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TAX (NM) Shipping & Handling: \$15.00

Total Order: _____

Club Name: _____

Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

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Phone: _____

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Check MasterCard Am EX Visa

Discover

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WINTER RANGE 2012

(Continued from page 33)

taneously turned into a real saloon, and there was celebration far into the night. Sunday morning dawned (blurry eyed for many) with one more big event before the awards ceremony. The Top Gun Shoot off!

And the Winners Are!!!

On Sunday morning the bleachers are filled with spectators and the best of the best meet to shoot it out. A course with knock-downs, falling plates, shotgun targets, and a final stop plate is laid out to test shooter speed and to thrill the audience. Shoot, miss, reload; move from gun to gun down

the firing line until you get to the final stop plate. Shooters are looking out the corner of their eyes, "my opponent just finished his shotgun targets, and I'm still on my rifle!" "He missed a target and is reloading, now I have him!" "Shucks, I just missed!" On it goes until the final two—Robyn DeVault for the men and Hey You for the women. They start, and it's neck and neck. Robyn pulls slightly ahead, gets to the stop plate first, and then makes a fatal error. He misses his target and knocks down Hey You's stop plate. (At least that's his story, and he's sticking to it!) Once again, the

ladies come out as Top Shot. As much fun as the shoot-off is, the fact is everyone that shoots Winter Range is a winner. The friends, socializing, and shooting are rewarding for everyone from seasoned competitor to beginners. From young to old, there were smiles on everyone's face. After the shoot-off is completed, everyone moves as quickly as possible to the big tent for the awards ceremony.

At the front of the tent are tables covered with a sea of bronze trophies for the 1st place winners, Garmin statues for 2nd through fifth place, and bronze buckles

down to tenth place. No large match can take place without sponsors and without volunteers and thanking these people is essential. It is also time consuming and the audience's eyes glaze over as each person of note's name is read and applause received. After numerous comments over the length of the awards ceremony on the shooter comments form, Winter Range has tried to streamline the awards ceremony. The names of those who have volunteered and the sponsors and vendors are printed in a pamphlet and passed out to the audience. An apprecia-

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Taking a Lunch Break



**U.S. Grant, SASS #2,
Opening the Awards Ceremony**



**Overall National Champions
Addie Rose and Cobra Cat**



23

ERS that attended Winter Range 2012!!! And Winter Range 2012 is over. Or is it?

The Big Takedown

Within minutes of the end of the awards ceremony the Rough Riders and Rangers are changing into their work clothes and begin to remove EVERYTHING from the range. There is another match that has reserved the range starting on the Tuesday following Winter Range. Take down is done as efficiently as setup. Teams are unbolting the stage fronts and the panels are stacked in each bay. Another team pulls in with trailers, and the panels are moved to their

storage areas. The targets are moved, then the hundreds of decorations stored. Finally, the hay bales are removed and the range cleaned for the next user. In a logistical miracle all of Winter Range is taken down and stored by five o'clock on Monday, February 27.

The Rough Riders, Rangers, and volunteers sit on the tailgates of their trucks having a cool beverage, the shooter comments are read, and Winter Range 2013 begins. A few diehards wander out into the now empty bays and think aloud, "I wonder if we could build ...?"

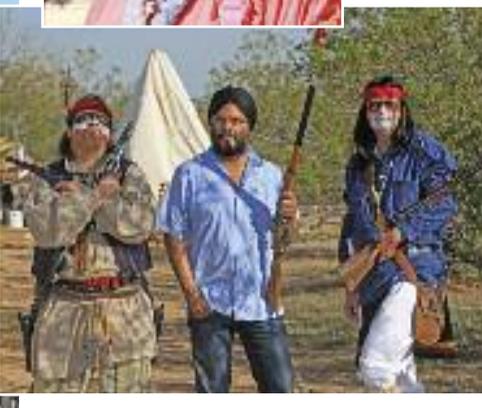
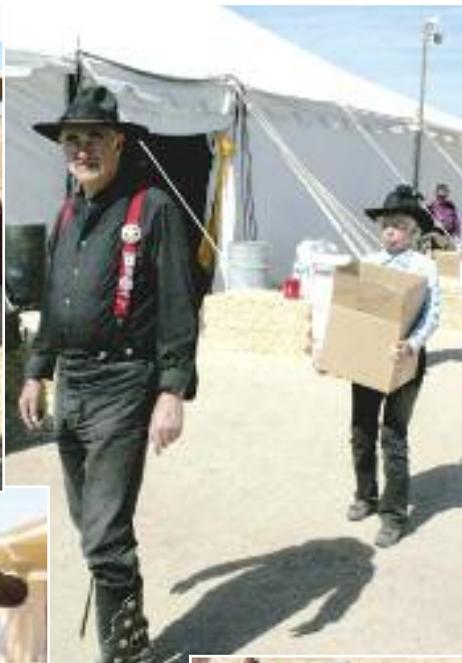
Thanks to all and see you at Winter Range 2013, February 18 - 24, 2013!!!

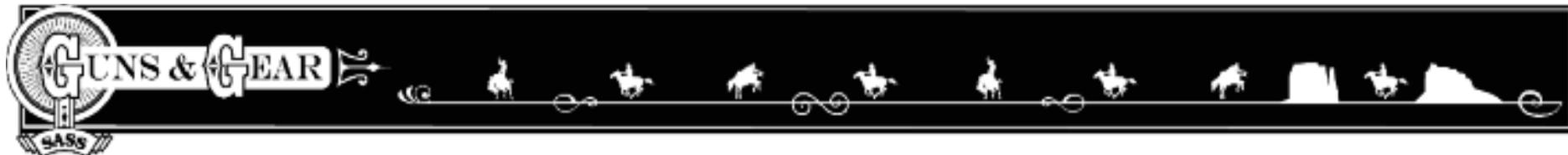
Photos by
Deadeye Al
Quigley Photography
Larsen E. Pettifogger

tion dinner is held for the Rangers a few days after Winter Range.

With only a few names and recognitions read, the ceremony moves as fast as it can move with hundreds of trophies and buckles being awarded. **Photo 25.** To further speed things up, there were multiple presenters that make

sure each shooter gets the correct award quickly. The final awards go to Cobra Cat and Addie Rose as the Top Overall man and lady competitors. **Photo 26.** The awards ceremony is over in about two hours and then comes the most important thank you. THANKS TO ALL THE SHOOT-





C & B REVOLVERS & CONVERSIONS

PUT TO THE TEST

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

Black Art and Percussion Revolvers

Part 2

Cowboy Action Shooting™ in Europe is growing at a rapid pace. Due to the nature of gun laws there, Cap and Ball revolvers are often the pistols of choice for new cowboys and cowgirls. Some FROCS (FRIENDS OF THE CENTAURE SOCIETY) decided the time was right to test the herd of C&B revolvers to see how they stand up to the rigors of Cowboy Action Shooting competition shooting. The results may be useful to parads and pardettes on this side of the pond also. Part 1 of this series covered background and methodology.

Almost all revolvers evaluated functioned if the shooter did his job. Good lubrication was the key. Jams from cap fragments occurred, but we cannot relate this to specific models or manufacturers. What we discovered, however, was which revolvers functioned more reliably than others and why, pinpointed specific advantages of open frame over solid frame revolvers, were angered by quality issues of some makers, and found a few tuning measures that improved overall reliability.

Badly finished, rough contact areas like the barrel side of cylinders and the breech side of the barrel or cone get you in trouble with black-powder fouling quickly. In our tests this was found mostly in guns of Armi San Paolo or Euroarms. Revolvers of these two makers also had the poorest fit of wooden grips to steel frames. On the other hand, the highly polished, deeply blued barrels and cylinders combined with their traditional case color hardened frames and hammers and perfectly fitted grips of the 2nd and 3rd generation Colts were eye candy for the testers.

Historical correctness—the way to go? Regarding rifling groove diameter, groove profile, and diameter of the chambers—the Italian replica manufacturers take the Period Correct route to the disadvantage of the shooter. Colt and Remington during the 19th century made C&B revolver chambers of a significantly smaller

diameter than the rifling groove diameter. But today's shooters are paying the price for this historical correctness in terms of suboptimal inherent accuracy and also gas leakage. The loss in accuracy we can disregard at Cowboy Action Shooting™ distances, but the suboptimal energy transfer from gas leakage can be a nuisance when knockdown targets like pepper poppers or Texas Stars are to be engaged. It will cost extra seconds when a target topples over only after the 2nd or 3rd hit!



A day's test program ...

Belgian and Spanish makers took a different approach: Centaure and Santa Barbara New Model 1863 Army were developed like modern target revolvers for optimal built-in accuracy. Hence, chamber and bore groove diameters are adjusted accordingly. In this respect, these revolvers are not true copies of the originals, but this feature is appreciated by our modern Cowboys and Cowgirls. In addition, these two makers fitted barrels with shallow rifling to their C&B revolvers. The combination of these two features means reduced gas leakage and improved energy transfer compared to Italian replicas.

Remingtons for small hands only? These revolvers were designed to suit our 19th century forefathers, who were much smaller than today's 21st century adults. Shooters with midsize hands or larger often cannot grip their Remmies comfortably and where to place the pinkie? Also, during recoil the middle finger gets a nice, regular smacking from the trigger guard, which is too close to the grip for comfort.

Nipple exchange? Problems to ignite caps, cap fragments in the action, and so forth can often be traced to the factory installed nipples. That's why experienced competition shooters exchange the factory nipples immediately for competition grade nipples like Tresco as soon as they liberate a new percussion revolver.

Mainspring exchange? We strongly advise against playing around with the strong tension of the main spring, or to consider the

the wedge is pushed in the barrel lug. Since the chamber diameters are adjusted to the rifling groove diameter the inherent accuracy of this revolver is excellent. Its shallow rifling supports an optimal energy transfer. These Belgians were made of harder steel than other replicas.

FAUL Centaure	HNMA FROCS Special	HNMA 1st variation	HNMA 2nd variation
Alteration	Nipple Nipples	200000 Inchoars	200000 Inchoars
Accuracy	114X7	188X3	140X6
Serial #	44	44	44
Caliber	1972	1972	1972
Manufacturer	2000 FROCS	2011	2011
Alteration	Special		
W/Weight*	500mm alteration	1000mm tuning	1000mm tuning
Grip	nicely fitted sized walnut, good grip	nicely fitted sized walnut, good grip	nicely fitted sized walnut, good grip
Frame length	635 mm	635 mm	635 mm
Cylinder gap	0.02	0.02	0.02
Rifling groove dia	6.67	6.67	6.67
Chamber	440*, 440*, 440*	440*, 440*, 440*	440*, 440*, 440*
Length dia	440*, 440*, 440*	440*, 440*, 440*	440*, 440*, 440*
7.6 mm	211.4 (L1)	188.0 (L2)	169.3 (L3)
7.6 mm	694.8 (L1)	558.0 (L2)	504.5 (L3)
MSP	96.8 (L1)	75.8 (L2)	70.8 (L3)
Modifications	FROCS Special	fully tuned, new springs	fully tuned, new springs
Weight	alternat. real		
Condition	nicely	CAR match revolver	CAR match revolver



1972 made Regular New Model Army #114X7 transformed into a FROCS Special: neat job by master gunsmith Karl Nedbal from Austria.

exchange for a lighter one from a cartridge pistol of similar design. Hammer tension needs to be high enough to prevent possible affection of accuracy, but more important, you need it for reliable ignition and to seal the nipples when a shot is fired.

Clones of the Colt Army 1860

Belgian maker - Fabriques d'Armes Unies de Liège (FAUL)

The grand-grand-grandfather of the Hanquets, the owners of FAUL, was a member of the consortium of seven Liège gunsmiths and gunmakers who in 1853 obtained a licence from Sam Colt for the production of his percussion revolvers, which they first did during the 19th and again during the 20th century. Unfortunately, FAUL does not exist any more.

Only some 16,000 of their famous re-issues of Colt's venerable 1860 Army called Centaure were made between 1959 and 1973. The factory installed arbors of correct length into these Centaures. Hence the cylinder gap, but more important, the POI is always the same no matter how deep

Comments on Centaure FROCS Special #114X7: Despite the short barrel and the high tension of the original mainspring, this Belly Gun can be cocked without problems. Easy handling, very reliable shooter. This gun hits what you are aiming at!

After the very promising shoot-



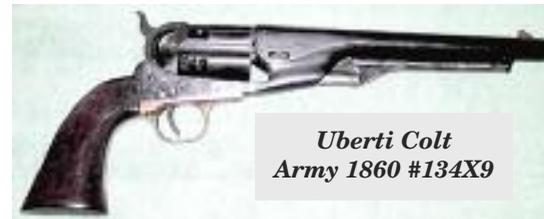
FROCS Special: "Fully tuned dream of a Cowboy Action Shooting™ revolver for the Frontiersman Category!"



ing session with the collector's piece the 4" barrel of the FROCS Special was mated to the fully tuned frame and cylinder assembly of Centaure #139X3, and another three strings were fired. The conclusion of Magic Joe: "... fully tuned dream of a Cowboy Action Shooting™ revolver for the Frontiersman Category!"



Euroarms Colt Army 1860 #26X9:
picture makes her look better than real life ... although she was one of the better performing revolvers!



Uberti Colt Army 1860 #134X9

POA can be disregarded at Cowboy Action Shooting™ distances. Her custom checkered panels provide for a very positive grip.



Two Centaure Regular New Model Armies, RNMA 1st variation #139X3 (top) and RNMA 6th variation #142X9 (bottom): pair of fully tuned match pistols for Cowboy Action Shooting™.

Comments on Centaure RNMA 1st variation, 2nd sub-variation #139X3: A completely tuned match revolver, crisp trigger pull, you hit what your aim for. A jam was noted early in the first string from cap fragments in the action that was resolved at the firing line. One dead cap during the 6th string needed to be replaced.

Comments on Centaure RNMA 6th variation, 2nd sub-variation #142X9: Like the previous revolver, this one is completely tuned, too. No jams, hits POA. Cap fragments in the action resulted in some hammer drag during the 3rd string, but all remaining caps were positively ignited.

Italian makers - Euroarms and Armi San Paolo
Euroarms has been making C&B revolvers since 1970, whereas Armi San Paolo started in 1969. Since 2002 these two companies were merged together as Euroarms Italia S.r.l.

Comments on Euroarms Colt Army 1860 #26X9: One previous owner had partly sanded off the varnish from the grip. This operation improved the grip, but not her looks. She performed exceptionally well. We liked the crisp trigger and the tight pattern connecting only 2" high due to the PC front sight. When she was to be disassembled at the loading table for the loading operation with the external loading press, we noted the tight sitting wedge. This could only be removed with a brass punch. Since the arbor was .08" (!) too short, the cylinder gap was adjusted with a feeler gauge after loading.

You cannot hope for any style points for this 1860 clone. Her fit metal to wood leaves a lot to be desired, but she was one of the most reliable of the Italian Colts in our test.



Armi San Paolo Colt Army 1860 #83X6.

Comments on Armi San Paolo Colt Army 1860 #8346: The too short arbor resulted in POIs differing from string to string. On average the revolver's POI is 4" high. The hammer drags. From the 2nd string on, the cylinder had to be turned manually due to blackpowder fouling. During the 3rd string the hammer hung in the loading position. Early in the 6th string one cap would not ignite. Later cap fragments completely disabled the action.

Italian Maker - Uberti
Aldo Uberti has the most experience in the making of replicas of American percussion revolvers. He fabricated the first Colt Navy clones as early as 1958/59 for US Navy Arms, together with his partner, Gregorelli. In 1963 however, he founded his own factory, Uberti SpA.

The data collection and practical

tests on the two pair of 8"ers below, #134X9 and 143X8, and 5.5"ers, #665X1 and 1106X0, respectively with their fluted cylinders was executed by "long distance tester" Full Load Hildi (FLH). FLH is the ruling German champion in the 1870/Frontiersman Category for eight years now. These four Ubertis are his match pistols. Except for some polishing of the actions, fitting of higher front sights, and checkering of the grip panels on three of them, these are "out of the box" replicas. Please, note FLH did not correct the lengths of the arbors, but has their respective wedges marked for the proper depth of insertion into the barrel lug!

Colt Army 1860: 8" barrel variants

Comments on Uberti Colt Army 1860 #134X9: The testers liked this reliable and accurate match pistol. The marginal deviation of POI from



Uberti Colt Army 1860 #143X8

Comments on Uberti Colt Army 1860 #143X8: We liked this reliable and accurate match pistol. Due to the new higher front sight, she hits what you are aiming at. Her custom checkered panels provide for a very positive grip.



Uberti Colt Army 1860 #731X6

Comments on Uberti Colt Army 1860 #731X6: This cab and baller had rested in the owner's safe since its purchase in the 1970s. In other words, this test was her first workout! Typical for the Ubertis is her slippery varnished grip. This one had a heavy but crisp trigger pull. Function was satisfactory, but we cannot offer an explanation for the 4" spread of the hits during both accuracy strings. POI was at one o'clock due to the PC front sight. At the beginning of the 5th string one cap was rubbing against the re-

(Continued on page 38)

Serial #	104X9	143X8	731X6
Caliber	.44	.44	.44
Manufactured	1965 (XXX)	1972 (XXX)	1973 (AA)
"Mileage"	< 10000	< 10000	none
Grip	fairly fitted checkered walnut, excellent pattern	fairly fitted checkered walnut, excellent grip	fairly fitted, slippery varnished walnut
Barrel length	8"	8"	8"
Cylinder gap	0.1 mm	0.50 mm	0.1 mm
Rifling groove dia	.444"	.445"	.444"
Chamber mouth dia	.441", .442", .442", .442"	.445", .445", .445", .445"	.445", .445", .445", .445"
V5 m/s	244.5 (L1)	162.0 (L3)	531.5 (L3)
fps	802.2 (L1)	531.5 (L3)	531.5 (L3)
MIP	110.7 (L1)	74.9 (L3)	74.9 (L3)
Modifications / Tunings	custom higher front sight & checkered panels, action polished	custom higher front sight & checkered panels, action polished	bottomed out arbor
Condition	C&B match revolver	C&B match revolver	used, well maintained

Manufacturer	Euroarms	Armi san Paolo
Serial #	26X9	83X6
Caliber	.44	.44
Manufactured	1974 (XXX)	1976 (AB)
"Mileage"	< 100	500
Grip	poorly fitted, hardwood, varnish sanded off, good grip	poorly fitted, slippery varnished hardwood
Barrel length	8"	8"
Cylinder gap	0.1 mm	0.05 mm
Rifling groove dia	.444"	.445"
Chamber mouth dia	.441", .442", .442", .442"	.445", .445", .445", .445"
V5 m/s	244.5 (L1)	162.0 (L3)
fps	802.2 (L1)	531.5 (L3)
MIP	110.7 (L1)	74.9 (L3)
Modifications / Tunings	bobbed tip of hammer, deepened rear sight notch to bring down POI	used
Condition	used	used

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C & B Revolvers & Conversions . . .

(Continued from page 37)

coil shield. This might have been the shooter's mistake at the loading table. Later during the string a cap fragment in the action affected cocking the hammer.

Uberti Colt Army 1860: 5.5" barrel variants

Serial #	665X1	1106X0
Caliber	.44	.44
Manufactured	1975 (AA)	1980 (AF)
"Mileage"	> 2500	> 5000
Grip	fairly fitted checked walnut, excellent grip	fairly fitted checked walnut, excellent grip
Barrel length	5.5"	5.5"
Cylinder gap	0.05 mm .002"	0.05 mm .002"
Rifling groove dia	.448"	.445"
Chamber mouth dia	.447", .448", .448", .448", .448", .448"	.451", .449", .450", .451", .450", .450"
V5 m/s	174.8 (L1)	158.8 (L1)
fps	573.5 (L1)	521.0 (L1)
MIP	79.1 (L1)	71.9 (L1)
Modifications/tunings	custom higher front sight & checked panels, action polished	custom higher front sight & factory checked panels, action polished
Condition	CAS match revolver	CAS match revolver



Uberti Colt Army 1860 #665X1

Comments on Uberti Colt Army 1860 #665X1: She performed reliable during the whole six strings. We were impressed by her tight groups connecting only slightly below POA. Loosening of the wedge was noted after the 5th string. This was easily corrected. Her custom checked panels provide for a very positive grip.

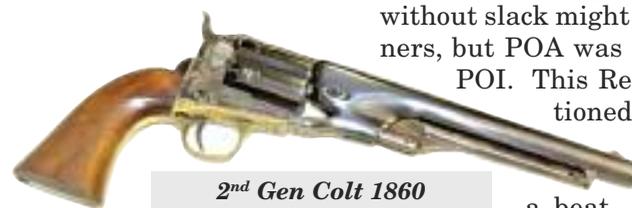


Uberti Colt Army 1860 #1106X0

Comments on Uberti Colt Army 1860 #1106X0: Very reliable and accurate, POA equals POI. Her factory checked panels provide for a very positive grip.

Serial #	2075X4
Caliber	.44
Manufactured	1981
"Mileage"	none
Grip	perfectly fitted oiled walnut, good grip
Barrel length	8"
Cylinder gap:	0.15 mm .006"
Rifling groove dia	.458"
Chamber mouth dia	.448", .449", .449", .449", .448", .449"
V5 m/s	155.3 (L3)
fps	694.4 (L3)
MIP	95.8 (L3)
Modifications	none
Condition	NIB, collector's piece

our test is of the fully fluted variant made between 1980 and 1981. These newly made Colt revolvers are sought after for their excellent fit and finish.



2nd Gen Colt 1860 Army #2075X4

Comments on Colt 1860 Army #2075X4: Despite her NIB condition, the owner was talked into making her available for the tor-

Clones Remington New Model 1863 Army Italian Maker - Euroarms

Serial #	06X0	027X8
Caliber	.44	.44
Manufactured	1970 (XXVI)	1972 (XXIX)
"Mileage"	500	500
Grip	varnished hardwood, pear grip and fit	poorly fitted varnished hardwood, good grip
Barrel length	8"	from punning 8"
Cylinder gap	0.06 mm .002"	0.25 mm .01"
Rifling groove dia	.446"	.447"
Chamber mouth dia	.441", .440", .441", .441", .440", .441"	.442", .442", .442", .442", .441", .442"
V5 m/s	225.2 (L1)	201.3 (L1)
fps	771.7 (L1)	768.9 (L1)
MIP	108.8 (L1)	104.7 (L1)
Modifications	none	dove-tailed front sight
Condition	used, front sight not correctly fixed, can be turned	used

Comments on Euroarms Remington New Model 1863 Army #06X0: The creeping trigger pull without slack might irritate beginners, but POA was identical with POI. This Remington functioned during all six strings without missing a beat. The hammer could be pulled back

beyond the cocking position, which is annoying to some shooters. We noted timing issues when using



Euroarms Remington New Model 1863 Army #06X0



Euroarms Remington New Model 1863 Army #027X1

the integrated loading press.

Comments on Euroarms Remington New Model 1863 Army #027X1: This revolver also functioned over the whole distance without a stutter. The trigger was almost crisp, but cocking was a chore due to the high tension of the mainspring. We produced very tight groups in the two accuracy strings, but the POI is 3" high at one o'clock. The shooters were not amused by powder residue flashing back through the nipples in their faces after each shot fired. This could be traced to the burned out nipples.



Three Full Load Hildi's Uberti 1860 Cowboy Action Shooting™ match revolvers—#66X1, #143X8, und #1106X0: he likes fluted cylinders!

US maker - Colt Firearms

Between 1971 and 1982 most models of the open top type Colt percussion revolvers were available again as 2nd generations. These were made from rough parts supplied by Uberti in Italy. Finishing and assembly took place at Colt's, there enhanced with the deep Colt blue and high quality traditional charcoal case hardening. Only revolvers meeting the high standards of the Colt quality control were released for sale.

The only 2nd generation 1860 in

ture test like the other contestants. As anticipated, her timing was tops, the arbor had the correct length, and function was flawless. Unfortunately, the Italians took PCness too serious because the difference between rifling groove and chamber mouth diameter is just too much for a reasonable pattern of the hits and the low muzzle velocity. POI was somewhat high due to the PC low front sight. Commented one tester: "Too beautiful for serious shooting, put her back in the display cabinet."

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Model #	10000	02000	A556X9
Caliber	.44	.44	.44
Manufactured "Vintage"	1970 (XXVI)	1974 (XXIX)	2006 (LXXVI)
Grip	fully fitted steel walnut, reasonable	fully fitted steel walnut, reasonable	fully fitted, check base of wrapped epoxy walnut
Barrel length	9"	9"	9"
Cylinder gap	0.15 mm	0.25 mm	0.15 mm
Rifling groove dia	0.34"	0.34"	0.34"
Chamber mouth dia	0.44", 0.44", 0.44"	0.44", 0.44", 0.44"	0.44", 0.44", 0.44"
NS cal	362.3 (L1)	362.3 (L1)	362.3 (L1)
Sw	902.3 (L1)	902.3 (L1)	902.3 (L1)
MIP	110.7 (L1)	110.7 (L1)	110.7 (L1)
Modifications	New factory engraved	none	none, stainless steel
Condition	1	2	1

loading press was used. We expected some restrictions of the cylinder turns due to the very narrow cylinder gap, but are pleased to report this pistol functioned over the whole distance of the test without cleaning.

Spanish maker – E.N. Santa Barbara

According to the research of Jim Davis of RPRCA, Replica Percussion Revolver Collector's Association, the Spaniards produced their Remington clones between 1971 and 1977 only. Less than 10,000 were made. Contrary to Italian replicas this one was designed with

target shooters in mind if you consider the rifling groove and chamber mouth diameter adjusted for accuracy and the front sight dovetailed into the barrel. Rumour has it the steel used in their making is harder than the Italian alloy. Their more sizeable grip provides for a positive hold for shooters with larger hands.



E.N. Santa Barbara Remington New Model 1863 Army #096X6 (top) and #092X0 (bottom): better steel than Italo-clones?

POI pleased the testers, the trigger has a reasonable, somewhat spongy release, the varnished did not provide a firm grip. Except for the loading lever, which dropped from the barrel stud during recoil now and then, there are no jams to be reported. Compared to the other Santa Barbara #096X6, this one was harder to cock due to the high tension of the mainspring ... which as Remington aficionados know can be easily altered in Remington New Model Armies and Navies with their main spring screw. When loaded with the integrated loading press the cylinder is over-rotating.

Comments on E.N. Santa Barbara Remington New Model 1863 Army #096X6: This "Plain Jane" version appeared to be better finished than her factory engraved sister, #092X0. The trigger pull is crisp, the timing alright, even if the integrated loading press is used to load the gun. The oiled grip provides for a solid grip. POI is marginally higher than the POA, which

is nothing to complain about at Cowboy Action

Shooting™ distances. No impairment of the functioning from blackpowder over the whole six strings occurred. During the 6th string, one cap would ignite only after a second cocking of the hammer. Magic Joe has large hands. He complained about the smack to his middle finger from the recoil de-

(Continued on page 40)

Model #	027X3	00203	00900
Caliber	.44	.44	.44
Manufactured "Vintage"	recreated 1973	recreated 1970/73	recreated 1970/73
Grip	solid fitted varnished walnut, reasonable grip	solid fitted varnished walnut, poor grip	solid fitted steel walnut, good grip
Barrel length	9"	9"	9"
Cylinder gap	0.15 mm	0.25 mm	0.15 mm
Rifling groove dia	0.34"	0.34"	0.34"
Chamber mouth dia	0.44", 0.44", 0.44"	0.44", 0.44", 0.44"	0.44", 0.44", 0.44"
NS cal	362.3 (L2)	362.3 (L2)	362.3 (L2)
Sw	902.3 (L2)	902.3 (L2)	902.3 (L2)
MIP	110.7 (L2)	110.7 (L2)	110.7 (L2)
Modifications	none	none	none
Condition	1 - 5, factory engraved	1 - 3, factory engraved	1 - 1, 3



E.N. Santa Barbara Remington New Model 1863 Army #027X3

Comments on E.N. Santa Barbara Remington New Model 1863 Army #027X3: This Spanish Remmie did a pretty reliable job over all six strings. We noted, however a shift in the POI and the size of the groups. Hits were centered around POA during the 1st string with a spread of 4". This moved 2 up towards 2 o'clock with a somewhat shrinking spread. After the 3rd and 6th string the loading lever screw had to be tightened, no big deal.

Comments on E.N. Santa Barbara Remington New Model 1863 Army #092X0: The "almost" center

Comments on E.N. Santa Barbara Remington New Model 1863 Army #092X0: The "almost" center



Santa Barbara Remington #096X6: almost ready for action



Uberti Remington New Model 1863 Army #140X0: factory engraved.

Italian Maker – Uberti

Comments on Uberti Remington New Model 1863 Army #140X0: We can live well with a POI connecting 2" high at one o'clock. The trigger creeps, but that is more than offset by the reliability of this NMA.



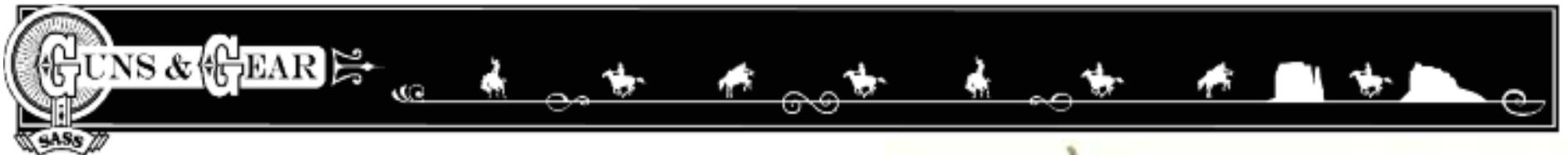
Uberti Remington New Model 1863 Army #421X8

Comments on Uberti Remington New Model 1863 Army #421X8: A POI between 2" and 3" high at 12 or 1 o'clock is OK for us in this sport. The creeping trigger pull was tolerable because the pistol performed satisfactory until the 5th string. During the 6th string, bad blackpowder fouling seriously affected cocking the hammer and turning the cylinder. After the 3rd and 6th string, the loading lever screw had to be tightened.



Uberti Remington New Model 1863 Army #A556X9: stainless steel

Comments on Uberti Remington New Model 1863 Army #A556X9: This stainless variant had a very high tension mainspring installed. Her grip is thicker than the one of her above companions from 1970. Hence, shooters with larger hands might be able to handle her somewhat more comfortably. POI was slightly to the right of POA, nothing to be worried about, but timing issues were noted when the integrated



C & B Revolvers & Conversions . . .

(Continued from page 39)

spite the light loads used. This same shooter did not suffer a smacking when firing the other Santa Barbara.

Other .44 Caliber C&B Revolvers

Colt Blackpowder Arms 3rd gen Colt 1847 Walker #62X4 (top) and Whitneyville Hartford Dagoon #126XA (bottom): heavy weight pistols will guarantee style points and tons of shooting fun!



	Colt 1847 Walker	Colt Whitneyville Hartford Dagoon	Rogers & Spencer 1863 match version
Manufacturer	Colt Blackpowder Arms USA	Colt Blackpowder Arms USA	Armi San Paolo Italy
Serial #	62X4	12X7A	950X6
Caliber	.44	.44	.44
Manufactured "Date"	1996	1998	1988 (AT)
"Weight"	< 50	< 50	3500
Grip	properly fitted varnished walnut, a little slippery	properly fitted varnished walnut, a little slippery	properly fitted, thick layer of varnished, slippery walnut
Barrel length	9"	7.5"	7.5"
Cylinder gap	0.10 mm .004"	0.15 mm .006"	0.10 mm .004"
Rifling groove dia	.432"	.443"	.450"
Chamber mouth dia.	.448", .449", .447", .448", .447", .449"	.460", .460", .450", .448", .447", .450"	.449", .449", .449", .449", .449", .449"
VE m/s	387.1 (1.5)	529.0 (1.4)	950.0 (1.1)
fps	1270.0 (1.5)	950.0 (1.4)	656.0 (1.1)
MFP	179.1 (1.5)	148.8 (1.4)	91.8 (1.1)
Modifications	Low tension main spring	Low tension main spring	tapered chamber mouth, Lothar Walther match barrel used bulls-eye competition revolver
Condition	1	1	

out Cowboy Action Shooting™ distance. At least once per string the barrel stud let the loading lever go, possibly as a result of the rifling groove diameter being actually smaller than the chamber mouth diameter. Go figure.

Function was not affected by blackpowder fouling.

Comments on Armi San Paolo Rogers & Spencer 1865 #200X6 from one of

our "long distance tester" Archangel, cowboy from Northrhine Westfalia: "...had to start in the game with this R&S and a Centaure at the 2011 German Championship ... because I have to wait a few months more before I can legally purchase my second Centaure ...": Even the match version with Lothar-Walther barrel can only be second or better third choice in Cowboy Action. It is prone to blackpowder fouling due to the tight fit of hammer to frame. This collects crud and progressively delays the hammer drop time. Fouling and cap fragments restrict

cylinder movement, which in turn impedes single handed cocking of the gun. Shooters with small hands and short thumbs cannot reach the spur of the hammer. The angle is awkward for sufficient leverage during fast cocking. Furthermore to cock, the grip on the R&S has to be changed—which impacts on speed. The narrow rear sight and the uniform chamber mouth diameter are perfect for bulls-eye shoots. But, the same narrow rear sight makes sight alignment for quick target acquisition in Cowboy Action Shooting™

Comments on Colt Blackpowder Arms Colt 1847 Walker #62X4: Thanks to an arbor of almost correct length, the testers could easily go along with the POI connecting only marginally high. However, the Walker presented itself with timing issues. Despite the heavy loads, functioning during the whole course of strings was flawless, no dropping loading lever, which is the usual ailment of Walkers!

This is a heavy weight, fun gun for the athletic fraction among cowboys and cowgirls!

Comments on Colt Blackpowder Arms Colt Whitneyville Hartford Dagoon #126XA: Unfortunately this is another specimen of Colt repros with too short an arbor! This resulted in a POI 5r above POA at



Socks launches roundballs by 55 gr CH2 from the Walker: notable recoil, lots of smoke, and pretty sparks!

difficult. The height of the front sight is adjusted for 25 meter. To hit the center of the steel target, I have to aim low, below the target!

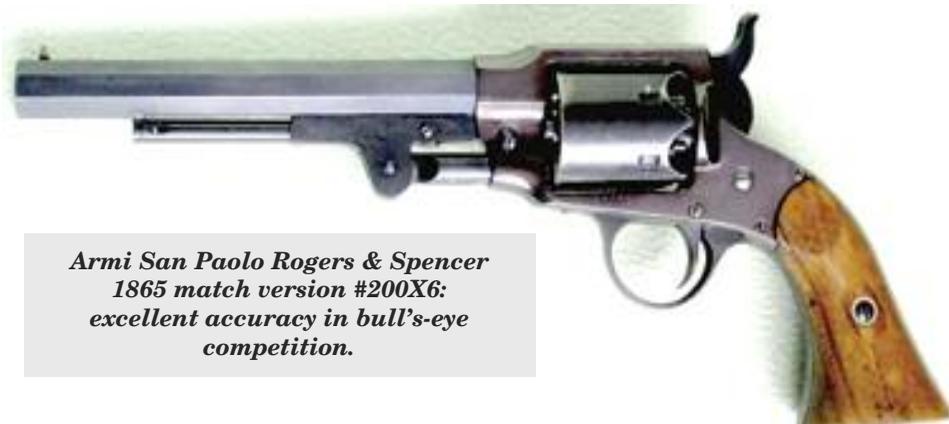
Another R&S from Feinwerkbau was not entered into the test, but we observed her high sensitivity to blackpowder fouling during static shooting like we found in this Armi San Paolo race gun tuned-up for bulls-eye competition.

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Do-It-Yourself Gamer Gunsmithing Of The Ruger Vaquero (Pt. 1) . . .

(Continued from page 21)

to cock the hammer is caused by the hammer plunger (activated by the hammer plunger spring) hitting one end of the cylinder latch and momentarily rotating it out of engagement to allow the cylinder to rotate. To do this, the other end of the cylinder latch must depress and overcome the tension exerted by the cylinder latch spring plunger and its spring.

- After the hammer is released, the faint “ping” heard just before it contacts the transfer bar results from the hammer plunger and its spring being depressed by passing over the in-place cylinder latch.
- Just before firing, the hammer must depress the transfer bar that is held away from the firing pin by the spring-activated plunger at the end of the base pin (a.k.a., the rod upon which the cylinder rotates).
- Then the hammer must overcome the tension of the frame-mounted firing pin rebound spring. See for yourself in an unloaded Ruger Vaquero or Blackhawk by cocking the hammer and (with your finger off the trigger) use any implement (other than your finger) to depress the transfer bar down and expose the firing pin. Depressing!

As shown by pages 119-121 and 196 of the Kuhnhausen book, removing the recoil plate that houses the firing pin and the perceived offending firing pin rebound spring appears to be an intimidating and difficult job requiring special equipment/fixtures and serious gunsmithing skills. My quest started with efforts to locate a gunsmith who would do the work. I contacted Coyote Cap (<http://coyotecap.com>) who indicated he might be able to do the work at a very reasonable cost, but he was somewhat busy at the time. Efforts to find other “name brand” gunsmiths were unsuccessful due to work commitments, liability concerns and

difficulties in shipping since regulations require guns shipped out of state can only go to FFL holders. In any event, the costs to airship 2-pairs of guns (as required by overly conservative FedEx and UPS regulations) in two shipments (so that I would always have revolvers in-hand to shoot) were prohibitive.

Back to square one. After a year of looking and reading and a botched effort to install the GrandMasters/PowerCustom free spin pawl, that resulted in sending the guns to them to complete the process, I contacted Mr. Joe Perkins (888-520-6799) who indicated he would be interested in the work, but in a moment straight out of the Old West in the SPIRIT OF THE GAME, asked me if I was a klutz. Hesitatingly I said, “No, I don’t think so—other than for making this request for work.” He then asked if I had some mechanical ability and patience—to which I asserted a modest positive response. He then said, “You could do this yourself.” The issue was cinched with having two old large-frame Vaqueros I could use as guinea pigs. I decided to take the bull by the horns and see what could be done. If matters went South, I could ship a “bag gun” to a shop to hopefully have it put back to rights. Over the next several months to conserve money and due to difficulties in finding the equipment, I located and purchased the requisite tools.

This article covers a wide audience—from semi-klutzes like me to professional gunsmiths, but the point is you can easily do some work on your guns to add another element of interest to this wonderful and safe hobby.

My first task (as I would suggest for other amateur gunsmiths getting comfortable with taking apart their guns), involved installing a Wolff spring kit using:

- A new gunsmith screwdriver set.
- Trembling hands.
- Two spiral-bound takedown manuals and enlarged copies of

Kuhnhausen’s pages #70 (basic action function), #73 (Ruger Single Action Parts and Nomenclature), #87 (Vaquero Model Parts Diagram), #104-5 (Disassembly), #178 (Assembly) spread out all over the kitchen table. Because lawyers are present, I made single enlarged copies of the pages for my own use only because the Kuhnhausen book’s binding prevents it from staying open.

- The services of Josephine Sarah Marcus Earp, SASS #91145 (a.k.a., my wife), as a keen scout and wrangler of elusive springs and small parts that strayed from the corral of

the kitchen table onto the wide prairie of the kitchen floor.

Your next efforts may address installing the Grandmasters/PowerCustom standard hammer, trigger, transfer bar, and free-spin pawl. I will admit the minute pawl filing clearly illustrated by the instructions is somewhat daunting, but is made much easier by doing the trial fitting and rotation checks before assembling the barrel portion of the frame with the grip portion—something I did not realize at first; see, I told you I’m an amateur! You may wish to see if cutting two-coils off the pawl spring, as noted in the following article, will allow the cylinder to free-spin as if the after-market pawl had been installed.

To be continued . . .

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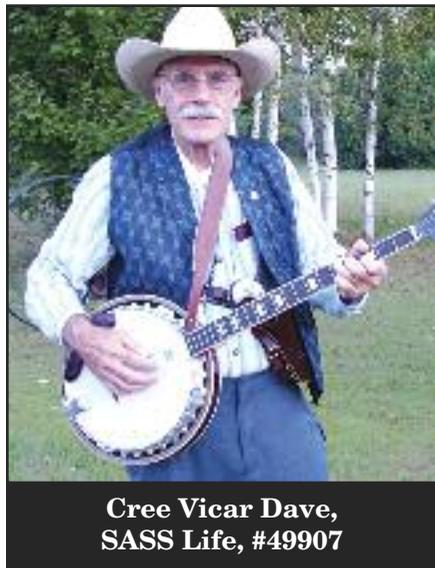
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**Cree Vicar Dave,
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FIVE STRING BANJO

By Cree Vicar Dave, SASS Life #49907

Caribbean in the 1680's.

This stringed instrument that made its way to the American Colonies is mentioned as a bonjer in a Maryland newspaper in 1754. The slaves were not allowed to play drums, so the banjer became very popular in the South. There was a significant change, though, in the Black American's style of banjer. Instead of having a stick for a neck, there was a guitar-type fret board neck. Two or three strings made of horsehair, hemp, gut, or the like were installed over the animal skin head. Thomas Jefferson is quoted as saying about it, "The instrument proper to them (the slaves) is a Banjar, which they brought hither from Africa."

By the early 1800's, the fiddle, bones, tambourine, and "banjo" were used almost exclusively by the Black community in the South. In the early 1830's, Joel Sweeney learned to play and build banjos from the slaves who lived near him. Sweeney copied the Southern Black style of music. He formed a musical group not unlike those in the South called *Old Joe's Minstrels*. Until this time, it seems only Blacks played this type of music. Sweeney's band toured Virginia, becoming very successful. They went on the road across America and to other countries. Many of these musical troupes that went on tour incorporated a fiddle, one or more banjos, bones, and a tambourine. Mark Twain is quoted, referring to minstrel music, "In our village of



**Cree Vicar Dave and Norma Foor
getten' ready to start pickin'
at Church. Norma inspired
me to dust off my old banjo
and start playin' it again.**

(Genesis 50:20a KJV). In other words, God can bring forth something good out of even the worst circumstances we may find ourselves to be in. So one good thing that came out of slavery was the BANJO; an instrument invented and improved upon by the Black musicians in the South.

By the mid 1800's, banjos were so popular there were banjo competitions going on in major cities. Music companies started building banjos and banjo teachers were in demand. Steel strings became available that were cheaper and longer lasting than the horsehair ones. Frets were added to the banjo

The history of the five string banjo of today stretches back across some 150-plus years in America, making it a "uniquely American" instrument. Lutes, harps, lyres, and such have been used to play music for thousands of years around the world. The drum has also been around a very long time. So it is obvious at some point in the past a very industrious student of music connected strings to a drum to establish the predecessor of the banjo. This banjo forerunner is traced back to the early 1600's to regions of Mali, Guinea, and the Ivory Coast. It was constructed by placing an animal skin over a large turtle shell or gourd with the top cut off. Then some type of wooden stick was affixed and animal hair, hemp, or some type of twine was used as strings. This kind of instrument was called a bonza, banjar, banjer, bonjer, bongoe, banshaw, or something similar, depending on what part of the world in which it was played. There are written accounts of these instruments in West Africa as early as 1620 and in the



**Cree Vicar now plays his 5 string banjo in a local Bluegrass band
once a week.**

Hannibal we had not heard of it before, and it burst upon us as a glad and stunning surprise."

Sweeney and his homemade banjos became very popular. He is credited with adding a 5th string to the banjo, but as far as can be seen it was what is now the 4th (Lowest Pitched) string, as the top drone string that goes some half way up the neck was put in place long before by the Black banjo players. After I read and digested several articles on the history of the banjo, it brought to mind what Joseph said to his brothers in Egypt many years after they had sold him into slavery. They were afraid Joseph would retaliate for what they had done to him. But Joseph simply said, "But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good"

neck around 1878. By the late 1800's, as many as 10,000 banjos were being played in Boston alone.

The banjo accompanied the migration west. Banjo makers and instructors set up shop across America. Musical troupes sporting banjos and fiddles entertained the masses, playing their tunes in city theaters, saloons, and mining towns. These musical groups were sometimes hired by cattle companies to sing on cattle drives, but probably not as you might think. It was thought the cattle would be less likely to stampede if they were serenaded at night. I can almost hear them singing "Oh Susanna," "Home on the Range," and the like from dusk to dawn to a herd of jittery Longhorns. There is record of a minstrel troupe joining a cattle

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drive in 1882. It seems a Kansas City cattle company hired on such a group for a drive originating in eastern Oregon.

Psalms 150:4b NIV says to praise the LORD "...with the strings and flute." Old Southern Gospel music and hymns are still very popular, and today the banjo can be found in almost every type of musical genre from Blue Grass, to Country, to Gospel, to Jazz, to Classical, and more.

Around a year ago the piano player at our church, Norma Foor, mentioned she was going to learn how to play the 5-string banjo. I thought to myself, "If she can learn how to play the banjo, so can I," remembering I had a banjo up in the attic at home, purchased some 35 years ago, more or less. I had strummed it a little, and then put it away for three plus decades. Well, I got it down, blew the dust off the case, and took a look at it along with the "How to Play" instructions." This time I read the book instead of just looking at the pictures. When The Vicar's Wife and I went south for the cold season last year the

banjo was packed along with the cowboy guns. I practiced one to two hours most days in between loading shells, shooting, and attending church on the weekends.

I am just now getting comfortable in rolling with a little pickin' mixed in. Rick Allen, at Mid Michigan Music Store in Midland, Michigan, has been a big help. He invited me to play in a little Blue Grass band that meets once a week in a coffee shop nearby. It really helps to improve your playing ability when you join a band and are forced to keep in time. I'm now starting to look to upgrade with a mid range banjo. It's kind of like Cowboy Action, there is always a model that works a little better and looks a little nicer.

A body has to have some amount of talent to play an instrument, but the most positive results are recognized by following the same three disciplines used in Cowboy Action Shooting™, and they are: PRACTICE, PRACTICE, and PRACTICE. Usually the only thing holding us back is our lack of confidence. My Mom, bless her soul, al-



Rick Allen (holding an antique banjo) and Cree Vicar Dave. Rick is an established banjo and Dobro player. He is the proprietor of Mid Michigan Music in Midland, Michigan.

ways encouraged me as a boy by saying, "David, if someone else can learn to do something, so can you." My thanks to Mom and Norma for inspiring me to play the banjo.

My next challenge is learning how to play the Dobro. I just picked up a Dobro Hound Dog Square Neck Deluxe from Rick for a starter instrument. I'll be playing it in no time, LORD willing.

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 Ace Hardware, 171D Gregory Ave. Ext. Sunnyside, WA 98944 509-837-6401 - Sep-14-15
 Welcher's Gun Shop, 6400 Pacific Ave. Tacoma, WA 98408 253-472-1113 - Sep-21-22
 Big Bear, 2618 King Ave. N. Billings, MT 59102 406-552-5999 - Sep-28-29

CROSS COUNTRY TRUCK

The Gun Room, 1167 Hwy 89N. Evanston, WY 82930 307-789-2677 - Sep-7-8
 The Good Place, Lander, WY - Sep-13-14
 Big R, 1411 3rd Ave North Billings, MT. 59101 406 252-0503 - Sep-15-16
 D & G Sports & Western, 215 4th St. South Glasgow, MT 59230 406 228-9363 - Sep-22
 Montana Outdoor Sports, 708 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601 - Sep-28
 Bob Ward, 3011 Max Ave. Bozeman, MT. 59718 - Sep-29-30

EAST COAST

Timberline Sporting Goods, 209 Summit Ave. West Blackduck, MN. 56630 - Aug 31 - Sep 1
 Shay Creek Sports, 1281 N.8th Str. Medford, WI. 54451 - Sep 7
 Will's Piggly Wiggly, 214 N. US Hwy. 141 Crivitz, WI. 54114 - Sep 8
 Park Center, 514 Park Center Rainelle, WV. 25962 - Sep 14-15
 Nuese Sport Shop, 225 E. New Bern Road Kinston, NC. 28504 - Sep 19
 The Fishing Hole, 219 N. Country Dr. Wakefield, VA. 23888 - Sep 21-22
 Dobby's Fishing & Hunting, 100 Waterman Dr. Harrisonburg, VA. 22802 - Sep 28

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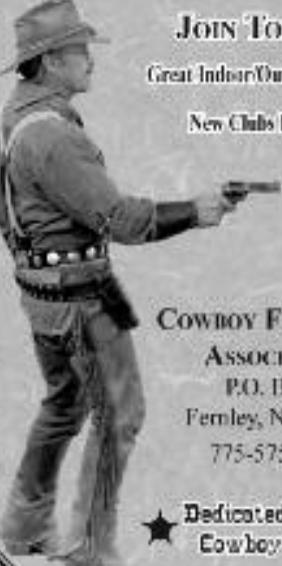
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Buckle Only On The Outside Not So Fast

By Doc Sweeney, SASS Life #2242

I don't want to kick dirt on anyone's boots, but after reading the last two articles about how to buckle your spur straps, I really think there is some misinformation on the subject. I got involved with SASS because I enjoyed shooting old guns and the history of the OLD WEST.

I grew up on a ranch in South Dakota where the old Texas cowboys left a lasting impression in the area on how to work cattle and how to use your gear. We all had simple spurs and plain straps without much fancy work on them, and we always buckled them on the outside of our boots. If you traveled west into buckaroo country, you would find fancy leather straps with big silver Conchos and buckles on the

inside of the boot. These were two distinct regional ways of wearing your spurs based on traditions that went back many generations.

To see how riders wore their spurs, you only have to look at a few photos from the 1870s to the early 1900s, and you will find Texas Rangers and Texas cowboys with their straps buckled on the outside, and you will also find Charlie Russell, the "real cowboy artist," with his California style spurs with big Conchos and buckles on the inside; he bought them from Main and Winchester in about 1903.

So to say the "the buckle is always on the outside" ignores the real facts of the Old West and the traditions the riders followed. Also, the old riding boots of the 1800s and

early 1900s didn't have a big spur shelf like modern riding boots, and riders tended to wear their spurs higher in their boot heel. Most of the straps were single-ply, so hopefully they would break or the spur would slide off the boot heel if the rider was in a wreck and got his foot hung up in the stirrup.

I've been riding for 55 years and have worn my spurs buckled inside and outside and have never felt any pressure from a buckle, and there is no way the horse would feel the buckle since the stirrup would be between the horse and the rider's foot. I also make spurs and use them on a regular basis, and I'm rough on them, so my opinion is based on history and real life experiences.

There are many great reference books on spurs that show old spurs, the original straps, and the riders who used them, as well as reprints of old saddlery catalogs that show the real gear what old time riders were using.

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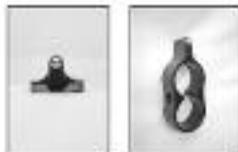
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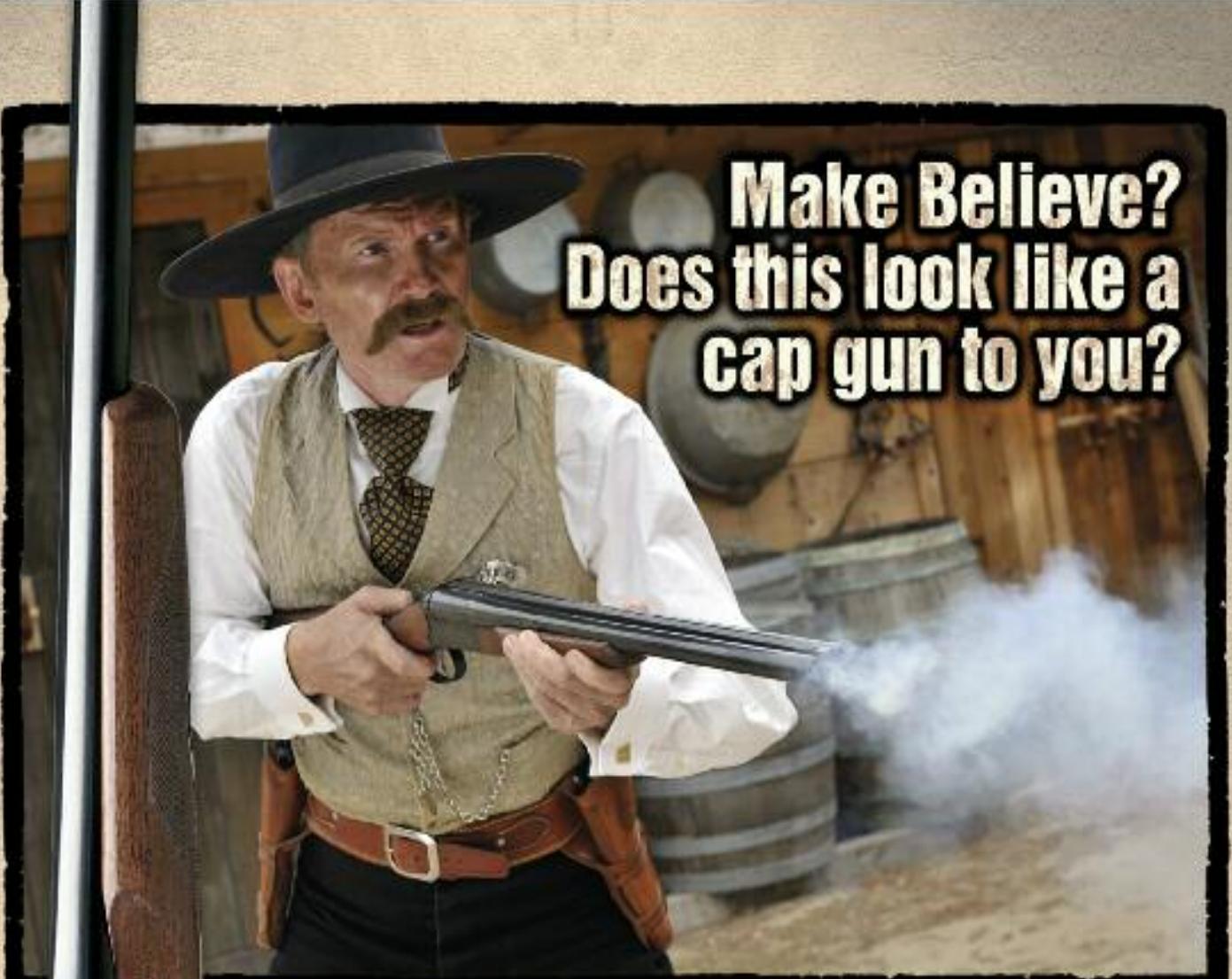
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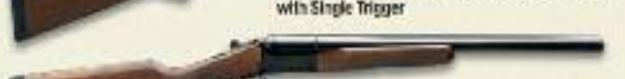
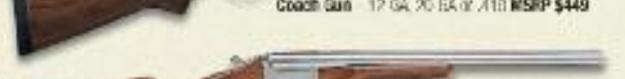


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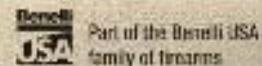
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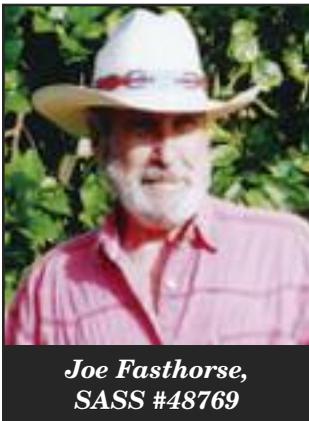
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Joe Fasthorse, SASS #48769

LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE

Way Out West -

By Joe "Fasthorse" Harrill, SASS #48769

Bud Ballew

DAVID MONTICELLO "BUD" BALLEW was a feared gunfighter and lawman in the early 1900's. Bud was born in 1877 and left his family for the Oklahoma Indian Territory in 1890. By 1910 he had a ranch, a wife, and two sons. In 1914 Sheriff Buck Garrett offered him the job of Deputy Sheriff, and the next year Bud made headlines when he broke up a holdup, killing the robber Pete Bynum in a stand up fight. Ballew was then sent to arrest an outlaw named Steve Talkington. Talkington resisted arrest. Ballew killed him. Then he went to retrieve the reward from Jim Highnote, the City Marshal. Highnote refused to give Bud the reward, so Ballew killed him, too. As he was taking a prisoner named James Pearl to prison, the prisoner tried to escape. Bud fired and Pearl died. When Arch Campbell challenged Bud, Arch lost his life. In a firefight with a highwayman named Miller, Bud shot first and straight and Miller fell dead.

His most noted gunfight happened in 1919 between Bud and former U.S. Deputy Marshal Dow Braziel. When Bud entered the California Cafe, Dow fired two shots at him and missed. Ballew returned the fire, hitting

Braziel six times. In 1922 Bud visited Wichita Falls, Texas. Police Chief J.W. McCormick got word that Ballew was in town drinking, armed, and raising hell. The Chief approached Bud and advised him he was under arrest for disturbing the peace. Bud said, "You're out of luck" and reached for his pistol. McCormick fired five shots, and Ballew was dead when he hit the floor. Examination of the body showed all five shots in the back and one bullet from a different caliber pistol than McCormick's. Sheriff Buck Garrett claimed "Bud Ballew was murdered—five shots, and all in the back. He didn't have a chance." No one was ever prosecuted.



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THE RENO BROTHERS GANG

By White Smoke Steve, SASS #91779

The image of a daring hold-up of a train has become such a staple of our Old West mythology, it's easy to forget there had to be a first time such a robbery was committed. Historians generally believe the "first time" was on the night of October 6, 1866, when John and Simeon Reno, along with a man named Frank Sparks, committed America's first peace-time train robbery.

There had been a train robbery in the dying days of the Civil War when twenty men robbed a train outside Cincinnati, Ohio. At the time, it was generally believed to have been a military raid by Confederate guerrillas. And, of course, there had been an 1855 English robbery in which three sealed boxes of gold were looted while being transported by train from London. But the Reno brothers were generally thought to be "origi-

nal thinkers" in the crime business.

Sparks and the two Reno brothers boarded an Ohio & Mississippi train at the Seymour, Indiana, depot the night of October 6, 1866, and as the train rolled through the darkness of southern Indiana, the three men donned masks and made their way to the express car where they held a gun on the express car agent, stealing twelve thousand dollars. Then they pulled the bell rope to signal the engineer to stop the train, and the three men jumped off the train as it slowed.

In spite of the popular depiction of a mounted band of outlaws leaping onto a train from galloping horses, there's no evidence any train robber ever did such a thing. Usually, bandits would buy a ticket and then launch their robbery from the comfort of their train seat. It was apparently more convenient and much safer than leaping from a galloping horse onto the side of a moving train.

The Reno Gang, one of the first bands of outlaws in the United States, had a nucleus of brothers—Frank, John, Simeon, and William Reno, all of whom came from the small rural community of Rockford just north of Seymour in the densely wooded hills of southern Indiana. The four brothers reportedly began to cheat unsuspecting passers-by with crooked card games in the late 1840s. The four then progressed to small burglaries and horse thefts. By 1851, the four were generally believed to be responsible for fires that hit several area businesses.

When the Civil War began, Frank and John Reno became bounty jumpers. They repeatedly signed up for military service, collected the cash bounty the Army offered enlistees, and then deserted. When the Union offered draftees the ability to hire a substitute, Frank and John would make themselves available as substitutes, collect a payment, report to the Army as required, and then desert shortly thereafter.

In 1864, Frank and John returned to their southern Indiana hometown and formed a gang that included brothers Simeon and William and the various thieves, cheats, and criminals Frank and John had met in their travels. In late 1864, the gang robbed a post office and general store in nearby

Jonesville, Indiana. This act was followed by several business burglaries and post office robberies in the area. Later, the Reno gang relocated their base of operations to Seymour, Indiana's Radar House hotel and began to prey on unfortunate travelers while they reportedly orchestrated a number of robberies across the Midwest and ran a counterfeiting ring.

Shortly after the history-making 1866 train robbery, the company that had insured the contents of the safe hired the Pinkerton Detective Agency to track down and capture the gang. A year later, John Reno was identified in the robbery of a county courthouse in Gallatin, Missouri, arrested by Pinkerton agents, and sentenced to 25 years in prison.

In March of 1868, the residents of Seymour formed a vigilante group with the aim of killing the members of the gang. The Reno brothers and their compatriots fled to Iowa where they robbed two county courthouses. Pinkerton detectives quickly located the men and arrested them at Council Bluffs, Iowa, but the Reno brothers escaped from jail and returned to Indiana.

Twelve members of the gang robbed a Jeffersonville, Madison, and Indianapolis Railroad train a month later, overpowered the engineer, uncoupled the passenger cars, broke into the express car, and tossed the express car messenger from the car, inflicting injuries that killed the man. The gang broke open the safe and made off with an estimated ninety-six thousand dollars.

Pinkerton detectives ambushed the gang as it attempted another train robbery in early July. Three gang members were arrested, but were grabbed by vigilantes and hanged before they could be jailed. Three other gang members were captured shortly thereafter in Illinois, but also fell into the hands of vigilantes and were hanged from the same southern Indiana tree.

Two weeks later, the Pinkerton detectives captured William and Simeon Reno in Indianapolis. Frank Reno and gang member Charlie Anderson were arrested in Windsor, Canada, in October. In December, sixty-five vigilantes stormed the southern Indiana jail where the four were held, overpowered the sheriff, took the four from their jail cells and hanged each of them. *A*

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1865 SPENCER .44-40 CARBINE



*Tuolumne Lawman,
SASS Life #6127*

Tammy and Sue at Taylor's Firearms were the ones that had the vision to work with Armi-Sport (part of the Chiappa

Part Two: The Armi-Sport .44-40 and Cowboy Action Shooting™

By Tuolumne Lawman, SASS #6127

Group) to develop and release their 1865 Spencer replicas. Spencer shooters owe them a debt of gratitude for their efforts. Initially, Taylor's re-created Spencer carbines in .44 Russian and .45 Schofield. Taylor's later released the 1865

Spencer in a re-loadable center-fire version of the .56-50 (the 1865 Spencer's original caliber). Taylor's collaborated on the .56-50 project with Ken at Ten-X ammunition, Starline Brass, and Lyman dies to develop the modern .56-50 round. A few years later they offered the Spencer in .44-40 Winchester, and more recently in .45 Colt.

Initially Taylor's had an exclusive sales agreement with Armi-Sport for the 1865 Spencers in the



Spencer with .44-40 round single fed into top of receiver

only offers the Carbine in .44-40, .45 Colt, and .56-50. Dixie Gun Works also has carbines only in .45 Schofield, .44 Russian (now out of production), and .56-50. Dixie prices are about the same as Fall Creek's. Cimarron Firearms carries the widest selection; however, they also



Spencer's tubular seven-shot magazine in the butt stock

United States, but Chiappa eventually decided to have open sales to other dealers, as well. Chiappa USA now catalogues a 30" barreled Infantry Rifle version in .56-50, .44-40, and .45 Colt. They also list 20" Cavalry Carbine models in .56-50, .45 Schofield, .45 Colt, and .44-40. Taylor's Firearms currently carries the .56-50 Rifle and Carbine, and the .45 Colt version of the carbine. Buffalo Arms lists only .56-50 Carbines and .56-50 Infantry rifles. Fall Creek Sutlery (the lowest list prices)



.56-50 Armi-Sport round next to an original .56-50 round

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Pistol calibers available for Chiappa Spencer: .45 Colt, .45 Schofield, .44-40, .44 Russian

have the highest list prices. They catalog .56-50, .44-40, .45 Schofield, and .45 Colt carbines and the .56-50 rifle version. Sadly, the .44 Russian version is no longer offered by Chiappa in the United States.

The 1865 Spencer is SASS approved as a main match rifle in all calibers, including .56-50. The Chiappa/Armi-Sport 1865 Spencer caters to the Cowboy Action Shooters who, like me, have an early West persona, and care more about shooting with style and having fun than shooting fast times. The 1865 Spencer in the .44-40 version is also excellent for Civil War re-enactors, since inexpensive blanks can be had for .44-40 caliber varieties. N-SSA shooters can use the .56-50 carbine version in skirmish competition. Until now, if they wanted to compete with a Spencer, they had to rely on finding a serviceable original to convert to center-fire, or buying an expensive custom made Romano Rifle Co. Spencer .56-50 model.

About eight years ago, I evaluated the .44 Russian and .45 Schofield pistol caliber models, as well as the .56-50 model. In this article I am concentrating on the .44-40 1865 Spencer carbine. My .44-40 Spencer sample is actually one I obtained from Tammy Loy at Taylor's in about 2006.

In my opinion, the Armi-Sport's 1865 Spencer is one of the most beautifully done Cowboy Action Shooting rifles! The fit and finish are flawless, and the machining is exceptional. While it also has features of the 1860 and 1867 Spencer models, it is a reasonable copy of the original. They have spared no pains in reproducing this fine, historic arm. The length of the Armi-Sport Spencer carbine is 37 inches. Despite its short length, it tips my postal scales at 8.8 pounds. The oiled walnut butt and fore stock are solid and nicely figured. The color case hardening of the receiver, crescent butt plate, hammer, and lever, while subdued and subtle, are positively gorgeous. The highly polished blue of the 20-inch barrel is deep and lustrous, reminding me of the excellent Colt bluing in the 1960s. It is an aesthetically pleasing firearm.

The front sight is a period cor-

rect fixed blade on a square base, like Sharps and Springfield carbines. The rear sight has a flip up ladder military sight identical to the original design. It is graduated 100 to 900 yards. Folded down, the base becomes a rear notch "battle sight." My only complaint with the Chiappa Spencers is that this battle sight notch is almost non-existent. I took a small cut-off wheel on a Dremel tool and made a deeper, "U" notch, then touched it up with cold blue solution. This modified "battle sight" works great, and is the one I used for testing and Cowboy Action Shooting™.

The 1865 Spencer Carbine version has a carbine sling ring and slide bar on the left side of the receiver, just as the originals did. This slide and ring was used with the Army issued carbine sling. This sling was a three-inch wide leather strap that was worn over the left shoulder and across the chest, with a large nickel-plated snap ring that hooks into the ring on the carbine. This allows cavalry troopers to release the weapon while on horseback, without losing it. These carbine slings were issued throughout the Civil War and Indian War period. It might be noted Chiappa's rifle version of the Spencer was initially manufactured with the sling ring and bar of the Cavalry Carbine. After much pressure from Civil War re-enactors, the current production has deleted the sling ring and bar to make it a true rifle configuration.

The Spencer almost looks like a Sharps carbine with a receiver that has been squashed flat. There is a tubular magazine in the butt stock, reminiscent of early Browning .22 LR autoloaders. The trigger guard acts as the loading lever, and the Sharps-like hammer must be cocked manually for each shot. This two-stage cocking action is significantly slower than with a traditional Winchester or Marlin lever gun.

Loading and firing is simple. First, open the action by pulling down the lever. Inspect the chamber to ensure it is empty. Close the action. With the rifle pointing muzzle down at a slight angle in a safe direction, rotate the top of the magazine tube base that is inset into the butt stock 90 degrees clockwise. Withdraw the magazine tube. This contains the follower and magazine spring, which is totally captured in the tube. Insert the seven rounds, nose first, into the open butt stock. Like any tubular magazine rifle, make sure you use flat nose bullets. Allow the rounds to slide down the tube gently (DO NOT HOLD THE RIFLE PERPENDICULAR TO THE GROUND AND DROP ROUNDS STRAIGHT DOWN!). Insert the magazine tube into the butt



Rear sight on Spencer with Battle Sight notch deepened

stock all the way, rotating it back to the upright position to lock in.

To fire, first you need to cock the hammer to either half cock or full cock. Then, you open the action by pulling down the trigger guard/action lever. This action pulls the breechblock straight down until it clears the frame, then allowing the block and carrier mechanism to rotate downward on a forward pivot. This allows a live round to enter the receiver from the magazine. Close the action by lifting the lever. This forces the live round into the chamber, which allows the breechblock to snap up into the full battery position; then, you aim and fire. (Because the firing pin is NOT an inertial type and protrudes from the breech face when the hammer is down, the action CAN NOT be operated with the

hammer in the down position) To chamber another round, cock the hammer, and open the action again, which extracts and ejects the spent case. Lift the lever to chamber another round and repeat the process.

The .44-40 version uses the spring-loaded Lane Patent extractor in the center of the carrier block. This is much superior to the side mounted blades of the earlier pistol caliber versions, and the original 1860 Models. The Lane extractor pulls the round from the chamber and up over the cartridge keeper lever holding the next live round in the receiver, and out of the top ejection port. Ejection is very positive and smooth. The action is then closed again, chambering another live round. The Lane extractor system also affords effortless single

(Continued on page 52)

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Chiappa / Armi-Sport Firearms . . .

(Continued from page 51)

loading from the top. There is no "timing issue" as there is with the original side blade type extractors on the early originals.

Another nice feature of this stock mounted tubular magazine is that it can be quickly, easily, and safely unloaded. It is not necessary to cycle live rounds through the action to empty the magazine like Marlins and Winchesters. You simply rotate the magazine base 90 degrees, withdraw the tube from the butt stock, and tip the muzzle up to empty the magazine of live rounds. The action should be cleared after this to ensure there are no live rounds in the chamber or under the cartridge keeper lever. The only other Cowboy Action rifle that can be emptied this easily is the Henry rifle.

As with the originals, there is no safety other than a hammer half cock. This is appropriate for Cowboy Action Shooting™. How many other firearms manufacturers have added obnoxious and unnecessary safeties to make the lawyers and litigators happy?

Disassembly for cleaning is very simple. First, ensure it is unloaded. Second, remove the lever screw located in the lower left side of the receiver. The breechblock and lever assemblies just come right out the bottom of the receiver. This leaves the receiver empty and open for easy cleaning. The breechblock, block carrier, and lever units are also easily cleaned while out of the rifle. Break down, cleaning, and re-assembly was accomplished in mere minutes, even after shooting blackpowder or Pyrodex loads. This is a real plus for us blackpowder shooters!

HOW DOES IT SHOOT?

Loads Used:

- Bear Creek 200 grain, .428" moly-coated bullet, 15.00 grains of Alliant 2400, Starline brass, CCI Magnum Large Pistol Primer (about 1,250 fps)
- Black Hills .44-40 ammunition,

200-grain bullet (about 1,200 fps)

I set up at 25 yards, as my eyes are not what they used to be as I cross the big "60" mark. The first groups were uniformly to the left, so I adjusted the rear sight for windage, drifting the rear sight to the right slightly. After I got the Spencer dialed in, I shot for group size.

The Black Hills Ammo was exceptionally tame in the Spencer. The two best groups I got with Black Hills were large cloverleaves, just under an inch, dead on point of



Spencer with breech open

aim at 25 yards. My Alliant 2400 reloads were actually better. The best reload ammo groups were even smaller three-shot cloverleaf groups. The other reload groups were three shots just under 1" center to center, about an inch above point of aim. These Alliant 2400 reloads were also surprisingly tame, probably because of the weight of the Spencer. Considering the trigger pull is heavy at about 7 lbs, this is pretty darn good!

I have to say I have never enjoyed shooting any rifle more than the Armi-Sport 1865 Spencer! It is an absolute hoot to shoot. Despite its hefty weight, it throws up to the shoulder naturally, and seems to point at the target all by itself. The Spencer Carbine is one of the most naturally pointing rifles I have ever had the pleasure to shoot. It is certainly tied in this aspect with the quick pointability of my other personal favorite, the USGI M1 Car-



Armi-Sport .44-40 Carbine paired with .44-40 EMF Hartfords for SASS

bine, which is probably the modern day equivalent of the 1865 Spencer Carbine. Off-hand standing shots with the .44-40 Spencer, I bounced pop cans at 25 to 35 yards with every shot.

In my experience, the .44-40 Spencer's action is smoother and slicker than the .44 and .45 S&W versions, probably largely due to the use of the Lane extractor, and the .44-40 cartridge's length being closer to the original .56-50 round than the .44 Russian or .45 Schofield. The short .44 Russian and .45 Schofield rounds, and .45 Colt cartridge with its small rim, were never intended to be used in rifles or carbines. With the correct loads, the .56-50 version also feeds well, but is much more expensive to reload than the .44-40 round due to cost of its expensive proprietary brass and cost of its large, heavy 350 grain lead bullets!

My .44-40 Spencer example feeds and functions flawlessly. I have fired over 250 rounds from this .44-40 carbine, and it never failed me. With that said, the Spencer is not for the short stroke kit crowd. Wild Bill Briscoe once told me at a match where I was shooting an 1865 Spencer as a main match rifle, "T.L., I could time you with a sundial!"

AUTHOR'S NOTE: An early production .44-40 Spencer sample I tried in 2004, had a cartridge guide spring that was too tight, not allowing the last round in the magazine to advance quite far enough from the magazine. Clipping one coil cured the "last round feed problem" it had. The current example does not have this problem.

Conclusion:

I believe the 1865 Spencer Carbine's most attractive feature is the Spencer repeaters' involvement in the Civil War and the opening of the Old West. It was, after all, the first successful and widely used repeating rifle. If you are doing an early West persona, especially using percussion revolvers, the Spencer's only historical correct competition would be an 1860 Henry or 1866



Cavalry Sling Ring and Bar on 1865 Spencer

Winchester. Having used all three of these firearms as main match rifles, the Spencer is the hands-down winner for "style points." To me it says, "I don't care about speed, I just want to have fun and shoot with historical style!"

The .44-40 round is a great choice for the 1865 Spencer Carbine used in Cowboy Action Shooting™. Despite what uninformed sources say, the .44-40 is relatively easy and inexpensive to reload and is a good match for those who shoot a pair of .44-40 revolvers like I do. It is legal as a main match rifle, and is a great rifle for Classic Cowboy, Frontier Cartridge, or Frontiersman categories. I think the .44-40 cartridge is also the best choice for those shooting the "Holy Black" powder in Cowboy Action Shooting™ matches. The thin case mouth of the .44-40 does a wonderful job of expanding and sealing the chamber against blackpowder blow-back and fouling. Winchester designed the thin case mouth on the brass .44 WCF cartridge specifically for this purpose, since switching to brass from copper for cartridge cases caused a loss of the chamber sealing capabilities of copper cases.

The .44-40 1865 Spencer is a natural for Civil War re-enactors, too. Using 5 in 1 blank brass from Starline offers an easy alternative to painstakingly fabricating expensive blanks for the .56-50 version. Veteran Civil War re-enactor Terry Schultz has an article on the web about fabricating cheap Spencer Blanks for the .44-40 made from used .410 shot shells. I have some, and they work great. Repeating

(Continued on page 64)

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THE FRINGE OF HOLLYWOOD

The Art of Making a Western

A Review by The Jersey Kid, SASS Life / Regulator #287

One of the noticeable changes I have realized since becoming a SASS member and researching not only my character, but the period in which we “play,” is that I now pay very close attention to the westerns I watch to make sure the props, guns, leather, clothes, and hats are appropriate for the era depicted. I have known Peter Sherayko, SASS Life #5760, Colonel Texas Jack) for a long time now and he not only shares my passion for authenticity, but also owns one of the most complete production companies for the film industry specializing in Westerns from The Civil War to the 1920’s. But just to further distinguish Peter’s expertise - he wrote the book that is now the standard

for making an authentic western! Most SASS shooters would recognize Peter from his role as Texas Jack Vermillion in the very authentic and extremely enjoyable western “Tombstone,” but I am not sure everyone realizes Peter was responsible, through his company Caravan West Productions, for all of the leather, guns, and costumes which contributed to the recognition of “Tombstone” as the most authentic western ever made. Peter has had an acting career that now spans four decades starting with his role in the daytime soap opera “All My Children” that he landed after a stint in the U.S. Air Force serving with the distinguished Flying Tigers.



Peter Sherayko (l) and The Jersey Kid

Adding to the list of talents Peter possesses is that of an author. You may be familiar with Peter’s book, “Tombstone: The Guns and Gear,” but he has also written and published “The Travels of Oso and Neo,” a loving story of his favorite horse and dog (having ridden Oso quite a bit and hung out with Neo, I understand and respect his admiration). Peter’s current book, “The Fringe of Hollywood – The Art of Making a Western” is a result of his passion for making an authentic film and his frustration that many of his peers just do not care enough to do it right. The book is not written as a “How To,” but it is rather written in a very enjoyable

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John A. Taffin
John A. Taffin

Evil Roy
Evil Roy (aka - Gene Pearcey)

Michael L. Venturino
Michael L. Venturino

Mike Doty
Mike Doty

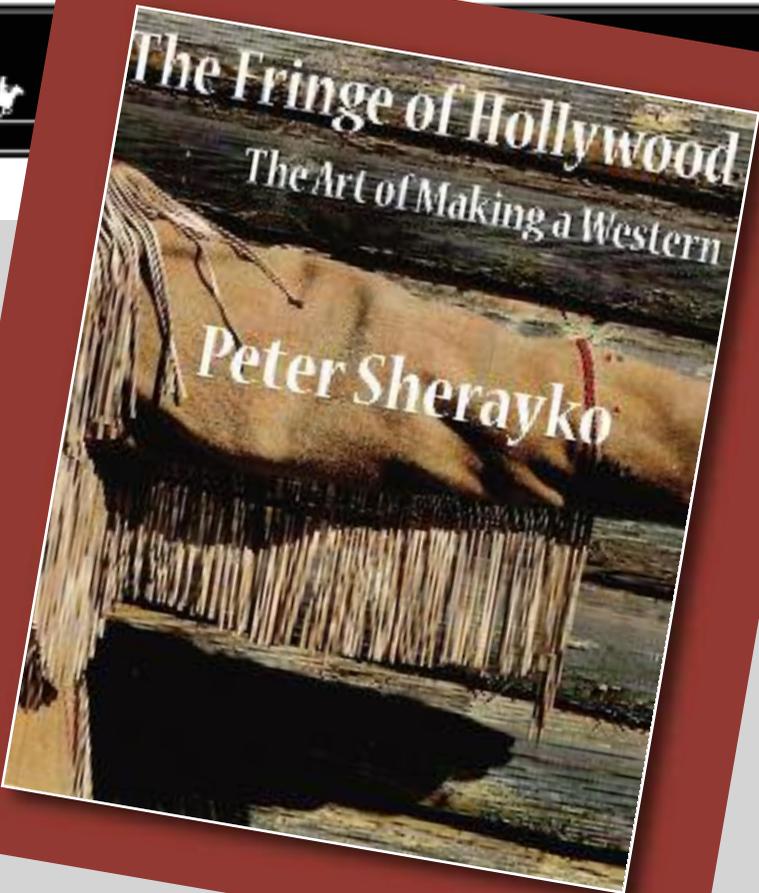


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vey the vision of the director as he transforms the beauty and vastness of the West to the screen. The director is the artist combining all the elements at his disposal. The brushes are the players, the paints consist of the entire support crew, and the canvas comes from the magnificent beautiful West. This book is dedicated to those who paint history and who, in my humble opinion, have an obligation to do it right."

Two of the chapters I really liked were the sections on the gun belts and the hats that were generously enhanced with photos from Peter's collection; a great guide for us in SASS. I thoroughly enjoyed the book and would recommend it to any SASS member, as I already know you have a predisposed interest. I plan on using this book as a guide when I write my next movie.

Thank you Peter, this book is well written, well researched and long overdue! The book is available through amazon.com or with a personal inscription by Peter at caravanwest.com or at (661) 268-8300.

style that held my attention more like a story than a research book. In the book Peter discusses the proper way to respect and portray our history. I chose to quote this paragraph from the first chapter as I think it captures the spirit and the tone of the book:

beauty, excitement, courage, hope and obstacles. It is the actor's job to breathe life into those varied characters and to create a sense of oneness with the audience. The cinematographer's duty is to con-

"The most important parts of any western are the story the characters and the director. It's the writer's responsibility to create an interesting segment of America History, to build stories filled with

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Tom Fox

By Dutch, SASS #455



Tom Fox, oldest son of western film legends, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, passed peacefully on May 16, 2012, due to complications related to congestive heart failure. He was 84. A retired schoolteacher, Tom served as music minister at Arcade Church and other subsequent churches in the Sacramento area for over 20 years before moving to Santa Clarita, CA, to be closer to his family. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Barbara, and their three grown daughters, Mindy Petersen, Candie Halberg, and Julie Pomilia and their families.

A memorial service for Tom was held on June 16, 2012 at Arcade Church, Sacramento, CA. Happy trails, dear Tom, until we meet again. 🤠



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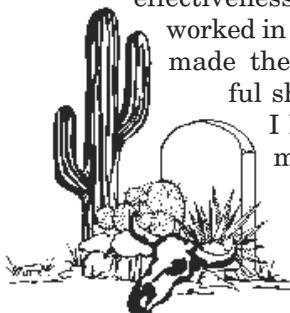
By Juaquin Malone, SASS Life #44677

Received the call today that I had been dreading. Though he had been ill for a while, we had all hoped it would go the other way. Triple 'T', aka Tom Ellington, lost his battle with multiple health problems. The passing of our friend is a tremendous loss for his family, the Malone posse (he was Malone badge #14), and the cowboy community as a whole.



"T" was one of the most generous individuals I have ever met. The space left vacant in our hearts can never be filled. We will all remember him for the rest of our days, be it his sense of humor, his intelligence, his devotion to Cowboy Action, or his purple long johns (they weren't purple, they were aubergine!). He has left behind his lovely wife, Kay, a grieving family, and a lot of very sad cowboys. I can't help but think of the lyrics from that song, *My Heroes Have Always Been Cowboys*, "Cowboys are special." Special would certainly be one of the words I would use to describe him along with intelligent, talented, kind, and really funny.

"T" spent his time in the real world as a Mechanical Engineer holding several patents for various military weapons systems. It was important to him his patents be used to enhance our military effectiveness. He also



worked in leather and made these wonderful shell holders I had always meant to get

a couple, but I guess I waited too long. It is so hard to imagine him not being there when we gather at the different matches, campfires, and watering holes.

The outpouring on the Internet and the SASS wire was really moving. I think one of the responses that sums it all up the best came from another friend and posse member, Alamo Kid, SASS #8100, who wrote: "TTT was my Smarter other Brother. I will miss him, but will see him everyday in the pictures around the ranch and the thoughts of all our adventures together. I once told him I see all my Cowboy friends more than I see my own family ... He told me, that's cause we don't ask ya for money! Truly a Cowboy to ride the river with. He's up in Heaven, saving us all a place at the Bar."

So "T", you got to be laid away in your cowboy duds and looking sharp. I don't know if you can hear us all, but we miss you. Vaya Con Dios, Mi Amigo. 🤠



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SASS SENIOR GAMES

May 17 – 19, 2012

English, TX – NEWS FLASH! It finally happened—a shoot tailored to Seniors and where Seniors rule! If you were one of the lucky ones who drove, flew, or rode a horse across the border of Texas, you would have found yourself pulling off the main road and into the gates of the Bar 3 Ranch. While entering the ranch, you might ask yourself how long has this been a shooting range, or how long does it take to mow the grass?! While you settle in and start to unpack, Dog Dooley is

Cowboy Yard Sale. I could hear the Big Guns going off from a distance as Bent Barrel Betty, SASS #33237, and Ringo Fire, SASS #46037, were finishing up with the Long Range Rifle contest. Man, was that a hoot! Side matches were over in a flash just as Boozy Creek, SASS #82771, had planned. Everyone finished just in time to gather in the Dooley Barn to talk about times past while they played a game of checkers. Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245, couldn't be beat at a game of checkers. She was a force to be reckoned with!

By T-Bone Dooley, SASS #36388



Thursday evening featured a chance to see who was best at checkers. Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245, couldn't be beat! She was a force with which to be reckoned!



The Thursday Side matches started with a game of Bar 3 Extreme Range Golf—yes, golf! The par 5 chip shot over Paul's Pond was rumored to be T-bone's secret plan to get next season's golf balls on the cheap!

there to meet you with a warm greeting. Nuttin' Graceful, SASS #39117, and T-Bone Dooley are not far away with friendly handshakes and big ol' smiles as they sit on horseback watching things unfold.

The Senior Games began Thursday with the shooters unpacking their gun carts and hitting the range early just in time for side matches. But wait! It's only 9 a.m. and we had to get a round of Bar 3 Extreme Range Golf in. A group of cowboys and cowgirls picked out their favorite golf club along with three golf balls and headed out to Stage One—no, no, no—it was *hole* one! The classic competitors were dressed to fit the part, and what a sight it was! Was it a par 5 on 5, or did the chip shot over Paul's Pond steal their last golf ball? I figure there are over 200 little white balls in the pond now!

Next I took off to the Dooley Barn to see what was left in the

Friday morning came early for the ranch hands as the bell rang out loud and clear and we all gathered and commenced shooting the first Senior Games. Things were a little different. We instituted Senior Shotgun Rules—you only had to shoot as many shot shells as needed to knock down the targets. Some stages were set up with the knock-down targets set very close together, so you might get lucky and shoot four knockdowns with one shot. After a great lunch, it was back out to the line for shotgun bowling and the return of the Intercontinental Horseshoe Championship of the World in the Courtyard of the Bar 3.

Friday night was the big banquet in the Dooley Barn. We ate Italian food catered by The Italian Bistro from Clarksville, Texas. As with any fine Italian dining, we needed wine, so let the games begin again! Diners gathered for the "Ring Toss for Winos" to win a bottle

of wine to enjoy with their evening meal. After dinner, everyone settled back to enjoy a dinner show featuring Velvet Glove, SASS #50276, and Yukon Gold from Arkansas, Doc Cooper, SASS #43629, from Louisiana, Pawnee Brown from Texas, and The Tonic Kid, SASS #70340, from the great State of Oklahoma. Oh, what a night! You never know how much talent there is just standing around 'til you hear them live on the big stage.

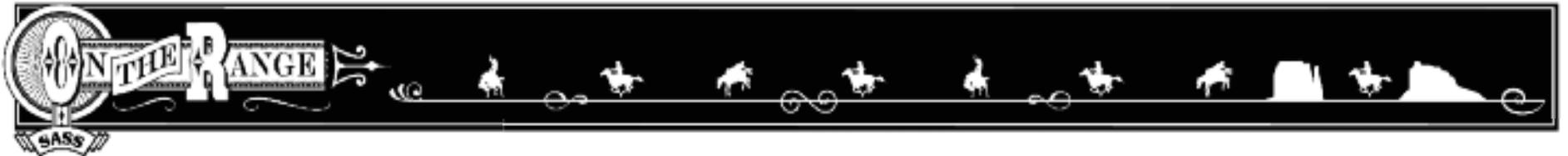
Now, let's fast forward to the next day and start with the horseshoe competition. Competitors lined up and there were spectators by the hundreds waiting to see who would be the new Intercontinental

Horseshoe Champion of the World. As the last shoes rang steel, we crowned Tennessee Tall the Ladies Champion and Bluegrass Bob, SASS #77505, the Men's Champion.

As the awards were nearing and the day ending, the SASS Senior Games hosted 99 shooters, ages ranging from 50 to 87. You could hear cowboys and cowgirls talking of their treasures from the past. One of them said, "The treasure I'm speaking of is my youth of yesterday!"

P.S. With all the fun we had, we forgot to tell you who won the shootin' match! Jubal Early, SASS #24642 was Overall for the men and Kow Katcher, SASS #53134, won Overall for the ladies. 🤠





2nd Annual GUNFIGHT AT GIVHAN'S FERRY

SASS Southeast Regional

Ridgeville, SC – As I heard the Piper began playing “Anchors Aweigh,” I realized the second annual Gunfight at Givhan’s Ferry was coming to a close. The SASS Southeast Regional was held on the weekend of Veteran’s Day, honoring all of America’s finest that are serving or have served in our Armed Forces. John Weed of the city of Charleston Police Pipe and Drums was standing in Bay Eight, behind the assembly of shooters seated under the tent. As he played

By Ranger Law, SASS #12801

each of the anthems of the five branches of the service, those men and women who had served in that branch stood and were recognized. As the final soulful notes of the last song, “The Marine’s Hymn,” echoed across the range, a 21-gun salute began in Bay One. The shooter’s badges of all Veterans were marked as such. A full 30% of the 274 participants were Veterans, and we thank you all!

Match Director Doc Kemm,



Doc Kemm, Match Director for this year’s Gunfight at Givhan’s Ferry.



Sunshine Marcie, SASS #64900, was the Ladies’ Top Shoot-off winner.

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Winners		Gunfighter	Buck D. Law, SASS #62183
SE Regional Champions		<i>L Young Gun</i>	Ornery Ellen, SASS #68696
<i>Man</i>	<i>Red River Ray, SASS #33254</i>	<i>L 49'er</i>	Sixgun Sallie, SASS #38989
<i>Lady</i>	<i>Kill-em-All Kate, SASS #45804</i>	<i>L B-Western</i>	Shamrock Sadie, SASS #78511
Categories		<i>L Duelist</i>	Mt. Zion Gypsy, SASS #44075
<i>49'er</i>	Ozark Azz, SASS #18273	<i>L F Cartridge</i>	Vaquera, SASS #90835
<i>B-Western</i>	Knot Hardly Dunn, SASS #43113	<i>L Gunfighter</i>	Katelyn Rose, SASS #48142
<i>Buckaroo</i>	Willie the Kid, SASS #52397	<i>L Senior</i>	Kid Nama, SASS #55944
<i>Cowboy</i>	Roughneck Rod, SASS #81741	<i>L S Duelist</i>	Sassy Teton Lady, SASS #47525
<i>C Cowboy</i>	Persuader, SASS #74492	<i>L S Senior</i>	Ms. Jewel, SASS #62556
<i>Cowgirl</i>	Velvet Sheath, SASS #21327	<i>L Wrangler</i>	Kill-em-all Kate, SASS #45804
<i>C Cowgirl</i>	Wicked Wanda, SASS #28122	<i>Senior</i>	Rubicon Ryder, SASS #69415
<i>Duelist</i>	J. M. Brown, SASS #27309	<i>S Duelist</i>	Amaduelist, SASS #28092
<i>E Statesman</i>	Rocky River Jeb, SASS #47279	<i>S Gunfighter</i>	Cypress Sam, SASS #10915
<i>Frontiersman</i>	Buffalo Brady, SASS #24830	<i>S Senior</i>	River Rat Randy, SASS #52574
<i>F Cartridge</i>	Doc Perry, SASS #42552	<i>Wrangler</i>	Red River Ray, SASS #33254
<i>F C Duelist</i>	Yank Machain, SASS #82577	<i>Young Guns</i>	Dominator, SASS #62912
<i>Grand Dame</i>	Green Eyed Indian, SASS #51116		



Red River Ray, SASS #33254, and Kill-em-All Kate, SASS #45804, were the Southeast Regional Champions from Gunfight at Givhan's Ferry. Congratulations!



SASS #52557, organized a shoot that included participants from 16 states and Canada. The theme of this year's Regional shoot was Women of the Wild West. Shamrock Sadie, SASS #78511, wrote biographies of ten infamous women, albeit some fictional, that delighted each shooter as they once again prepared to be Cowboy Action Shooters!

Throughout the weekend, hundreds of visitors from the surrounding area were amazed at the gathering of these competitors. Some comments were: "Wow, look at the clothes they are wearing;" and "Those women can really shoot!" For four beautiful days, the vendors were kept busy as we all looked for that one more item we needed to complete our ensemble, whether it be a rifle, revolver, or maybe a vest or a pair of yellow boots.

When the main match was finished, Kill'em All Kate, SASS #458045, and Red River Ray, SASS #33254, proved to be the top female and male shooters and will repre-

sent the Southeast Regional at the granddaddy shoot of them all, "END of TRAIL." After the final awards presentation on Sunday morning, the final one-on-one, all knock-down shoot-off began. When the last shotgun target had dropped, North Carolina's J. M. Brown, SASS #27309, was the victor of all the male participants. This fine cowboy had been overseeing the safety and continuity of the match as the Range Master for the last four days, and it was good to see him win the last trophy of the match. Sunshine Marcie, SASS #64900, was the Women's Shoot-off Winner. In an informal shoot-off 'tween the two winners, Sunshine Marcie emerged victorious. Way to go Ms. Marcie!

A pair of SASS Ruger Vaqueros donated by SASS were raffled and the SASS Scholarship fund will receive nearly \$1400. Mister Bullwacker, SASS #5684, was the winner of the revolvers and will use them proudly as they complement his fancy attire. Mr. Bullwacker was also honored as he was presented the second annual Isom Dart Award. This trophy is given to the Cowboy that throughout the year exhibits the same love of the sport as that of our friend, Isom Dart, SASS #8096. Isom Dart is well known throughout the Southeast as a tenacious competitor in the black-powder category. His smile and demeanor are contagious as his shotgun rounds reverberate across the land.

We thank all that were in attendance of the Second Annual Gunfight at Givhan's Ferry! You have once again shown what a wonderful sport we have come to love, and why we do what we do. 🤠



Always a great competitor, J. M. Brown took home Duelist honors from the Gunfight at Givhan's Ferry.

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Classic Cowboy / Cowgirl:		Frontier Cartridge Duelist:	Young Gun (34-35):
Cowboy / Cowgirl:		Gunfighter:	

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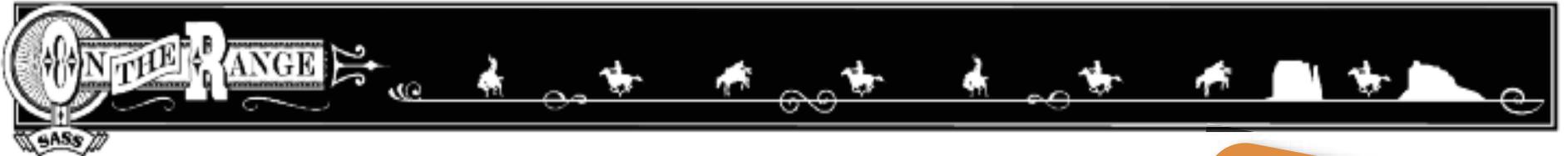
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- 2nd Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 3:30pm - 5:00pm (2nd Stage)
- 3rd Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 5:30pm - 7:00pm (3rd Stage)
- 4th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 7:30pm - 9:00pm (4th Stage)
- 5th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 9:30pm - 11:00pm (5th Stage)
- 6th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 11:30pm - 1:00am (6th Stage)
- 7th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 1:30am - 3:00am (7th Stage)
- 8th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 3:30am - 5:00am (8th Stage)
- 9th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 5:30am - 7:00am (9th Stage)
- 10th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 7:30am - 9:00am (10th Stage)
- 11th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 9:30am - 11:00am (11th Stage)
- 12th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 11:30am - 1:00pm (12th Stage)
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- 99th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 5:30am - 7:00am (99th Stage)
- 100th Stage Wild Bunch Match: Thursday 7:30am - 9:00am (100th Stage)



Buffalo Stampede

2012

By Captain George Baylor SASS Life #24287

Founders Ranch, New Mexico, April 16-22, 2012 – Founders Ranch is the largest facility dedicated to and designed for Cowboy Action Shooting™ in the world. Since it was designed for a huge event, END of TRAIL, it has “surplus” room for the “smaller” events

such as Buffalo Stampede, the Four Corners Regional. This means you can park your RV down at the town, making the walk to the Belle Union just a few steps, and it gives a “cozy” atmosphere for the activities there. This makes it a fun place to be in April. It’s such a nice place to be that The Redhead, my (definitely)

better half, who only shoots to repel boarders, has not objected to the fact that since 2008, we’ve been there on our anniversary. This year it was our 30th. Yet she allowed us to be there.

The event started with Long Hunter’s SASS University class, a one-day class with about a week’s worth of tips for shooting SASS competition.

It was cold and windy while that was going on, but fair. Previous events have had wind, rain, sleet, snow, blowing snow, and dust devils, and that was just Thursday. But this year the weather gods smiled on SASS, and the weather was beautiful. It got a little warmer each day. We started with coats on in the morning. But it became comfortable in shirt-sleeves by mid-morning.

A four stage Wild Bunch Warm Up started the shooting festivities on Tuesday, followed by two days,



Wild Bunch Traditional Winners. Lady Traditional Wild Bunch winner, Texas Tiger, joined the guys for the photo—you just can’t keep a good girl down!

12 stages, of Wild Bunch shooting on Wednesday and Thursday.

This year six bays were dedicated to the Wild Bunch match, with two stages per bay, and six other bays were dedicated to Cowboy Action Shooting™. This meant the Wild Bunch stages didn’t have to be designed around the Cowboy Action Shooting™ stages, and no target had to be moved between matches. Note the 17 bays have been renumbered 1-17, no C1,



~ Clean Match Shooters ~

A clean match is about the only thing a shooter has control of, unless the Match Director takes it away from them with exceptionally difficult targets. Clean matches are good!

Winners				Wild Bunch Overall				Divisions			
Action Match Overall & Four Corners Regional Champs				Man	Evil Roy	CO	Div 2	Half Cocked Cayuse,			
Man	J. T. Wild,			Lady	Half-a-Hand Henri	NM	Div 3	Chili Cowboy,			
	SASS #20399	UT					Div 5	Buckskin Doc			NM
Lady	Etta Mae,			Categories	Fast Hammer,	NM	L Div 1	Wild Kat Karson,			NM
	SASS #12478	AZ		Traditional	SASS #60707	NM	L Div 3	SASS #90430			NM
Categories				Modern	Evil Roy	CO	L Div 4	Aneeda Huginkiss,			CO
L Junior	Fazzt Taz,			L Traditional	Texas Tiger,	NM	L S Div 2	SASS #23798			NM
	SASS #90980	NM		L Modern	SASS #74829	NM	L S Div 3	Fire Fox			NM
Junior	Sandoval Kid,				Half-a-Hand Henri	NM	L S Div 4	Sassy Susie Q,			NM
	SASS #86892	NM		Plainsman Overall	Big Dave	CO	L S Div 3	SASS #59662			NM
L 49'er	Half-a-Hand Henri,			Categories			S Div 4	Cinnamon Lucy,			NM
	SASS #9727	NM		Modern	Capt. George Baylor,	NM	Buckaroo	SASS #14014			NM
49'er	J. T. Wild	UT		Traditional	SASS #24287	NM		Yankee Duke,			NM
Senior	Johnny Meadows,				Big Dave	CO		SASS #64387			NM
	SASS #28485	AZ		Mounted Overall & Four Corners Regional Champs				T. R. Twister,			NM
Grand Dame	Ramblin' Rose,			Man	Buckskin doc,	NM	Extreme Stage	SASS #86853			NM
	SASS #2811	CO		Lady	SASS #44596	NM	Team 10	Chili Cowboy			NM
E Statesman	Cerveza Slim,				Fire Fox,	NM		Stuttering Wayne,			NM
	SASS #9724	CO		Divisions	SASS #80377	NM		SASS #71602			NM
L Senior	Etta Mae	AZ		Div 1	El What,	NM					
S Duelist	Mr. Peabody,				SASS #93967	NM					
	SASS #86365	NM									
Gunfighter	Vaquero Luna,										
	SASS #70518										
				S Gunfighter Duelist	Tex, SASS #4	NM					
					Willy Hitum,						
					SASS #64179	WA					
				Frontiersman	Big Dave,	CO					
					SASS #55632						
				F Cartridge	More Or Les,	NM					
					SASS #5529						
				L F Cartridge	Singin' Sue,	NM					
					SASS #71615						
				L F C Duelist	Painted Filly,	CO					
					SASS #86383						
				C Cowboy	Doc Baker,	NM					
					SASS #50032						
				B-Western	Brushy Bill,	NM					
					SASS #44261						
				L B-Western	Ez Gz,	NM					
					SASS #83885						
				Cowgirl	Amber Ale,	NM					
					SASS #66175						
				Cowboy	Mica McGuire,	NM					
					SASS #18526						
				L Wrangler	Starlite Rose,	CA					
					SASS #86084						
				Wrangler	Crazy Kurt,	NM					
					SASS #55520						
				S Senior	Evil Roy,	CO					
					SASS #2883						
				L S Senior	Claudia Feather,	AZ					
					SASS #2816						



When the Villistas begin pouring over the back berm, even the Captain is motivated to "get a move on!"

curve since 2008 when Buffalo Stampede was one of the first events using the international Wild Bunch rules. Back then I quipped that if you passed the power factor, kept the 1911 and the '97 running, and didn't get a stage DQ for moving with the slide forward on your 1911, you could probably win something. Now you can do all of that, hit a lot of targets fairly quickly, and still never hear your name called at awards time. The level of competition has gone up dramatically.

One stage stood out as unusual, Stage 4 on Bay 2, "Dang I'm fast!"

"From inside the bank, the shooter starts standing inside the door facing up range.

"Pistol is loaded with a five-



Fazzt Taz is from Farmington, NM and shoots with her Grandpa, Largo Casey, SASS #19191. She's a joy to watch, and her shooting techniques are easy to identify—she handles her shotgun exactly like Holy Terror!



Buttercup was just one of the SASS staff available to ensure everything ran smoothly and according to plan. The evening activities masterminded by Misty Moonshine were new and innovative ... and enjoyed by all.

round magazine and holstered. Any long gun will be staged safely inside the building.

"At the beep expend a minimum of 25 rounds on the 17 targets. All knockdowns must be engaged first. They may be reengaged at any time and must be down to count. All stationary targets must be hit at least twice, but cannot be triple tapped. At the conclusion of the stage all ammunition loaded in the pistol must have been expended by engaging a target on the clock. On stationary targets a miss is a miss."

Hmm, twelve knockdown targets, six at pistol range, six at rifle range. That left five targets between pistol and rifle range to be hit twice each. That only totals 22 rounds. You must shoot 25. One way to do it was to take the close knockdowns with the shotgun, that's six, then the distant six knockdowns and double tap the two distant stationary targets with the rifle. That's a total of 16 rounds. That leaves 9 rounds for the pistol. The last three stationary targets need to be hit twice each, say, 2-2-1,

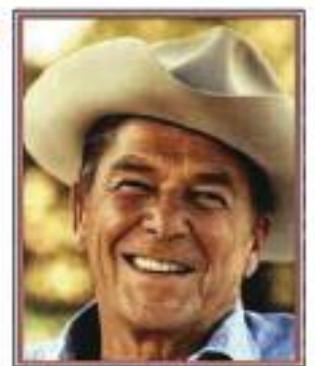
(Continued on page 62)

C2, etc. It won't be confusing after a few events. I should have it down by END of TRAIL—2020. There was no overlap except the Warm Up match for Cowboy Action Shooting™ occurred on Thursday, the second day of Wild Bunch. So you shot Wild Bunch, spent Thursday afternoon switching out your guns and gear and shot Cowboy Friday and Saturday. If you didn't shoot Wild Bunch, you could shoot a Cowboy Warm Up match Thursday.

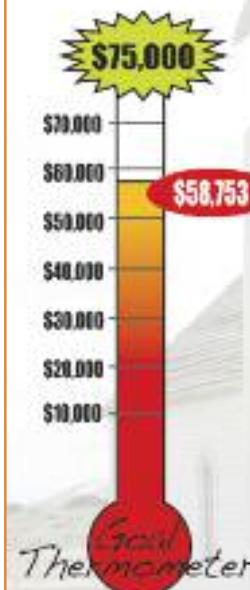
As the Wild Bunch Board keeps telling us, "Wild Bunch is not Cowboy Action Shooting™ with 1911s." The matches are considerably more "challenging" than a good Cowboy Action Shooting™ match. Targets are more distant and smaller than what would be tolerated by most Cowboy Action Shooting™ fields. Then there's the power factor. This is the first Wild Bunch match I've attended that didn't have any match disqualifications for failing to make power factor. The overall level of competition has gone up in a steep

COWBOY Memorial Chapel

The Gipper says, "Let's pull together and drive this baby all the way to the top!"



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The Wild Bunch and Action Shooting stages were separated this year, so each could be set appropriately and not frantically changed from one discipline to the other. The Wild Bunch stages featured many targets, and often many SMALL targets! While all were definitely "hittable," one did have to use that small "bumpy" thing on the end of the barrel!



Buffalo Stampede 2012 . . .

(Continued from page 61)

1-2-2 meaning one extra round that needed to be shot on a stationary. That seemed like a waste of time, so some shooters downloaded their rifle or a pistol magazine so the pistol was empty when all the targets had been hit the appropriate number of times. Some shot all of the targets with the pistol. Some used rifle and pistol.

And a lot of people who tried to avoid having to shoot more than 25 rounds wound up shooting less than 25 rounds. Our posse had a spotter who did nothing but count rounds. It became obvious that shooting, say, 22 rounds and clearing your pistol before you hear and understand the spotter yelling at you to shoot three more rounds was not conducive to a stage winning time. It happened.



In addition to the "regular" side matches, Buffalo Stampede is famous for its not so well known side matches, including horse shoes and the buffalo chip toss. Half-a-Hand Henri and Tijeras Pete where in championship form as they defended their titles from last year.



Four Corners Regional Champs—Etta Mae and J. T. Wild. Great Shooting and Congratulations!



Chili Cook-off Winners—Perennial winner for red chili, Wicked Felina, and Estancia Kid for the green.

Having watched other solutions fail, most of us shot 26 rounds.

But whether the stages were hard or easy, the same people win. Most of the winners were "the usual suspects." Texas Tiger won Ladies Traditional. At every Wild Bunch match she's attended that I reported on, I could start the "winners" paragraph with that line. That is domination. Half-a-Hand-Henri won Ladies Modern. Fast Hammer won Traditional, and Evil Roy won modern. You can expect to hear all of those names at awards time, too.

No one shot clean. This wasn't a surprise, as none of us could remember anyone shooting clean except J. T. Wild at one major Wild Bunch match. As noted, "Wild Bunch is not ..." you know the rest.

The Cowboy Action Shooting™ match was different, and not just because it was on different bays. The scenarios were simple, and the pistol targets were the close ones. There were no 6" circles to shoot at, either.

All of the targets were relatively large. There were a few knockdown targets for rifle and a few for pistol. For some reason this scares the heck out of a certain percentage of Cowboy Action Shooting™ shooters. Some handle the problem by loading hotter rounds for the knockdowns. Others don't need to. These knockdowns were checked often and kept in calibration. Sometimes you hit a knockdown, and it stays up. This is true in real gunfights, too.

The stage with the most pistol knockdowns was stage 5, at the bay formerly known as Bay 9, where usually a running buffalo roams (but not this match). There were three big stationary buffalo across the tracks, a horse on the left side, then a box a couple of yards to the right, then another box a few yards to the right

Wild Bunch Modern Winners



Happy Jack has proposed a new scoring system for Wild Bunch, combining the best of Rank Point Scoring and Total Time scoring. The new system was implemented for END of TRAIL.

Plainsman



It's gratifying seeing new faces participate in the Plainsman event. Tex even pulled out his old Rolling Block to shoot "traditional." Slow doesn't come close to describing his performance!



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None Requested. All reasonable efforts will be made to meet requests.

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Action



Big Dave shoots Traditional Plainsman. That's the "slow" category. He opened a lot of eyes when he won Plainsman Overall ... when asked how he did it, his response was predictable—PRACTICE!



The Action stages were straightforward with no "mind games" or procedural traps. Versions of the better stages will likely find their way into this year's END of TRAIL.



Founders Ranch Wild Bunch discipline chairman, Tijeras Pete, loads 'um up heavy and center-punches the targets! Pete hosts monthly practice matches at Founders, which provides an excellent opportunity for the local New Mexican Wild Bunch competitors to gain valuable range time.

of that. In front of the horse were five "tombstone" pistol knockdowns and five stationary ore cart pistol targets. To the right of the wagon were four shotgun knockdowns.

Starting position was your choice of behind the horse or behind the wagon, hands folded across your chest. Even left-handers like me started on the left behind the horse. It saved several steps. The rifle, loaded with nine rounds, is on the box, and the shotgun is staged in the wagon.

"At the beep, depending on where you would like to start, you will engage the targets in the following procedure. With your revolvers, from the horse, engage all ten revolver targets. With your rifle, from

the box, engage the three big buffalo three times each. Make the rifle safe. With your shotgun, from the box (at least one foot behind the box) next to the wagon, engage the four shotgun targets in any order."

That was about as complicated as it got, no Tax Code sweeps or other "P" traps. (A Tax Code sweep, like our Tax Code, is one so complicated no one could possibly get it right, so you just give everyone a penalty.) Some of the targets could have been closer, but they were about on par with most SASS matches. (This is where I insert my annual note to match directors who want larger fields of paying customers: Bordertown, the Arizona State Championship, where no target is further

away than 21 feet, and all targets exceed SASS recommended sizes, sells out in eight days and has a waiting list of 20,000 or so.) Buffalo Stampede had very simple scenarios with a lot of movement, some ambidextrous. About 7% shot it clean.

Side Matches

The Side Matches at Buffalo Stampede are a mixture of "normal" and "unique." The Long Range Rifle side match occurred Wednesday at the Long Range Kiosk, which allowed targets out to 300 yards. Plainsman was divided into Traditional and Modern. Since this is a fairly new concept, an explanation is appropriate. Any SASS legal single shot rifle with an ejector gets you into Modern. That pretty much means a Handi-Rifle with a working ejector (they make them with-

out ejectors now, which would go into Traditional), and a High-Wall with the ejector working. You can switch the ejector off, which would enable you to shoot Traditional. Rifles without ejectors get you into Traditional. The goal is to grow Plainsman by convincing shooters to bring their Trapdoor Springfields, Rolling Blocks, and Sharps, all generally thought to be slower than Handi-Rifles with ejectors.

Now that there's a Founders Ranch Shotgun Sports Club with a 5-Stand, there is a Buffalo Stampede 5-Stand Championship, shot Friday and Saturday afternoon.

(Continued on page 64)



Long Range means out to 300 yards at Founders Ranch. An enthusiastic group assembled under Prairie Mary's watchful eye to prove they could actually hit targets at that distance!



Buffalo Stampede 2012 . . .

Gunfighter



There were many Gunfighters at this year's championship. They're always fun to watch but a chore to RO for— one never knows where they're planning to shoot next!

(Continued from page 63)

The other matches got a little "unusual." In town on Saturday afternoon was a Horse Shoes match. Also in town was a Buffalo Chip Toss. Back on the range, Card Cutting and Bullet Splittin' matches happened Saturday afternoon. You don't see those just everywhere.

Extra Curricular Activities

The 6th Annual Chili Cook-Off was Thursday night. It was also a potluck dinner. You brought a dish that would go well with chili that varied from mild to "removes paint at ten yards." So bringing something soothing was probably wise. Once more Wicked Felina won the red chili category. Estancia Kid won the green chili category with chili made from peppers he and his wife, Sunshine Belle, grow on their own land. Copper Queen was the judge and could still talk and breathe after sampling all of the entries.

Friday night was another potluck night that included a grill for your steaks with a fajita buffet catered by El Comedor for those who didn't want to bring something. Misty Moonshine and Buttercup hosted a game of "Let's Make A Deal." They gave away several

END of TRAIL entries among other prizes. Numerous items, including a couple of guns, were auctioned in a "silent (but deadly)" auction.

The Saturday night awards presentation featured chicken fried steaks from El Comedor. Those of us who are sometimes miffed at the fact that you have to buy raffle tickets for every desirable prize loved the fact that several guns, including a matched pair of SASS Ruger Vaqueros, a Dillon XL650, and other valuable prizes were given out by drawing from the names of contestants, no extra charge.

Again, Misty Moonshine and Buttercup did a fantastic job of emceeing the ceremonies. No time was wasted, we didn't get bored, and every winner got his/her due. My suggestion is to hire them to do the same at your match.

It should be remembered that Buffalo Stampede is the END of TRAIL preview, and some of the stages will appear at END of TRAIL. Hipshot used up most of the Territorial Governors meeting soliciting critiques and suggestions. This bodes well for END of TRAIL. There's a new attitude at Founders Ranch. You really should get there. 🐾

Wild Bunch



The Wild Bunch Action Match featured lots of lead down range—fast! Everything starts loaded. It's great seeing so many Wild Bunch military outfits as well—as with Cowboy Action, it's the costumes that set this game apart.



Chiappa / Armi-Sport Firearms . . .

(Continued from page 52)

firearms blank cartridges for Civil War re-enacting doesn't get any cheaper than that!

While Armi-Sport's 1865 is expensive at \$1225 to \$1750 suggested retail (depending on caliber and vendor), it is more than worth it. Consider when you buy a Mercedes Benz or BMW, you pay significantly more than you do for a Chevy or Ford. For that extra money, you get something unique, and also get far more quality and engineering, too! That's the case with the Armi-Sport 1865 Spencer: you get what you pay for, and it is WELL WORTH IT!

At a Match, Some General Spencer Experiences

At the 2005 High Sierra Shoot Out annual match at Railroad Flat, California, I took first place with an Armi-Sport .56-50 Spencer in a long-range side match. It was in the lever action rifle, blackpowder, rifle caliber match! I had not paid attention to the scores of the other

shooters and assumed I had not placed. I was packing up my camp during the awards ceremony, when Bad Lands Bud (much younger then), ran up to my camp shouting "Hey Tuolumne, you won a side match!" The Armi-Sport .56-50, even with its heavy trigger pull, had kicked butt. The course was eight shots, timed, at a 6" disk at 50 yards. Using a 6 o'clock hold. I nailed 7 of the 8 shots dead center on the plate in something like 35 seconds. This included a single load for the last round from a Civil War cavalry carbine ammo pouch! For this match, I was shooting my 350-grain, 37 grains (volume) Triple 7 FFG, loads.

I also used the Spencer in single shot mode for the Plainsmen event, shooting the match clean. I single loaded each shot from the top, al-la 1870s cavalry style. I also used the .56-50 Taylor's as a main match rifle on several stages, also shooting clean. It was a great weekend for an Armi-Sport .56-50 Spencer! 🐾

FACTOID

During the Victorian era, the dead were either laid out in their parlors, or, as the Southerners preferred, in their bedrooms. There was no such thing as a funeral home; death was a part of life, and the dead remained in the house up until they were buried. The tradition of flowers around the coffin comes from the Victorians trying to hide the scent of the deceased.



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Cops and COWBOYS

First Inaugural Charity Match, May 20, 2012

Big Irons Rangers, Dayton Police Department and the Middletown Sportsmen's Club

By Col. Fletch O'Dubois III, SASS #14224

Middletown, OH –Ever thought you'd hear the clink and clank of an AR-15 and a Glock .40 S&W at a Cowboy match? Well pard, if you were in Middletown, Ohio, on the 20th of May, you would have heard and seen them in action! This was the first Inaugural Cops and Cowboys charity match to be held on the grounds of the Middletown Sportsmen's Club.

What started out as a challenge by Officer Chad Knight, aka Ornerly Oaf, of the Dayton Ohio Police Department was quickly accepted by the Big Irons board back in the dead of winter. The "official" invitation was made to the Dayton, Ohio Police Department to do a head-to-head competition, with all the money raised to go to a noteworthy charity.

The rules were pretty simple:

the "cops" would shoot their duty weapons, AR-15 style with .22 LR adaptor or upper, their duty .40 S&W Glock loaded with frangible ammunition, and their duty pump shotgun. The "cowboys" would shoot their preferred SASS category with appropriate firearms and ammunition. It would take place over one day and be comprised of seven stages. The cops would shoot in their normal training mode, but had to follow the stage scenarios. They could load the same number of shotgun shells into the magazine as the stage required at the loading bench. Any additional shotgun shells required for missed targets had to come from the body or could be pre-staged on the stage table. Glock magazines could be loaded with five rounds each and the AR-15 rifles could have the chambers empty and one magazine loaded with 10 rounds inserted after the gun was safe.

Twenty-six shooters in over a dozen categories showed up to meet the challenge. Deadwood Stan, President of The Big Irons, welcomed all the shooters. Lassiter gave the safety briefing and range instructions and the competition began. We shot as a single



Top Cowboy, Lassiter, shooting Gunfighter.



Lassiter RO's one of the Dayton Ohio police officers through the stage.

posse with everyone taking turns spotting, keeping score, watching the loading/unloading tables and helping out as needed. The scenarios were challenging and gave the competitors lots of options on how to shoot the seven stages.

All age groups were represented, from Elder Statesman Darby who finished at 182.20 to Buckaroo, Possum Slayer who finished in a time of 377.96. Ruger Ray, shooting Frontier Cartridge,

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Twenty-six shooters participated in the 1st annual Cops and Cowboys match held at the Middletown Sportsmen's Club and hosted by the Big Irons Rangers.

had the smoke from his blackpowder billowing all over the place. Top Cop was Aaron Fraley at 197.62. Top Lady shooter was Clementine Valentine shooting Gunfighter at 191.63 and Top Cow-



Buckaroo Possum Slayer, SASS #70839, enjoyed the competition.

Winners

- Cowboy** Lassiter, SASS #2080
- Cowgirl** Clementine Valentine, SASS #66179
- Cop** Aaron Fraley
- Top Teams**
- Cowboys**
 - Lassiter
 - Two Bit Drifter, SASS #32899
 - Black Jack Beeson, SASS #11523
 - Shakee Southpaw, SASS #50547
 - Wild Wyatt Wolf, SASS #80574
- Law Enforcement**
 - Aaron Fraley
 - Phil Hubbard
 - Jorge Delrio
 - Doug Hall
 - Chad Jones

boy was Lassiter shooting Senior Gunfighter at 134.73. Everyone had a great time, and at the end of the day the category and team winners were identified.

At the awards ceremony, it was unanimously decided the funds raised through the competition—\$450—would be donated to the Wounded Warrior Project. This noteworthy program was founded in 2003, to raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help injured service members aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs.

We discussed having a fall shoot under the same rules and encouraged the "cops" to bring a buddy, bring a friend, whether active duty or retired and to expand the invite to all local, state, and federal police and correction officers. Hope everyone can pop the trunk and bring those duty weapons. Kinda strange to hear them say "I'll be a Daisy if you do" and hear the "POP-POP-POP" of those AR-15s!

The next major match coming up is the Guns of August competition comprised of twelve stages fired over two days. Cowboy Mounted Shooting will be on the agenda as well. Please check out all the details in the Guns of August announcement. For further information on The Guns of August 2012, Cops and Cowboys or the host sponsors, The Big Irons, contact Deadwood Stan at 513-422-5112 or Lassiter at 937-687-1039. It's best to check out the Big Irons and SASS websites for up to the minute information. *A.*



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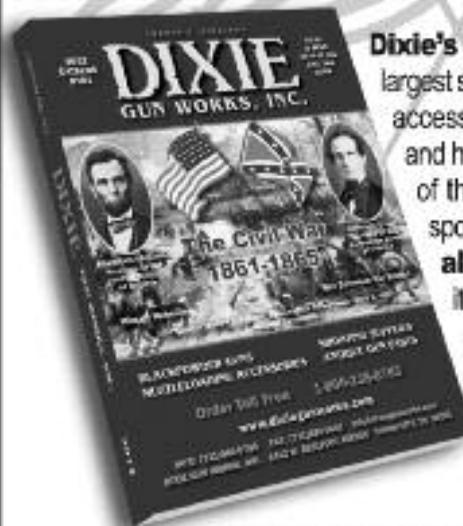


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APRIL 14 - 15, 2012

Smoke in the Woods

SASS Midwest Territorial Blackpowder Championship

By Col. Fletch O'Dubois III, SASS #14224

Middletown, OH – What a day—and what a memorable match! Typical for early spring in Ohio, the weather forecast called for wind and a “chance” of rain on Saturday. Well, that “chance” of rain became a deluge that quickly turned the ground to mud. Just what a “real” cowboy shooting blackpowder really loves. But not to be deterred, competitors from all over the country made their own billowing clouds of that blackpowder smoke at the Middletown Sportsmen’s Club in Middletown, Ohio. Along with the many experienced blackpowder shooters who have been shooting “The Dark Side” for years, there were some novice shooters giving it a try for the first time.

The inaugural Smoke In The Woods Indiana-Ohio State Championship developed into an annual Territorial shoot several years ago. This “smoke up” continues a long history of top-notch events for SASS shooters. The number of blackpowder shooters has grown nationally as well as internationally. Forty-four cowboys and cowgirls assembled on the hill near stage eight for Saturday’s traditional opening ceremonies. Deadwood Stan, President of The Big Irons and recent inductee into the SASS Cowboy Action Shooting™ Hall of Fame, welcomed all the shooters. Lassiter (more on him later) gave the safety briefing and range instructions, and the competition began.

Seven Mile Tom did an outstanding job in developing the shooters’ handbook for this twelve-stage event. Each stage was designed for maximum fun. For example, at stage eight, the Big Irons Corral, there are four tables—two outside entryways to the corral and two inside the entryway. Here the shotgun was staged on either of the outside tables and the rifle on either of the inside tables. The shooter was behind an empty outside table with revolver/revolvers in hand. The call to action was ... “You’ve got a black



heart!” At the beep, the shooter engaged the first revolver target once, second target twice, third target three times, and the fourth target four times. Next came a swift move to the rifle with a repeat of the sequence—one shot on target one, two on two, etc. The shooter then had to move to the shotgun and engage two shotgun targets from any each of two positions. Yes, this was a round count, but every once in a while we could forget the count. It was quick, fun, and gave the shooter some options on how they preferred to complete the stage.

It was quick all right—Lassiter, shooting Gunfighter, managed to shoot this one in 22.82 seconds! Lassiter was also the fastest shooter on eight of the twelve stages with Two Bit Drifter, Mean Gun Mark, Dirty Dale, and Black Jack Beeson rounding out the other four.

The fastest stage was stage eleven, which has a box in the middle with a horse mock up on either side of it. There were three rifle targets, four revolver targets, and four shotgun targets. Here the shooter staged the shotgun on either of the horses and stood behind the box with revolvers holstered and the rifle in hand aimed at the target. The call to action was, “You’ve got a

black eye!” At the beep, the shooter engaged R1 and R3 twice and R2 six times in any order, then got the shotgun and engaged the four shotgun targets in any order. Finally, with the revolver, the shooter engaged P1 and P3 twice each and P2 six times in any order. Shots were whizzing and banging. Lassiter got this one under his belt in 17.91 seconds! Two Bit Drifter in 18.02! The fastest lady was Clementine Valentine shooting Ladies Gunfighter at 22.90. And our Young Gun, Horri-

Winners

Overall Man	Lassiter, SASS #2080	<i>L F Cartridge</i>	Honey B. Quick, SASS #47009
<i>Lady</i>	Honey B. Quick, SASS #47009	<i>L F C Duelist</i>	Gemstone Janet, SASS #47009
Category 49'er	Two Bit Drifter, SASS #32899	<i>L Gunfighter</i>	Clementine Valentine, SASS #66179
<i>Cowboy</i>	Ole Saddlebags, SASS #80963	<i>Pale Rider</i>	Stone Creek Drifter, SASS #58853
<i>C Cowboy</i>	Loco Leadslinger, SASS #66868	<i>PR Gunfighter</i>	Black Jack Beeson, SASS #11523
<i>E Statesman</i>	Darby, SASS #41290	<i>Senior S Duelist</i>	Life-R, SASS #44051
<i>Frontiersman</i>	Split Rail, SASS #24707	<i>S Gunfighter</i>	Smokin' Iron, SASS #22149
<i>F C Duelist</i>	Jackson Rose, SASS #45478	<i>Wrangler</i>	Cripple Creek Kid, SASS #10614
<i>F Cartridge</i>	Dirty Dale, SASS #61545	<i>Young Gun</i>	Mean Gun Mark, SASS #78668
<i>Gunfighter</i>	Lassiter, SASS #2080		Horrible Hogan, SASS #66275



Despite the wind, rain, and mud, seven shooters, Dirty Dale, Honey B. Quick, Jackson Rose, Longshot Ace, Loquacious Loner, Ole Rattlesnake, and Three Gun Jake, were actually able to shoot the match clean!

It was great to see Horrible Hogan (Young Gun) join in the fun this year. I was fortunate to shoot on a posse with him at the Guns of August a while back, and this young guy can shoot! His time of 22.84 on stage ten put a lot of "Ol' Timers" to shame. It was great to see our younger shooter having so much fun. I hope more parents and grandparents will get their youngsters involved in our sport.

What a shoot! To a person, all agreed it was again the hospitality of the Middletown Sportsmen's Club, the Big Irons staff, and the Smoke in the Woods stage designs that made this a very memorable event. Participants

ble Hogan, in 24.22! Spotters couldn't blink, or they might have missed the whole thing!

This year continued the tradition of shooting seven stages on the first day. This afforded competitors and their families the opportunity to be finished shooting early in the day. The remaining five stages were held on day two, so it was easier to attend the awards ceremony and still have time to get home at a relatively decent hour. Hospitality abounded, with the folks at Middletown providing tasty grub for the Saturday evening dinner. Cindy made a mean meal of roast beef, *real* mashed potatoes and homemade gravy, long cut green beans with ham, garden salad, rolls, and carrot cake for dessert. Yum! After sloshing around in wet boots all day, this was a welcome respite. To say a full stomach makes the wicked weather a distant memory is an understatement!

Sunday made up for Saturday with warmer temperatures and a light breeze. The rain had moved off, thank goodness. Miss Bonnie had the previous day's scores posted at the entrance to the stages for everyone to peruse. After two fun-filled and action-packed days of competition, the winners emerged. The low score of 265.84 (just shy of the 258.6 of last year) was posted by Lassiter shooting Gunfighter, and hot on his heels was Dirty Dale shooting 49'er with a score of 299.58. Top Lady was Honey B. Quick shooting Ladies Frontier Cartridge.

plan to spread the word about shooting with the "dark-siders" and have even more of their friends and neighbors come next year. The Middletown Sportsman's Club is the ideal shooting venue for Cowboy Action Shooting™, particularly for those who love to shoot blackpowder. Although it was held early in the month, the Middletown staff had everything under control. The campground was ready for those coming in and setting up motor homes, trailers, and campers. Campers were housed close to the clubhouse with full bathrooms and showers.

You can find the complete match results posted at the Big Irons (www.Bigirons.com) and SASS websites. Please be sure to circle this event on your calendars and start planning to join in the fun next year.

Another event that can't be missed is the annual Guns of August, which is conducted the second week of August, and is also held on the grounds of the Middletown Sportsmen's Club. This year will be the fifteenth anniversary of the event, and it promises to be bigger and better than any before. It continues to be a premier event because of its reputation for fun, friendliness, beautiful setting, and central location. The Guns of August competition will be twelve stages fired over two days. Expanded Cowboy Mounted Shooting will be on the venue as well. Please check out all the details in the



Guns of August announcement.

The Middletown Sportsman's Club can now boast two major SASS events at its wonderful shooting complex. Middletown is easy to get to from anywhere in the country, having two major airports in the vicinity—Dayton and Cincinnati. It is also a great area for a vacation with numerous places to go and things to see within an hour's drive.

The club's address is 6943 Michael Rd, Middletown, Ohio 45402. Telephone: (513) 422-5112; Fax (513) 422-6113. For further information on Smoke in the Woods 2013, The Guns of August 2012, or the host sponsors, The Big Irons, contact Deadwood Stan at 513-422-5112 or Lassiter at 937-687-1039. It's best to check out the Big Irons and SASS websites for up-to-the minute information. 🐾

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

SHOOTIN' ACROSS THE The Rockcastle Rangers and "The James Gang Rides Again"

USA

Tennessee, is surrounded by massive Bald Cypress trees and home to bass, bluegill, and crappie—a fisherman's dream. Bird watching is game #2 due to an impressive resident population of Bald Eagles, Golden Eagles, and songbirds, in addition to the migratory birds using the area. We enjoyed a lakeside campsite with a sunset to remember.

We left Reelfoot Lake enroute to Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. Land Between the Lakes is 170,000 acres located in West Tennessee and Kentucky with Kentucky Lake (Tennessee River) on the West side and Lake Barkley (Cumberland River) on the East side. The United States Department of Agriculture, the US Forest Service, manages 300 miles of undeveloped shoreline, off road vehicle trails,

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

Photos by Sugah, SASS #80446

horseback and hiking trails, hunting, and fishing. There is canoe rental, a planetarium, nature centers, backcountry campsites, and developed campsites with full hookups and showers. We stopped to view the Bison herd, sat in our campsite at Jones Creek, and watched eagles fish for supper, wild turkey foraging, and loads of shore birds.

As seniors with a tendency to wander, we did just that on our way to the Rockcastle Rangers annual shoot at Park City, Kentucky. By Wednesday we were at Park Mammoth Resort with Shaddai Vaquero, SASS #69779, and Vaquero Jake, SASS #69781, ready for their 2nd annual "James Gang Rides Again 2012."

Park Mammoth Resort at the Park City Exit 48 off I-65 is about an hour from Nashville, Tennessee, and an hour south of Louisville, Kentucky. Park Mammoth Resort has 100 guest rooms, an on-site winery, 18-hole golf course, two restaurants, and the Rockcastle Shooting Center. Rockcastle Shooting Center boasts sporting clays, pistol and rifle ranges, USPA, IPSC, IDP IPA, and IBO clubs and is home to the Rockcastle Rangers.

The Rockcastle Rangers club has ten well-built stages. Territorial Governor Shaddai Vaquero and the members of Rockcastle Rangers have developed those stages in cooperation with a number of local businesses that sponsor individual stages. Our thanks go to Tractor Supply, M&B Pawn, Gamaliel Shooting Supply, CPC Farm & Feed Store, Barren Outdoors, and Life Fellowship Church. Good to see the locals investing in this club. The Rockcastle Rangers shoot on the fourth Saturday.

Mammoth Cave National Park is a ten-minute drive from the Rockcastle Rangers range. Mammoth Cave has 392 miles of cave passageways, the world's longest cave. The tours are designed to accommodate most everyone with emphasis on his-



Friends — Buck D. Law and Barkeep Casey

tory, geology, cultural, and natural features. Information is available at www.nps.gov/macac or by calling 270-758-2180. A group of us enjoyed the historic tour, an easy two mile, two-hour tour, since we were saving our energy for shootin'!

The James Gang Rides Again 2012 was held May 25th -May 27th, hosting 119 shooters from Kentucky,



Kid Ziggy driving Amorous Ali

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Slick's Sharp Shooter's Family from Georgia.

Tennessee, Texas, Ohio, Michigan, Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Florida, Mississippi, and Wisconsin. That is darn good for an annual shoot! There was dry camping available at the range, all activities were held on site, and Shaddai brokered a heck of a deal on golf carts at \$20 for the whole match. Match Directors are coming up with awesome ideas for entertainment in addition to shooting matches. This annual hooked us with a gumbo wars cook off won by the Knob Creek Drover, SASS #29843. Knob Creek Drover won, but we all ate! Karaoke has become a standard, and we had T-Bone and a ragged bunch of cowboys loving life and livening up ours! Milk-bone was Saturday night entertainment. We've discovered

Blackwater Desperado, SASS #53393, is a much-loved singer, a vendor, a blackpowder shooter, and the latest—a fabulous dessert maker. His chocolate raspberry and chocolate blackberry desserts were way too good!

First time for seeing Coqueta Vaquera providing massages, and Jess's providing hair care. Each of the ladies donated \$5 for each massage or hairdo to the SASS Scholarship Fund. Love my haircut, and those of us lucky enough to get a massage loved the relief, all for a good cause. Don't know who thought that one up, but good thinking!

If it seems you are hearing more about side trips and extras at the shoots, that may be true. Lots to do, and matches are improving not just in shooting, but in providing things for the whole family to enjoy together. Perfecto Vaquera, SASS #69780, Vaquero Jake, Shaddai Vaquero, and all the members of the Rockcastle Rangers are to be applauded for providing many extras. They should also be applauded for providing a safe, squared away annual match while making 119 shooters happy! Ain't easy. 🤠



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2nd Annual

McSHOOT FOR THE KIDS

By Ozark Bob, SASS #40028 and Evening Star, SASS #47408

Baltimore, MD – Blue skies and pleasant temperatures were in store for the 66 shooters who registered for the Thurmont Rangers Spring Charity/Fun Match. This year was the 2nd annual “McShoot for the Kids” with all proceeds going to support the Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore, Maryland.

The match included six stages where the shooters went head to head with the “Hamburgler” and his sidekick “McKnothead,” being involved in a shootout at the “ride through,” dealing with the theft of



their cappuccino, seeking revenge on the prairie dogs that were eating all the Idaho potatoes, and being ambushed while trying to

unsaddle their horse “McNag.”

Remembering that this was a fundraiser for the Thurmont Rangers favorite charity, we es-

tablished the match fee at \$10. An “Honorary 1st Place” was \$100, an “Honorary Clean Match” was \$50. A “buy a miss” was \$5 and a

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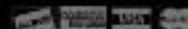
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“buy a procedural” was \$10 (as a side note, due to target type, size, and placement, there were NO actual clean matches).

For an added extra, there was a “Team Match” to determine (as it turned out) the “Fastest Men Alive.”

A catered lunch was provided, courtesy of Stanley Neal, owner, and Connie Rickard, manager, of McDonalds #13648 in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Everyone got a

Happy Meal for lunch!! A big YEEHHAW to Stan and Connie!!

The 2nd annual “McShoot for the Kids” in actuality had 66 winners. Sixty-six cowboys and cowgirls came out and donated their hard earned dollars and through their generosity the Thurmont Rangers were able to write a check for \$2,250 to the Ronald McDonald House of Baltimore.

They are ALL “pards to ride the river with.”



FACTOID

After the Battle of Gettysburg, the discarded rifles were collected and sent to Washington to be inspected and reissued. Of the 37,574 rifles recovered, approximately 24,000 were still loaded; 6,000 had one round in the barrel; 12,000 had two rounds in the barrel; 6,000 had three to ten rounds in the barrel. One rifle, the most remarkable of all, had been stuffed to the top with twenty-three rounds in the barrel!





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THE BUCKSHOT SHELL-E STOPS HERE AT Mid-Valley!

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life / Regulator #4375

Shed, OR – The Sport and Game of Cowboy Action Shooting™ has probably brought more married couples together to enjoy the same game than any other sport I can think of. When you have so many dedicated couples shooting Cowboy Action it becomes very difficult to distinguish one from the other, however, the task becomes less difficult if one concentrates on a particular region as opposed to the entire International community of SASS. Accordingly in this profile article we are looking at a couple of Pacific Northwest shooters whose Cowboy handles have become synonymous with winning and good sportsmanship. They are regarded not only as champions within our sport, but champions within their SASS club and community as well. Okay, so if you haven't guessed by now, let me remove the blinds and reveal the names. I'm talking, of course, about Patrick and Michelle Reagan, better known as Mid Valley Drifter, SASS Regulator #35724, and Buckshot Shell-E, SASS Regulator #37335. For brevity purposes, I will refer to Mid Valley Drifter as Drifter, and Buckshot Shell-E as Shell-E.



Mid Valley Drifter and Shell-E face-off during END of TRAIL 2007 Top Gun Shoot-off.

Let's answer the obvious question first: Patrick Reagan is no relative to that other Reagan known as the "Gipper." He would like to be, but fate would not hear of it, so instead fate appointed him as Match Director and Webmaster of the Oregon Old West Shooting Society located at: www.oowss.com, and also placed him in charge of Badman Bullets, which he and Shell-E purchased in 2008. Both Drifter and Shell-E have added a few trade secrets and loving care to their bullet company and are very proud of the fact less leading and more accuracy are the results. To see for yourself, you are invited to take a look at their inventory and offerings at: www.badmanbullets.com

Drifter started shooting competitively in 2001, and after watching all the fun he was having, Shell-E decided to join him in 2002. Like all championship shooters, they practiced Cowboy Action Shooting™ daily, and it wasn't long before they both won titles as Oregon State and Northwest Regional Champions. Drifter won the Oregon State Championship outright in 2007, and in a memorable 2010 State Championship Shoot was proclaimed Co-Champion with Buffalo Wings Bryan, SASS #58658. In an amazing finish, both shooters shot 12 stages, total time

match, and tied at 236.16 seconds each! An incredible feat, and one we may never see again. Drifter won the Northwest Regional Championship outright in 2009. Shell-E was not to be ignored, and won the Oregon State Championship five years in a row (2006 to 2010)—now that's another feat that will be hard to match.

When queried about shooting titles, both Drifter and Shell-E were quick to point out winning is not about trophies, belt buckles, and awards, it's about maintaining a winning attitude even if you perform poorly. As I heard them say this, I thought of all the championship shooters I have interviewed, and without exception, they all say the same thing—maintain that winning attitude and 'spirit of the game' regardless of how you shoot—it's the Cowboy Way!

Both Drifter and Shell-E were born and raised in Klamath Falls, Oregon (known as K Falls to Oregonians). They attended the same high school and were later married in K Falls in 1988. They have two shooting children: Son Cody, aka Darn Tootin, SASS #42854, and Daughter Kayla, aka Rip Snortin, SASS #42855. The Reagan family resides in Lebanon, Oregon. Both Drifter and Shell-E hold various college degrees: Drifter in Engineering; Heating and Air Conditioning, and Shell-E in Accounting and Bookkeeping.

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Address _____	City _____	ST. _____
Zip _____	Ph# _____	E-Mail _____
Shooter Category _____ (MUST HAVE 3 ENTRIES IN CLASS BY SEPT. 1, 2012 TO RECEIVE AWARDS)		
POSSE PREFERENCE _____ 4 names max.		
Refund requests after September 1, 2012 subject to \$10.00 charge. Cannot guarantee meals after Sept. 1, 2012 Confirmation of entry will be sent by mail or e-mail.		

<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">MAIN & SIDE MATCHES</td> <td style="width: 15%;">\$100.00</td> <td style="width: 15%;">_____ FRI. & SAT. DINNER INCLUDED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SPOUSE</td> <td>\$75.00</td> <td>_____ FRI. & SAT. DINNER INCLUDED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>YOUNG GUN</td> <td>\$50.00</td> <td>_____ FRI. & SAT. DINNER INCLUDED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BUCKAROO</td> <td>\$00.00</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WILD BUNCH EVENT</td> <td>\$15.00</td> <td>_____ FRI.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BLACK POWDER MATCH</td> <td>\$15.00</td> <td>_____ FRI.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EXTRA MEALS (FRI.)</td> <td>\$15.00</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EXTRA MEALS (SAT.)</td> <td>\$15.00</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CAMPING</td> <td>\$15.00</td> <td>_____ NO electric or water (all weekend)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>\$ _____</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	MAIN & SIDE MATCHES	\$100.00	_____ FRI. & SAT. DINNER INCLUDED	SPOUSE	\$75.00	_____ FRI. & SAT. DINNER INCLUDED	YOUNG GUN	\$50.00	_____ FRI. & SAT. DINNER INCLUDED	BUCKAROO	\$00.00	_____	WILD BUNCH EVENT	\$15.00	_____ FRI.	BLACK POWDER MATCH	\$15.00	_____ FRI.	EXTRA MEALS (FRI.)	\$15.00	_____	EXTRA MEALS (SAT.)	\$15.00	_____	CAMPING	\$15.00	_____ NO electric or water (all weekend)	TOTAL	\$ _____		<p>Motel/camping information in confirmation letter</p> <p>CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Janet Block (Thorny Rose) 11241 W. 950 S. Akron, In. 46910 tr32mag@bnetmail.com</p>
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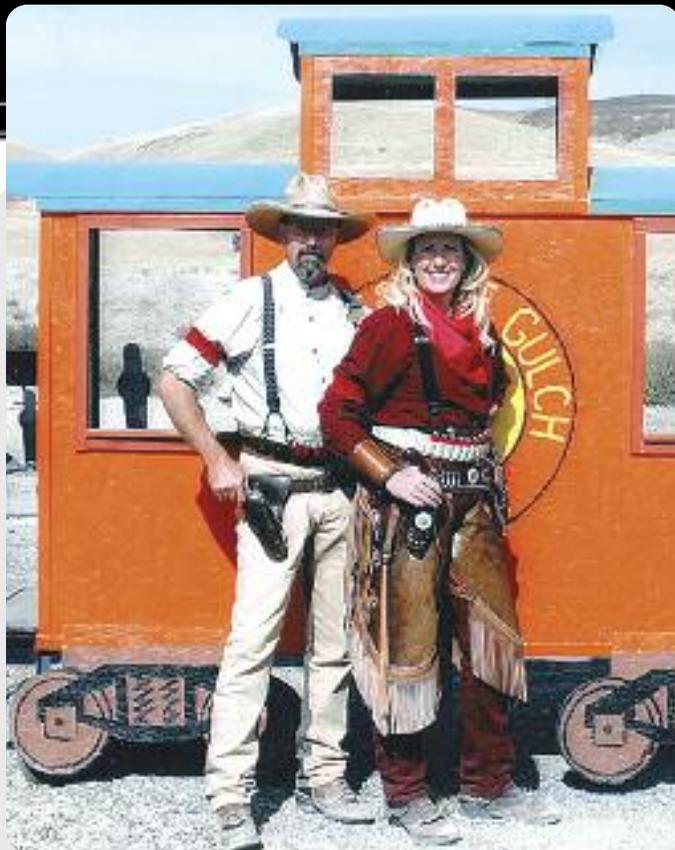
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Together, as mentioned above, they own Badman Bullets. In addition to his Webmaster role, Drifter, as mentioned above, served as Match Director for Oregon's oldest SASS affiliated club, the Oregon Old West Shooting Society. Drifter served in this position during the years 2004 to 2010, while Shell-E served as Club Scorekeeper during the same period.

One of the highlights of their Cowboy careers was to be nominated by their club for the prestigious title of Regulator, and having received their Badges together at END of TRAIL in 2006. I personally have had the honor of shooting with Drifter and Shell-E, and their attitude and spirit are contagious. They have a very positive effect on the entire posse, and that just happens to make everyone's day. They are the epitome of couples who mutually enjoy a sport together—they are the symbols of happy times; good sportsmanship, and the Cowboy Code.

Well Pard, if you have a hankerin' to shoot with Drifter and



*A handsome couple indeed!
Mid Valley Drifter and Buckshot Shell-E at a recent NW Regional Shoot.
Cowboy Action Shooting™ has brought many couples together to enjoy the same sport.
Let's hope we see even more in the future.*

Shell-E, and you just happen to be in the vicinity of Albany or Shed, Oregon where the Oregon Old West Shooting Society shoots every 3rd Sunday and 4th Satur-

day, be sure to drop by. For more information about shooting schedules and contacts, go to website: www.oowss.com and get the scoop. When you arrive there, say hi to

Drifter and Shell-E, and tell 'em Palaver Pete sent you—you're a Daisy if ya do. 🤠



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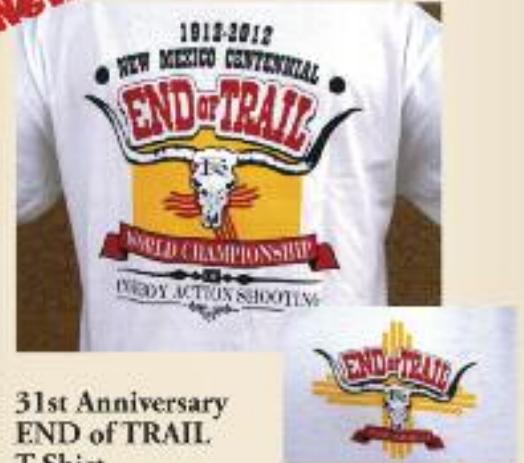
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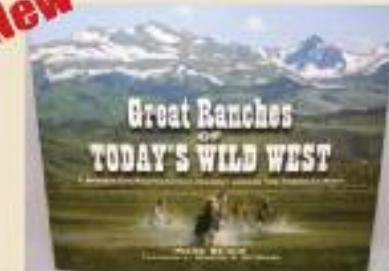
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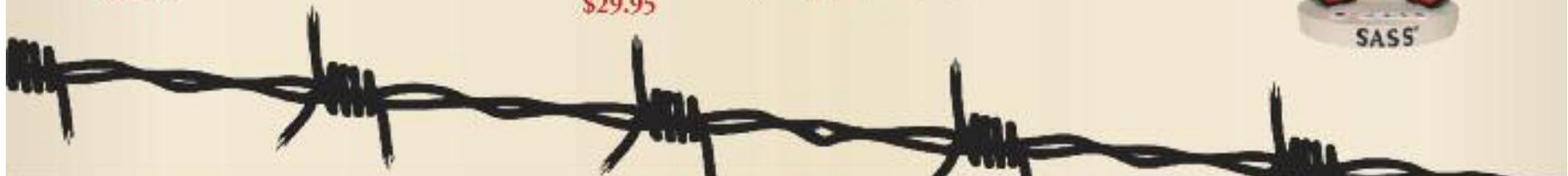
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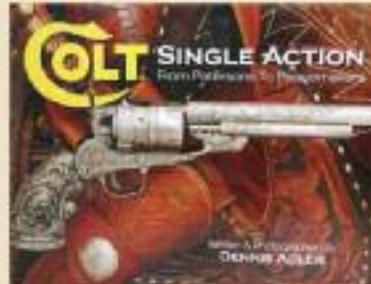
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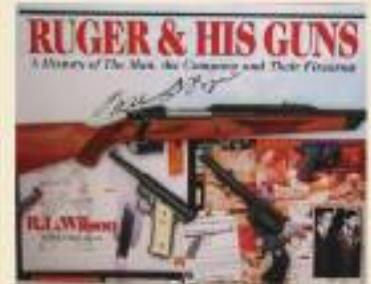
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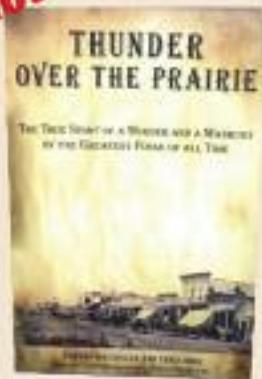
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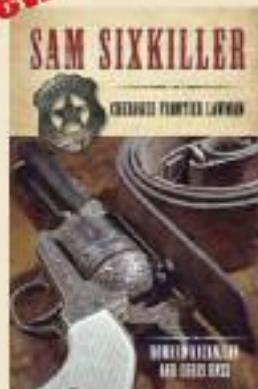
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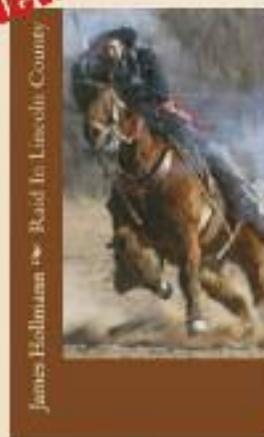
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 by Chris Enss
 The year was 1878. Future legends of the Old West—lawmen Charlie Bassett, Bar Masterson, Wyatt Earp, and Bill Tilghman—patrolled the untidy streets of Dodge City, Kansas, then known as "the wickedest little city in America."
 Thunder Over the Prairie will be produced into a motion picture in the near future. *Get your copy through the SASS mercantile.*
\$14.95

NEW



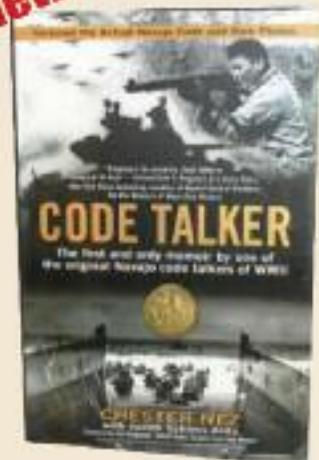
Sam Sixkiller by Chris Enss
 Sam Sixkiller was one of the most accomplished lawmen in 1880s Oklahoma Territory. And in many ways, he was a typical law-enforcement official, minding the peace and gunslinging in the still-wild West. This new biography takes a sweeping, cinematic look at the short, tragic life of Sam Sixkiller and his days policing the streets of the Wild West.
 This is a new release and not in stores yet. *Get your copy through the SASS mercantile.*
\$14.95

NEW



Raid in Lincoln County
 Raid in Lincoln County takes place in the great western American frontier just leading up to the famous Lincoln County War. Although a fictional story of trouble tamed by burning gun powder and hot lead, some names will be recognizable as this story unravels with rich New Mexico history. Written by one of our own, Jim Hollmann has been a longtime SASS life member respected by mounted and ground shooters alike.
\$14.95

NEW



Code Talker
 Code Talker is the memoirs of Chester Nez, one of the last remaining original 29 Navajo Code Talkers of WWII who resides in New Mexico near Founders Ranch. With the help of author Judith Schiess Avila, this piece of history is a fascinating look inside one of WWII's most closely guarded secrets. Included is the actual Navajo Code which became declassified in 1968, 23 years after the end of the war.
\$29.95

Action Target Dueling Tree Practice Target

Two shooters begin, each with three targets on their side of the tree.

At the start command, they fire at the targets on their respective sides.

When a target is hit, it swings over to the opposite side. Trouble is, the other guy is knocking them back over to your side at the same time. The first one with all the targets resting on his side loses. Forget the white gloves and 20 paces because this duel is in your face. If you miss, you lose. If you don't reload fast enough to keep up, you lose. No excuses.

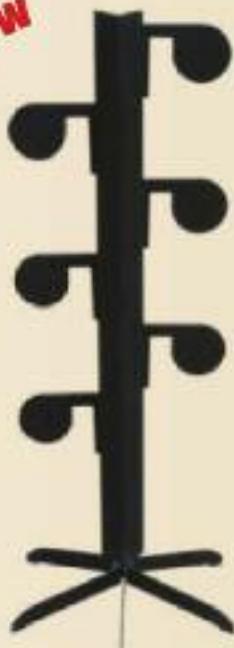
Six target paddles, gravity reset, and a splatter reducing design combine to make this the best dueling tree ever made.

NOTE: The stand and feet are not made of armor steel and may be vulnerable to damage from high power rifle rounds.

Height: 5 feet; Paddles: 6 inch diameter; Handgun: AR500 or AR550 / 10 yards+; Rifle: AR550 / 100 yards+ / below 3,000 fps. **\$399.00**

Action Target is the official target of SASS

New



Action Target Wild Bunch Practice Target

The only thing worse than missing what you shoot at is hitting something you were not supposed to. The Action Target Hostage is a simple but powerful reactive steel tool that simulates a hostile threat hiding behind an innocent bystander. To provide instant and obvious feedback to the shooter, the target plate will swing over to the opposite side each time it is hit. The shooting surface of the Practice Target Hostage is made of through hardened 550 Brinell steel with no exposed bolts, clamps or brackets.

\$280.00

Action Target is the official target of SASS



New



New



Conversion Kits

A 6 round Conversion kit for your Winchester 97 solid frame Cowboy Action Shooting gun. Proven reliability time and Time again.

\$30.00

New



Action Target Evil Roy Practice Target

A portable and durable armor steel target for everyone who loves shooting! The Action Target Evil Roy Practice Target is the best thing to happen to shooting in a very long time.

The portable stand folds to less than 3 feet long in just seconds, so it easily fits in the trunk of even the smallest car. The target head is made of AR500 armor steel so you can shoot it with anything from .22 rimfire to .44 magnum with no damage at all. Our "heavy duty" version is also built to take appropriate rifle rounds* with no damage.

\$115.00

Action Target is the official target of SASS

New



Comes with stand and your choice of head design

Action Target Evil Roy Practice Target 1x2 Holder Option

The beauty of a steel target is that you don't have to waste time changing paper or putting out new tin cans. The head of the Evil Roy Target will "bounce" a little when you hit it, so you get instant positive feedback.

The 1x2 Holder Option allows you to switch your steel target head for a simple clamp that holds two 1" x 2" wooden strips, allowing you to staple or clamp paper and cardboard targets to the 1x2's.

\$195.00

Action Target is the official target of SASS

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
AK					CA (continued)				
Alaska 49er's	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Tripod	907-373-0140	Birchwood	Coyote Valley Cowboys	2nd Sat	Bad Eye Bobolu	408-722-0583	Morgan Hill
Golden Heart Shootist Society	2nd Sat & Last Sun	Wind Drifter	907-457-2113	Fairbanks	Guns in the Sun	2nd Sat	Johnny 2moons	760-346-0972	Palm Springs
Juneau Gold Miners Posse	3rd Sun	Five Card Tanna	907-789-7498	Juneau	Buffalo Runners	2nd Sat	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Rescue
AL					Dulzura Desperados	2nd Sat	Hashknife Willie	619-271-1481	San Diego
North Alabama Regulators	1st Sun	Drake Robey	256-313-0421	Woodville	California Rangers	2nd Sat	Paniolo Lady	916-483-9198	Sloughhouse
Russell County Regulators	1th Sat	Will Killigan	706-568-0869	Phenix City	Double R Bar Regulators	2nd Sun	Five Jacks	760-949-3198	Lucerne Valley
Alabama Rangers	2nd Sun	Dead Horse Phil	205-531-7055	Brierfield	High Sierra Drifters	2nd Sun	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Railroad Flat
Vulcan Long Rifles	3rd Sat	Parson Henry	205-871-4237	Hoover	Richmond Roughriders	2nd Sun	Buffy	650-994-9412	Richmond
AR					Over The Hill Gang (The)	2nd Sun	Kooskia Kid	818-566-7900	Sylmar
Cahaba Cowboys	3rd Sun	Duke Slade	205-854-0843	Birmingham	Bridgeport Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Bee Blest	760-932-1139	Bridgeport
Gallant Gunfighters	3rd Sun	Buck D. Law	256-504-4366	Hoover	Burro Canyon Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Don Trader	714-827-7360	Meyers Canyon
Old York Shootists	4th Sun	Derringer Di	205-647-6925	Hoover	Nevada City Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Marlin Schofield	530-265-9213	Nevada City
AZ					North County Shootist Assoc.	3rd Sat	Graybeard	760-727-9160	Pala
White River Gang Home	1st Sat	Arkansas Tom	870-656-8431	Mountain	Shasta Regulators	3rd Sat	Modoc	530-365-1839	Redding
Critter Creek Citizens Vigilance	1st Sun	Evil Bob	903-701-3970	Fourke	Robbers Roost Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Nasty Newt	760-375-7618	Ridgecrest
Mountain Valley Vigilantes	1st Wkd	Christmas Kid	501-625-3554	Hot Springs	Gold Country Wild Bunch	3rd Sat	Sutter Lawman	530-713-4194	Sloughhouse
Outlaw Camp	2nd & 5th Sat	Ozark Outlaw	501-362-2963	Heber Springs	High Desert Cowboys	3rd Sun	Doc Silverhawks	661-948-2543	Acton
Arkansas Lead Slingers	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Dirty Dan	479-633-2107	Garfield	Kings River Regulators	3rd Sun	Slick Rock Rooster	559-299-8669	Clovis
South Fork River Regulators	3rd Sat	Arkansas Harper	870-994-7227	Salem	Panorama Northfield Raiders	3rd Sun	Gun Hawk	818-761-0512	North Hollywood
Judge Parker's Marshals	3rd Sat & Sun	Naildriver	479-651-2475	Fort Smith	South Coast Rangers	3rd Sun	Swiftly Schofield	805-886-3360	Santa Barbara
True Grit SASS	4th Sun	Sister Sundance	479-970-7042	Belleville	Murieta Posse	3rd Sun	Grizzly Peak Jake	530-676-2997	Sloughhouse
CA					Ukiah Gun Club	3rd Sun	Will Bonner	707-462-1466	Ukiah
White Mountain Old West Shootists	1st & 3rd Sat	Mustang Lady Sue	928-243-3457	Snowflake	Hawkinsville Claim Jumpers	4th & 5th Sat	Lethal Les L'Amour	530-842-4506	Yreka
Cowtown Wild Bunch Shooters	1st Sat	Wild Bodie Tom	602-721-3175	Carefree	Mad River Rangers	4th Sat	Kid Kneestone	707-445-1981	Blue Lake
Rio Salado Cowboy Action Shooting Society	1st Sat	A. J. Bob	480-982-7336	Mesa	Coyote Valley Sharpshooters	4th Sat	Wif	408-448-3256	San Jose
Old Pueblo Shootist Association	1st Sun	Gilly Boy	520-249-2831	Tombstone	Pozo River Vigilance Committee	4th Sat	Dirty Sally	805-438-4817	Santa Margarita
Cowtown Cowboy Shooters	1st Sun & 3rd Sat	Barbwire	480-773-2753	Phoenix	California Shady Ladies	4th Sat	Lady Gambler	916-447-2040	Sloughhouse
Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association	2nd Sat	Deputy Curly	602-487-9728	Phoenix	FaultLine Shootist Society	4th Sun	Querida	831-635-9147	Gonzales
Whiskey Row Gunslingers	2nd Sun	Turquoise Bill	928-925-7323	Prescott	The Range	4th Sun	Grass V.Federally	530-273-4440	Grass Valley
Colorado River Regulators	2nd Sun & 4th Sat	Crowheart	928-505-2200	Lake Havasu	The Cowboys	4th Sun	Captain Jake	714-318-6948	Norco
Lake Powell Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Bare Fist Jack	928-660-2104	Page	Deadwood Drifters	4th Sun	Lusty Lil	661-775-3802	Piru
Los Vaqueros	3rd Sat	Buckeye Pete	520-548-8298	Tucson	Sloughhouse Irregulars	5th Sat & Sun	Badlands Bud	530-677-0368	Sloughhouse
Tonto Rim Marauders	3rd Sun	Silverado Cid	928-595-1230	Payson	Colorado Cowboys	1st Sat	El Gato Gordo	719-683-6713	Lake George
Mohave Marshalls	3rd Sun & 5th Sat	D B Chester	928-231-9013	Kingman	Colorado Shaketails	1st Sun	Midnite Slim	719-660-2742	Fontain
Altar Valley Pistoleros	3rd Sun & 5th Sun	Mean Raylean	520-235-0394	Tucson	San Juan Rangers	1st Sun	Kodiak Kid	970-252-1841	Montrose
Arizona Yavapai Rangers	4th Sat	Whisperin Meadows	928-567-9227	Camp Verde	Windygap Regulators	1st Wkd	Piedra Kidd	970-799-1133	Cortez
Dusty Bunch Old Western Shooters	4th Sat	Squibber	520-568-2852	Casa Grande	Vigilantes	2nd Sat	Grizz Bear	719-545-9463	Pueblo
Tombstone Buscaderos	4th Sat	Diamond Pak	520-780-4852	Tombstone	Four Corners Rifle and Pistol Club	2nd Sun	Capt. W. K. Kelso	970-565-3840	Cortez
Colorado River Shootists	4th Sun	Boston Anniebelle	928-502-1298	Yuma	Montrose Marshals	2nd Sun	Big Hat	970-249-7701	Montrose
CA					Ben Lomond High Plains Drifters	2nd Sun	Sand River Slim	303-771-1920	Ramah
Sunnyvale Regulators	1st & 3rd Mon Night	Shaniko Jack	650-464-3764	Cupertino	Castle Peak Wildshots	2nd Wkd	Old Squinteye	970-524-9348	Gypsum
West End Outlaws	1st & 3rd Sat	Chickamauga Charlie	951-549-9304	Lytle Creek	Pawnee Station	3rd Sat	Red Creek Dick Martin	303-857-0520	Nunn
Silver Queen Mine Regulators	1st & 3rd Sun	T. E. Kidd	562-598-7771	Azusa	Rockvale Bunch	3rd Sat	Mister	719-784-1342	Rockvale
Escondido Bandidos	1st Sat	Devil Jack	760-741-3229	Escondido	Four Corners Gunslingers	3rd Sun	Cereza Slim	970-247-0745	Durango
The Outlaws	1st Sat	Terrell Sackett	916-363-1648	Sacramento	Thunder Mountain Shootists	3rd Wkd	Pinto Being	970-464-7118	Grand Junction
Lassen Regulators	1st Sat	Chief Wages	530-257-3402	Susanville	Briggsdale County Shootist	4th Sat	Kid Bucklin	970-493-1813	Briggsdale
Two Rivers Posse	1st Sat & 4th Sun	Dragon	209-836-4042	Manteca	Northwest Colorado Rangers	4th Sat	Sagebrush Burns	970-824-8407	Craig
River City Regulators	1st Sun	Point of Orgin	530-304-5616	Davis	Sand Creek Raiders	4th Sun	Sweet Water Bill	303-366-8827	Byers
Mother Lode Shootist Society	1st Sun	Sioux City Kid	209-795-4175	Jamestown	Black Canyon Ghost Riders	4th Sun	Double Bit	970-874-8745	Hotchkiss
Hole In The Wall Gang	1st Sun	Frito Bandito	661-406-6001	Piru	CT				
5 Dogs Creek	1st Wkd	Mad Trapper of Rat River	661-589-7472	Bakersfield	Ledyard Sidewinders	1st Sat	Yosemite Gene	860-536-0887	Ledyard
Cajon Cowboys	2nd & 4th Sat	Pasture Patti	760-956-8852	Devore	CT Valley Bushwackers	2nd Sun	Milo Sierra	860-508-2686	East Granby
Chorro Valley Regulators	2nd & 5th Sun	Mad Dog McCoy	805-440-7847	San Luis Obispo	DE				
Shasta Regulators Of Hat Creek	2nd Sat	Cayenne Pepper	530-275-3158	Burney	Padens Posse	3rd Sun	Hazel Pepper	302-422-6534	Bridgeville
FL					Gold Coast Gunslingers	1st Sat	George Washington McLintock	786-256-9542	Fort Lauderdale
GA					Ghost Town Gunslingers	1st Sat	Copenhagen	904-808-8559	St. Augustine
HI					Hernando County Regulators	1st Sun	Shady Brady	352-686-1055	Brooksville
IA					Miakka Misfits	1st Sun	Deadlee Headlee	941-650-8920	Myakka City
IL					Fort White Cowboy Cavalry	2nd Sat	Deadly Sharpshoot	352-317-6284	Fort White
IN					Okeechobee Marshals	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Kid Celero	561-312-9075	Okeechobee
KS					Tater Hill Gunfighters	2nd Sun	Judge JD Justice	941-629-4440	Arcadia
KY					Weewahootee Vigilance Committee	2nd Sun	Conway Kid	407-273-9763	Orlando
LA					Panhandle Cowboys	2nd Sun	High Card	850-492-5162	Pensacola
MO					Southwest Florida Gunslingers	3rd Sat	Jed Lewis	239-455-4788	Punta Gorda
MT					Big Bend Bushwhackers	3rd Sat	Sixpence Kid	850-459-1107	Tallahassee
ND					Lake County Pistoleros	3rd Wkd	Arcadia Outlaw	352-208-2788	Tavares

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
FL (continued)				
Cowford Regulators	4th Sat	General Lee Smokey	904-803-2930	Jacksonville
Indian River Regulators	4th Sat	Belligerent Orney Bob	321-403-2940	Palm Bay
Panhandle Cattle Company	4th Sat	Desperado Dale	850-832-2837	Port St. Joe
OK Corral Outlaws	4th Sun	Kokomo Kid	863-357-2226	Okeechobee
Five County Regulators	4th Sun	Jed Lewis	239-455-4788	Punta Gorda
Doodle Hill Regulators	4th Sun	Dave Smith	813-645-3828	Ruskin
Antelope Junction Rangers	Fri nite & 2nd Sat	Mayeye Rider	727-736-3977	Pineallas Park
GA				
River Bend Rough Riders	1st Sat	Done Gone	770-361-6966	Dawsonville
American Old West Cowboys	1st Sat	Josey Buckhorn	423-236-5281	Flintstone
Valdosta Vigilance Committee	1st Sat	Big Boyd	229-244-3161	Valdosta
Lonesome Valley Regulators	1st Sun	Wishbone Hooper	478-922-9384	Warner Robins
Providence Springs Rangers	2nd Sat	Buckshot Bob	229-924-0997	Anderson
Piedmont Regulators	2nd Sat	Chase Randall	864-637-8873	Eastanollee
Doc Holliday's Immortals	2nd Sat	Easy Rider	770-954-9696	Griffin
Camden County Cowboys	2nd Sat	Christian Mortician	912-227-5683	Kingsland
South River Shootists	3rd Sat	Man From Little River	678-428-4240	Covington
Tennessee Mountain Marauders	3rd Sat	Trail Bones	423-842-6116	Ringgold
Cherokee Cowboys	4th Sat	Bad Lands Bob	706-654-0828	Gainesville
HI				
Maui Marshals	1st & 3rd Sat	Bad Burt	808-875-9085	Maui
Big Island Paniolos	3rd Sat	Paniolo Annie	808-640-3949	Ocean View
Single Action Shootist of Hawaii	4th Sun	Brandebuck	808-351-9260	Honolulu
IA				
Turkeyfoot Cowboys	1st Sat	Ranger Mathias Fischels	319-234-1550	Elk Run Heights
Fort Des Moines Rangers	1st Sun	Pit Mule	515-205-0557	Indianola
Zen Shootists	2nd Sat	Renegade Slim	515-987-0721	Nevada
Outlaw's Run	2nd Sun	Capt. Jim Midnight	712-623-5726	Red Oak
ID				
Gunslingers of Flaming Heart Ranch	1st Sat	Jughandle Jack	208-634-3121	Council
Squaw Butte Regulators	1st Sun	Acequia Kidd	208-365-4551	Emmett
Border Marauders	1st Sun & 4th Sat	Mud Marine	208-627-8377	East Port
El Buscaderos	2nd & 4th Sun	Oddman	208-437-0496	Spirit Lake
Northwest Shadow Riders	2nd Sat	Silverado Belle	208-743-5765	Lewiston
Southern Idaho Rangers	2nd Sat	Gordo Perro	208-234-7121	Pocatello
Oregon Trail Rough Riders	2nd Sun & 3rd Sat	John Bear	208-562-1914	Boise
Hells Canyon Ghost Riders	3rd Sat	J.P. Sloe	208-798-0826	Moscow
Twin Butte Bunch	3rd Sat	Idaho Packer	208-589-5941	Rexburg
Panhandle Regulators	3rd Sun	Halfcocked Otis	509-991-5842	Otis Orchards
Snake River Western Shooting Society	4th Sat	White Eyes	208-734-8440	Jerome
IL				
Shady Creek Shootists	1st & 4th Sun	Dapper Dan Porter	309-734-2324	Little York
Lakewood Marshal's	1st Sat	Pine Ridge Jack	618-838-9410	Cisne
Rangeless Riders	1st Sat	The Inspector	618-345-5048	Highland
Kishwaukee Valley Regulators	1st Sun	Snakes Morgan	815-751-3716	Sycamore
Free Grazers	2nd Sat	Fossil Creek Bob	217-821-3134	Effingham
Tri County Cowboys	2nd Sat	Sierra Hombre	815-967-6333	Hazelhurst
Kaskaskia Cowboys	2nd Sat	Beaucoup Joe	618-521-3619	Sparta
Illinois River City Regulators	2nd Sun	Granville Stuart	309-243-7236	Chillicothe
Vermilion River Long Riders	2nd Sun	Lead Poison Lar	815-875-3674	Leonore
Nason Mining Company Regulators	3rd & 5th Sat	Diggins Dave	618-927-0594	Benton
McLean County Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Marshall RD	309-379-4331	Bloomington
Litchfield Sportsman's Club	3rd Sat	Ross Haney	618-667-9819	Litchfield
Illowa Irregulars	3rd Sun	Shamrock Sis	309-798-2635	Milan
Fort Beggs Defenders	3rd Sun	Torandado	815-302-8305	Plainfield
Long Nine Cowboys	4th & 5th Sun	Lemon Drop Kid	217-787-4877	Loami
Good Guys Posse	4th Sun	Dangerous Denny	815-245-7264	Rockford
Salt River Renegades	As Sch	Lily Mae	217-985-4915	Barry
IN				
Daleville Desperados	1st Sat	Flat Water Bob	765-284-0405	Daleville
Cutter's Raiders	1st Sat	Midnite Desperado	574-893-7214	Warsaw
Atlanta Cattle Company	2nd Sat	Bear Creek Reverend	765-652-1525	Atlanta

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
IN (continued)				
Pleasant Valley Renegades	2nd Sat	Nomore Slim	812-839-3052	Canaan
Schuster's Rangers	2nd Sun	Coal Car Kid	219-759-3498	Chesterton
Pine Ridge Regulators	3rd Sat	Riverboat Gambler	765-832-7253	Brazil
Wolff's Rowdy Rangers	3rd Sat	Justice D. Spencer	574-264-2012	Bristol
Circle R Cowboys	3rd Sat	Mustang Bill	219-279-2781	Brookston
Wabash Rangers	4th Sat	Henry Remington	217-267-2820	Cayuga
Starke County Desert	4th Sat	Whip Mccord	219-942-5859	Knox
Big Rock SASS	4th Sat	Southpaw Too	812-866-2406	Lexington
Red Brush Raiders	4th Sat	Doc Goodluck	812-721-1188	Newburgh
Deer Creek Regulators	4th Sun	Doc Molar	765-506-0344	Jonesboro
Wildwood Wranglers	4th Sun	Voodooman	219-872-2721	Michigan City
Westside Renegades	As Sch	Johnny Banjo	812-430-6421	Evansville
Indiana Black Powder Guild	As Sch	C. C. Top	574-354-7186	Etna Green
KS				
Butterfield Gulch Gang	1st Sun	Kanasa Flatlander	785-493-5682	Chapman
Powder Creek Cowboys	2nd & 4th Sat & 4th Wed	El Dorado Wayne	913-686-5314	Lenexa
Mill Brook Wranglers	2nd Sun	Grandpa Buckten Millbrook	785-421-2537	Hill City
Free State Rangers	3rd & 5th Sun	Buffalo Phil	913-904-8733	Parker
Sandhill Regulators	3rd Sat	MoundRidge Goat Roper	620-345-3151	Hutchinson
Capital City Cowboys	4th Sun	Top	785-313-0894	Topeka
Chisholm Trail Rowdies	4th Sun	Cody Wyatt	316-204-1784	Wichita
KY				
Kentucky Regulators	1st Sat	Derby	270-489-2089	Boaz
Hooten Old Town Regulators	1st Sat	Double Eagle Dave	423-309-4146	Mckee
Knob Creek Gunfighters Guild	1st Sun	Buck Shot Jock	502-543-8439	West Point
Green River Gunslingers	2nd Sat	Yak	270-792-9001	Bowling
Ponderosa Pines Posse	3rd Sat	Copperhead Joe	606-599-5263	Manchester
Ohio River Rangers	3rd Sat	George Rogers	270-554-1501	Paducah
Breathitt Bandits	4th Sat	Slowly Bu Surely	606-666-4663	Jackson
Rockcastle Rangers	4th Sat	Perfecto Vaquera	406-231-2359	Park City
Levisa Fork Lead Slingers	4th Sun	Escopeta Jake	606-631-4613	Pikeville
Fox Bend Peacemakers	4th Sun	Tocala Sam	859-552-9000	Wilmore
LA				
Deadwood Marshals	1st & 3rd Sat	Doc Spudley	504-467-6062	Sorrento
Up The Creek Gang	2nd & 4th Sat	Hardly Able	337-474-5058	Lake Charles
Cypress Creek Cowboys	2nd Sat	Smokey Shane	318-381-4840	Downsville
Guns of Sabine Pass	3rd Sat	Hobbel-A-Long	337-463-5690	Hineston
Grand Ecore Vigilantes	3rd Sat	Ouachita Kid	318-932-6637	Natchitoches
Jackson Hole Regulators	4th Sat	Slick McClade	318-395-2224	Quitman
MA				
Cape Cod Cowboys	4th Sat	Curly Jay Brooks	508-477-9771	Mashpee
Shawsheen River Rangers	As Sch	Yukon Willie	978-663-3342	Bedford
Harvard Ghost Riders	As Sch	Double R Bar Kid	978-771-9190	Harvard
Danvers Desperados	As Sch	Cyrus Cy Klopops	781-667-2857	Middleton
Gunnysackers	Sat	Nantucket Dawn	781-749-6951	Scituate
MD				
Eas'dern Shore Renegades	1st Sat	Teton Tracy	302-378-7854	Sudlersville
Thurmont Rangers	1st Sun	Cash Caldwell	240-285-7673	Thurmont
Monocacy Irregulars	2nd Sat	Church Key	304-229-8266	Frederick
Damascus Wildlife Rangers	4th Sat	Chuckaroo	301-831-9666	Damascus
ME				
Big Pine Bounty Hunters	As Sch	Ripley Scrounger	207-876-4928	Willmantic
Capitol City Vigilance Committee	As Sch	Mark Lake	207-622-9400	Augusta
Beaver Creek Desperados	As Sch	Jimmy Reb	207-698-4436	Berwick
Hurricane Valley Rangers	As Sch	Leo	207-829-3092	Falmouth
MI				
Rockford Regulators	1st Sat	No Cattle	616-363-2827	Rockford
Blue Water Gunslingers	1st Sun	Buggyman	810-434-9597	Kimball
River Bend Rangers	2nd Sat	Pitmaster	574-276-8805	Niles
Double Barrel Gang	2nd Sat.	Dakota Fats	269-721-8190	Hastings
Butcher Butte Bunch	2nd Sun	Grubby Hardrock	810-750-0655	Fenton
Sucker Creek Saddle & Gun Club	3rd Sat	Kid Al Fred	989-832-8426	Breckenridge
Chippewa Regulators	3rd Sat	No Name Justice	906-632-1254	Sault Ste.
Marie Hidden Valley Cowboys	3rd Sun	Saulk Valley Stubby	269-651-5197	Sturgis
Rocky River Regulators	3rd Sun	Terrebonne Bud	248-709-5254	Utica
Eagleville Cowboys	4th Sat	One Son of A Gun	231-676-0922	Central Lake
Johnson Creek Regulators	4th Sat	Rainmaker Ray	313-618-2577	Plymouth
Mason County Marshals	4th Sat	Two Gun Troll	231-343-2580	Scottsville
Wolverine Rangers	As Sch	R.J. Law	248-828-0440	Port Huron
Saginaw Field & Stream Club	As Sch	Bad River Marty	989-585-3292	Saginaw

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
MI (continued)					NJ				
Lapeer County Sportsmans Club Wranglers	Sun	Flat Water Johnny	314-378-5689	Attica	Thumbusters	2nd Sun	Ol' Sea Dog	732-892-7272	Monmouth
MN					Jackson Hole Gang	4th Sun	Papa Grey	732-961-6834	Jackson
Cedar Valley Vigilantes	1st & 3rd Sat	D M Yankee	612-701-9719	Morristown	NM				
Crow River Rangers	1st Sun	Cantankerous Jeb	763-682-3710	Howard Lake	Magdalena Trail Drivers	1st & 3rd Sat	Grizzly Adams	575-854-2488	Magdalena
Granite City Gunslingers	2nd & 5th Sat	Amen Straight	612-723-2313	Saint Cloud	Rio Rancho Regulators	1st & 4th Sat	Sam Brannan	505-400-2468	Rio Rancho
Lone Rock Rangers	2nd Sat	Red Dutchman	651-402-0368	Farmington	Otero Practical Shooting Association	1st Sat	Saguaro Sam	505-437-3663	La Luz
Lookout Mountain Gunsmoke Society	2nd Sat	Wagonmaster	218-744-4694	Virginia	Buffalo Range Riders	1st Sun	Shanley Shooter	505-252-0589	Founders Ranch
Fort Belmont Regulators	2nd Sun	Mule Town Jack	507-840-0883	Jackson	Chisum Cowboy Gun Club	1st Sun	Two Bit Tammy	575-626-9201	Roswell
East Grand Forks Rod & Gun Club	3rd Sun	BB Gunner	218-779-8555	East Grand Forks	Bighorn Vigilantes	2nd Sat	Lawdog Bob	505-883-8829	Edgewood
Ike's Clantons	4th Sun	Dawgnapper	320-275-2052	New Ulm	High Desert Drifters	2nd Sat	Shakey Shooter	505-294-3233	Edgewood
MO					Lincoln County Regulators	2nd Sat	Frank Coe	575-808-1329	Ruidoso
Ozark Posse (The)	1st Sat	Tightwad Swede	417-846-5142	Cassville	Buffalo Range Riders Wild Bunch	2nd Sun	Tijeras Pete	505-227-1449	Founders Ranch
West Plains Waddies	2nd & 5th Sat	Buckshot Baby	417-284-1432	Tecumseh	Rio Grande Renegades	2nd Wed, 3rd Sat, 4th Sun, 5th Sat & Sun	Mica McGuire	505-263-1181	Albuquerque
Moniteau Creek River Raiders	2nd Sun	Doolin Riggs	573-687-3103	Fayette	Gila Rangers	2nd Wkd	Chico Cheech	575-388-2531	Silver City
Gateway Shootist Society	3rd Sun	Bounty Seeker	314-740-4665	St. Louis	Monticello Range Riders	3rd & 5th Sun	J. W. Brockey	575-744-4484	Elephant Butte
Central Ozarks Western Shooters	3rd Sun	X. S. Chance	573-765-5483	St. Robert	Seven Rivers Regulators	3rd Sat	Stink Creek Jones	575-885-9879	Carlsbad
Butterfield Trail Cowboys	4th Wkd	Smokie	417-759-9114	Walnut Shade	Monument Springs	4th Sat	Val Darrant	575-396-5303	Hobbs
Southern Missouri Rangers	4th Wkd	Pecos Steve	417-770-7516	Willard	Bushwhackers				
MS					Picacho Posse	4th Sat	Fast Hammer	575-647-3434	Las Cruces
Natchez Sixgunners	1st Sat	Winchester	601-445-5223	Natchez	Tres Rios Bandidos	4th Sun	Largo Casey	505-330-2489	Farmington
Mississippi Peacemakers	3rd Sat	Woodie B. Western	601-214-4009	Mendenhall	Rio Vaqueros	4th Sun	Anna Sassin	575-744-5793	Truth or Consequences
Mississippi River Rangers	4th & 5th Sat	Easy Lee	901-413-5615	Byhalia	NV				
MT					Fort Halleck Volunteers	1st & 3rd Sat	Green Springs Thomsen	775-753-8203	Elko
Honorable Road Agents Shooting Society	1st Sat	Diamond Red	406-685-3618	Ennis	High Plains Drifters	1st Sun	Irish Ike	775-424-2336	Fernley
Gallatin Valley Regulators	1st Sat	Gooch Hill Drifter	406-763-4268	Logan	Eldorado Cowboys	1st Wkd	Charming	702-565-3736	Boulder City
Sun River Rangers Shooting Society	1st Sun & 4th Sat	Montana Lil' Skeeter	406-761-0896	Simms	Lone Wolf Shooters	2nd & 5th Sun	Penny Pepperbox	775-727-4600	Pahrump
Rocky Mountain Rangers	2nd Wkd	Jocko	406-847-0745	Noxon	Nevada Rangers Cowboy Action Shooting Society	2nd Sun	MT Fargo	702-460-6393	Las Vegas
Bigfork Buscaderos	3rd Sat	Bodie Camp	406-883-6797	Bigfork	Roop County Cowboy Shooters Assn.	2nd Sun	Russ T. Chambers	775-747-1426	Sparks
Last Chance Handgunners	3rd Sat	Bocephus Bandito	406-439-4476	Boulder	Silver State Shootists	3rd Sun	Shotgun Marshall	775-265-0267	Carson City
Custer County Stranglers	3rd Sat	Hartshot	406-232-0727	Miles City	Desert Desperados	3rd Sun	Buffalo Sam	702-459-6454	Las Vegas
Montana Territory Peacemakers	4th Sat	Backstrap Bill	406-652-6158	Billings	NY				
Lincoln County Regulators	4th Sat	Lady Belle	406-889-3658	Eureka	Alabama Gunslingers	1st Sat	Bum Thumb	585-343-3906	Alabama
NC					Tioga County Cowboys	1st Sat	Dusty Drifter	607-659-3819	Owego
Neuse River Regulators	1st & 3rd Sat	Paddi MacGarrett	910-938-3682	New Bern	Boot Hill Regulators	1st Sun	Judge Zaney Grey	845-352-7921	Chester
Old Hickory Regulators	1st Sat	Wendover Kid	252-908-0098	Rocky Mount	Pathfinder Pistoleros	1st Sun	Sonny	315-695-7032	Fulton
Walnut Grove Rangers	1st Sat	Hiem	828-245-5563	Rutherfordton	Crumhorn Mountain Cowboys	1st Sun	Lefty Cooper	607-287-9261	Maryland
Old North State Posse	1st Sat	Tracker Mike	336-595-8853	Salisbury	Salt Port Vigilance Committee	2nd Sat	Twelve Bore	585-613-8046	Holley
Carolina Rough Riders	1st Sun	Pecos Pete	704-394-1859	Charlotte	Bar-20 Inc.	2nd Sat	Badlands Buck	315-637-3492	West Eaton
Carolina Single Action Shooting Society	2nd & 5th Sun	Carolina's Longarm	919-383-7567	Eden	Border Rangers	2nd Sun	Dammit Dick	607-724-6216	Greene
High Country Cowboys	2nd Sat	Wild Otter	828-423-7796	Asheville	Hole In The Wall Gang	3rd Sat	El Fusilero	631-864-1035	Calverton
Carolina Cattlemen's Shooting and Social Society	2nd Sat	Wicked Wanda	919-266-1678	Creedmore	Diamond Four	3rd Sat	Kayutah Kid	607-796-0573	Odessa
Buccaneer Range Regulators	2nd Sat	Jefro	910-327-2197	Wilmington	Circle K Regulators	3rd Sun	Smokehouse Dan	518-885-3758	Ballston Spa
Bostic Vigilantes	2th Sat	Bostic Kid	704-434-2174	Bostic	Sockets Harbor Vigilantes	4th Sun	Ranger Clayton Conagher	315-465-6543	Sockets Harbor
Gunpowder Creek Regulators	3rd Sat	Fannie Kikinshoot	828-754-1884	Lenoir	The Long Riders	4th Sun	Loco Poco Lobo	585-467-4429	Shortsville
Cross Creek Cowboys	3rd Sat	Huckleberry Mike	910-980-0572	Wagram	D Bar D Wranglers	4th Sun	Captain M.A.F	845-226-8611	Wappingers Fall
Piedmont Gunslingers	3rd Sun	A. R. Stoner	336-922-1900	Churchland	Mythical Rough Riders	5th Sun	Rev Dave Clayton	716-838-4286	Hamburg
Flat Branch Ranch	4th Sat	Twelve Mile Bluff	910-480-9609	Fayetteville	The Shadow Riders	As Sch	Dusty Levis	646-284-4010	Westhampton Beach
Iredell Regulators	4th Sat	Charlotte	704-902-1796	Statesville	East End Regulators	Last Sun	Diamond Rio	631-585-1936	Westhampton
ND					OH				
Trestle Valley Rangers	2nd Sat	Doc Hell	701-852-1697	Minot	Big Irons	1st Sat	Deadwood Stan	513-894-3500	Middletown
Badlands Bandits	3rd Sat	Roughrider Ray	701-260-0347	Belfield	Middletown Sportsmens Club	1st Sat	Deadwood Stan	513-894-3500	Middletown
Dakota Rough Riders	As Sch	Blake Stone	701-250-0673	Moffit	Tusco Long Riders	1st Sat	Split Rail	330-364-6185	Midvale
Sheyenne Valley Peacekeepers	Last Sat	Wild River Rose	701-588-4331	Kindred	Greene County Cowboys	1st Sun	Ruger Ray	937-352-6420	Xenia
NE					Granger Hill Regulators	1st Sun	Barbwire Pete	740-450-8650	Zanesville
Platte Valley Gunslingers	1st Sun	Firewater	308-226-2255	Grand Island	Firelands Peacemakers	1st Wed, 3rd Sat & 5th Sun	Angry Angus	440-647-5909	Rochester
Alliance Cowboy Club	2nd Sun	Panhandle Slim Miles	308-760-0568	Alliance	Sandusky County Regulators	2nd Sat	Curtice Clay	419-836-8760	Gibsonburg
Eastern Nebraska Gun Club	2nd Sun	Flint Valdez	712-323-8996	Louisville	Shenango River Rats	2nd Sat & Last Thurs	Shenango Joe	330-782-0958	Yankee Lake
Flat Water Shootists of the Grand Island Rifle Club	3rd Sun	Fortyfour Maggie	308-383-4605	Grand Island	Miami Valley Cowboys	2nd Sun	Buckshot Jones	937-418-7816	Piqua
NH					Scioto Territory Desperados	3rd & 5th Sun	Pickaway Tracker	740-477-1881	Chillicothe
The Dalton Gang Shooting Club of NH	3rd Wkd	Littleton S. Dalton	603-444-6876	Dalton	Wilmington Rough Riders	3rd Sat	Paragon Pete	740-626-7667	Wilmington
White Mountain Regulators	As Sch	Dead Head	603-772-2358	Candia					
Merrimack Valley Marauders	As Sch	Sheriff R. P. Bucket	603-345-6876	Pelham					

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City	Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
OH (continued)					SD (continued)				
AuGlaize Rough Riders	3rd Sun	Deputy Diamond Desperado	419-722-6345	Defiance	Bald Mountain Renegades	As Sch	Cottonwood Cooter	605-280-1413	Faulkton
Ohio Valley Vigilantes	4th Sat	Ole Saddlebags	614-323-4500	Mt. Vernon	TN				
Central Ohio Cowboys	4th Sun	Stagecoach Hannah	614-868-9821	Circleville	Bitter Creek Rangers	1st 2nd & 3rd Sun	John B. "Kid" Latham	931-456-4897	Crossville
Big Irons Mounted Rangers	As Sch	Stoneburner	513-829-4099	Middletown	Greene County Regulators	1st Sat	Mort Dooley	423-335-0847	Rogersville
Stonelick Regulators	As Sch	Carson	513-753-6462	Milford	Wartrace Regulators	1st Sat & 3rd Sat	Will Reily	615-948-4143	Wartrace
OK					Memphis Gunslingers	2nd Sat	Dooly Sworn	901-351-6195	Arlington
Cherokee Strip Shootists	1st Sat	Paladenton	405-547-2533	Stillwater	ORSA Cowboys	2nd Sat	Hombre Sin Nombre	865-257-7747	Oak Ridge
Shortgrass Rangers	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Captain Allyn Capron	580-357-5870	Grandfield	Tennessee Mountain Marauders	3rd Sat	Double Barrel	423-593-3767	Chattanooga
Tulsey Town Cattlemens Association	2nd & 4th Sat 3rd Sun	Curly Thom Mabry	918-376-4376	Tulsa	North West Tennessee Longriders	3rd Sat	Can't Shoot Dillion	731-885-8102	Union City
Indian Territory Single Action Shooting Society	2nd & 5th Sun, 3rd Sat, 4th Wed	Burly Bill	918-830-2936	Sand Springs	Highland Regulators	3rd Wkd	Iron Maiden	423-628-2715	Winfield
Rattlesnake Mountain Rangers	2nd Sat & 1st Sun	Black River Jack	918-908-0016	Checotah	Ocoee Rangers	4th Sat	Ocoee Red	423-476-5303	Cleveland
Oklahoma City Gun Club - Territorial Marshals	2nd Sat & 4th Sun	Flat Top Okie	405-373-1472	Oklahoma City	Smoky Mountain Shootist Society	As Sch	Jim Mayo	865-300-4666	Lenoir City
Tater Hill Regulators	3rd Sun	Taos Willie	918-355-2849	Tulsa	Smockey Mountain Shootist Society	As Sch	Tennessee Tombstone	865-986-5054	Varies
OR					TX				
Horse Ridge Pistoleros	1st & 3rd Sun	Big Casino	541-389-2342	Bend	Texas Tumbleweeds	1st Sat	Cayenne	806-355-7158	Amarillo
Molalla River Rangers	1st Sat	Gold Dust Bill	503-705-1211	Canby	Texas Troublemakers	1st Sat	Lefty Tex Larue	903-539-7234	Brownsboro
Merlin Marauders	1st Sat	Molly B. Dam	541-479-2928	Merlin	Plum Creek Carriage Cowboy Shooting Society	1st Sat	Long Juan	512-750-3923	Lockhart
Dry Gulch Desperados	1st Sat	Runamuck	509-520-3241	Milton Freewater	Alamo Area Moderators	1st Sat	Tombstone Mary	210-493-9320	San Antonio
Siuslaw River Rangers	1st Sun	Johnny Jingos	541-997-6313	Florence	South Texas Pistoleros	1st Sat	Cibolo Sam	210-213-7746	San Antonio
Table Rock Rangers	1st Sun & 2nd Sat	Jed I. Knight	541-944-2281	White City	Texas Peacemakers	1st Sat	Deadeye Greg	903-593-8215	Tyler
Pine Mountain Posse	2nd Sat & Sun	Juniper Butch Cassidy	541-416-0361	Bend	Orange County Regulators	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Texas Gator	409-243-3477	Orange
Klamath Cowboys	2nd Sun & 4th Sat	Jasper Wayne	541-884-2611	Keno	Buck Creek Bandoleros	1st Sat & 3rd Wkd	Hoofprint Prine	254-897-7328	Nemo
Jefferson State Regulators	3rd Sat	Jed I. Knight	541-944-2281	Ashland	Comanche Trail Shootists	1st Sat & 5th Sat	Dee Horne	432-557-6598	Midland
Oregon Trail Regulators	3rd Sat	Willie Killem	541-443-6591	La Grande	El Vaqueros	1st Sun	Tom Burden	254-559-7240	Breckenridge
Orygun Cowboys	3rd Sat	Kansan	503-539-6335	Sherwood	Thunder River Renegades	1st Wkd	Two Spurs	936-273-1851	Magnolia
Oregon Old West Shooting Society	3rd Sun & 4th Sat	Deaf Eagle	541-990-7816	Albany	Concho Valley Shooters	2nd Sat	Roamin Shields	325-656-1281	San Angelo
Umpqua Regulators	4th Sun	Oregun Gustaf	541-430-1021	Roseburg	Texas Riviera Pistoleros	2nd Sat	Longstar	361-334-1978	George West
Lewis River Rangers	As Sch	Johnny Colt	503-289-1280	St. Helens	Bounty Hunters	2nd Sat	Cable Lockhart	806-299-1192	Levelland
Columbia County Cowboys	As Sch	Kitty Colt	503-642-4120	St. Helens	Travis County Regulators	2nd Sat	Cherokee Granny	979-561-6202	Smithville
PA					Texas Tenhorns Shooting Club	2nd Sat & Last Full Wkd	Mustang Sherry	903-815-8162	Greenville
Perry County Regulators	1st Sat	Tuscarora Slim	717-789-3004	Ickesburg	Lone Star Frontier Shooting Club	2nd Wkd	Long Range Rick	817-980-7206	Cleburne
Dry Gulch Rangers	1st Sat	Pep C. Holic	724-263-1461	Midway	Texican Rangers	2nd Wkd	Red Scott	210-316-0199	Fredericksburg
Factoryville Freebooters	1st Sun	Tad Sloe	570-489-0652	Factoryville	Oakwood Outlaws	2nd Wkd	Texas Alline	903-545-2252	Oakwood
Chimney Rocks Regulators	1st Sun	Hattie Hubbs	814-696-5669	Holidaysburg	Canadian River Regulators	2nd, 3rd & 5th Sat	Adobe Walls Shooter	806-679-5824	Clarendon
Conestoga Wagoners	1st Sun	No Change	215-431-2302	Southampton	Old Fort Parker Patriots	3rd Wkd	Colt Faro	832-472-3278	Groesbeck
Boot Hill Gang of Topton	1st Sun	Lester Moore	610-704-6792	Topton	Big Thicket Outlaws	3rd Sat	Shyne Graves	409-860-5526	Beaumont
Whispering Pines Cowboy Committee	1st Sun	Buck Johnson	814-945-6922	Wellsboro	Tejas Caballeros	3rd Sat	Judge Munday Coming	512-964-9955	Dripping Springs
Logans Ferry Regulators	2nd Sat	Mariah Kid	412-607-5313	Plum Borough	Gruesome Gulch Gang	3rd Sat	Eli Blue	806-293-2909	Plainview
Heidelberg Lost Dutchmen	2nd Sat	Ivory Rose	717-627-0694	Schaeffers-town	San Antonio Rough Riders	3rd Sat	Tombstone Mary	210-493-9320	San Antonio
Westshore Posse	2nd Sun	Hud McCoy	717-683-2632	New Cumberland	Cottonwood Creek Cowboys	3rd Sat	Pecos Cahill	325-575-5039	Snyder
Dakota Badlanders (The)	2nd Sun	Timberland Renegade	610-434-1923	Orefield	Willow Hole Cowboys	3rd Sat & Sun	Baba Looley	979-571-5614	North Zulch
Jefferson Outlaws	3rd Sat	Oracle Jones	410-239-6795	Jefferson	Texas Historical Shootist Society	3rd Sun	Charles Goodnight	281-342-1210	Columbus
Blue Mountain Rangers	3rd Sun	Cathy Fisher	610-488-0619	Hamburg	Trinity Valley Regulators	3rd Sun	Grumpy Grandpa	972-206-2624	Mansfield
Matamoras Mavericks	3rd Sun	Hammerin Steel	570-296-5853	Milford	Red River Regulators	3rd Sun	El Rio Rojo Ray	903-838-0964	Texarkana
Silver Lake Bounty Hunters	3rd Sun	Marshal T. J. Buckshot	570-663-3045	Montrose	Badlands Bar 3	3rd Wkd	T-Bone Dooley	903-272-9283	Clarksville
Purgatory Regulators	3rd Wkd	Dry Gulch Geezer	814-827-2120	Titusville	Butterfield Trail Regulators	4th Sat	Texas Slim	325-668-4884	Anson
Elstonville Hombres	4th Sun	Trusty Sidekick	610-939-9947	Manheim	Huaco Rangers	4th Sat	Blueeyed Bear	254-715-0746	China Spring
El Posse Grande	4th Sun	Black Hills Barb	570-538-9163	Muncy Valley	Green Mountain Regulators	4th Sat	Singin' Zeke	830-693-4215	Marble Falls
Stewart's Regulators	4th Sun	Sodbuster Burt	724-479-8838	Shelocta	Purgatory Ridge Rough Riders	4th Sat	Armed to the Teeth	806-777-6182	Slaton
RI					Tejas Pistoleros	4th Sat & Sun	Texas Paladin	713-690-5313	Eagle Lake
Lincoln County Lawmen	4th Sun	Wyoming Blink	401-385-9907	Foster	Tin Star Texans	4th Sat	Mickey	830-685-3464	Fredericksburg
SC					Magnolia Misfits	4th Sun	Attoyac Kid	281-448-8127	Magnolia
Palmetto Posse	1st Sat	Dun Gamblin	803-422-5587	Columbia	Comanche Valley Vigilantes	4th Wkd	Billy Bob Evans	972-393-2882	Cleburne
Hurricane Riders	3rd Sat	Saloon Keeper	843-361-2277	Aynor	UT				
Savannah River Rangers	3rd Sun	Surly Dave	803-892-2812	Gaston	Three Peaks Rangers	1st & 3rd Sat	Curly Jim Whiskus	435-590-9873	Cedar City
Geechee Gunfighters	4th Sat	Doc Kemm	843-737-3501	Ridgeville	Big Hollow Bandits	1st Sat	Cinch	435-724-2575	Heber
Greenville Gunfighters	4th Sun	Cowboy Junky	864-414-5578	Greenville	North Rim Regulators	1st Sat	Autum Rose	435-644-5053	Kanab
SD					Copenhagen Valley Regulators	1st Sat	M.T. Pockets	801-920-4047	Mantua
Cottonwood Cowboy Association	2nd Sun	Dakota Nailbender	605-520-5212	Clark					
Black Hills Shootist Association	3rd Sun	Hawkbill Smith	605-342-8946	Pringle					

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
UT (continued)				
Utah Territory Gunslingers	1st Sat	Lefty Pete	801-554-9436	Salt Lake City
Crow Seeps Cattle Company	1st. Sat	Buffalo Juan	435-528-7432	Mayfield
Dixie Desperados	2nd & 4th Sat	The Alaskan	435-635-3134	St. George
Rio Verde Rangers	2nd Sat	Doc Nelson	435-564-8210	Green River
Desert Historical Shootist Society	2nd Sat	Pronghorn Pete	801-498-7654	Kaysville
Hobble Creek Wranglers	2nd Sat	Hobble Creek Marshall	801-489-7681	Springville
Cache Valley Vaqueros	2nd Sat.	Logan Law	435-787-8131	Logan
Wasatch Summit Regulators	2nd Sun	Old Fashioned	435-224-2321	Park City
Utah War	3rd & 5th Sat	Jubal O. Sackett	801-944-3444	Sandy
Mesa Marauders Gun Club	3rd Sat	Copper Queen	435-979-4665	Lake Powell
Diamond Mountain Rustlers	3rd Sat	Cinch	435-724-2575	Vernal
Wahsatch Desperados	4th Sat	Highland Drifter	801-860-9504	Fruit Heights
Castle Gate Posse	4th Sat	Rowdy Hand	435-637-8209	Price
VA				
Pungo Posse Cowboy Action Club	1st Sat	Missouri Marshal	757-471-3396	Waverly
Liberty Long Riders	1st Sun	Thunder Colt	540-296-0772	Bedford
Cavalier Cowboys	1st Sun	Kuba Kid	804-270-9054	Hanover County
Virginia City Marshals	1st Tues	Humphrey Hook	703-801-3507	Fairfax
Blue Ridge Regulators	2nd Sun	Bad Company	540-886-3374	Lexington
K.C.'s Corral	3rd Sat	Virginia Rifleman	804-550-2242	Mechanicsville
Mattaponi Sundowners	3rd Sun & 4th Sat	Flatboat Bob	804-785-2575	West Point
Pepper Mill Creek Gang	4th Sun	Slip Hammer Spiv	540-775-4561	King George
Bend of Trail	4th Sun	Rowe - A - Noc	540-890-6375	Roanoke
Rivanna Ranger Company	As Sch	Virginia Ranger	434-973-8759	Charlottesville
Stovall Creek Regulators	As Sch	Brizco-Z	434-929-1063	Lynchburg
VT				
Verdant Mountain Vigilantes	2nd Sun	Doc McCoy	802-363-7162	St. Johnsbury
WA				
Northeast Washington Regulators	1st Wkd	Crazy Knife Al	509-684-8057	Colville
Mica Peak Marshals	1st & 3rd Sat	Tensleep Kid	509-284-2461	Mica
Panhandle Regulators	1st & 3rd Sun	Halfcocked Otis	509-991-5842	Otis Orchards
Renton United Cowboy Action Shooters	1st Wkd	Jess Ducky	425-271-9286	Renton
Windy Plains Drifters	2nd & 4th Sat	Hopalong Hoot	509-220-9611	Medical Lake
Wolverton Mountain Peace Keepers	2nd Sat	Hellfire	360-513-9081	Ariel
Pataha Rustlers	2nd Sat	Pinto Annie	509-520-2789	Dayton
Mima Marauders	2nd Sat	Okie Sawbones	360-705-3601	Olympia
Smokey Point Desperados	2nd Sun	Mudflat Mike	425-335-5176	Arlington
Colville Guns and Roses	2nd Sun	Cheyence Sadie	509-684-3632	Colville
Apple Valley Marshals	3rd Sat	Silent Sam	509-884-3875	East Wenatchee
Olympic Peninsula Strait Shooters	3rd Sun	Doc Neeley	360-417-0230	Port Angeles
Black River Regulators	4th Sat	Wil Sackett	360-786-0199	Littlerock
Custer Renegades	4th Sun	Joe Cannuck	360-676-2587	Custer
Poulsbo Pistoleros	4th Sun	Sourdough George	360-830-0100	Poulsbo
Beazley Gulch Rangers	Last Sun	An E. Di	509-787-1782	Quincy
WI				
Rock River Regulators	1st & 3rd Sat	Stoney Mike	608-868-5167	Beloit
Western Wisconsin Wild Bunch	2nd Sat	Sierra Jack Cassidy	608-792-1494	Holmen
Bristol Plains Pistoleros	2nd Sun	Huckleberry	815-675-2566	Bristol
Crystal River Gunslingers	2nd Sun	James Rosewood	920-722-4105	Waupaca
Wisconsin Old West Shootist, Inc	2nd Sun & 4th Sat	Blackjack Martin	715-949-1621	Boyceville

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
WI (continued)				
Liberty Prairie Regulators	3rd Sat	Dirty Deeds	920-229-5833	Ripon
Hodag County Cowboys	3rd Sun	Hodag Bob	715-550-8337	Rhineland
Oconomowoc Cattlemen's Association	4th Sat	Marvin the Moyle	414-254-5592	Concord
WV				
Dawn Ghost Riders	1st Sun	Coffee Bean	304-327-9884	Hinton
Frontier Regulators	2nd Sat	Captain Tay	304-265-5748	Thorton
The Railtown Rowdys	2nd Sun	Miss Print	304-589-6162	Bluefield
Rocky Holler Regulators	3rd Sun	Jessee Earp	304-425-2023	Princeton
Kanawha Valley Regulators	3rd Wkd	Eddie Rebel	304-397-6188	Eleanor
Cowboy Action Shooting Sports	4th Sun	Jackson	540-678-0735	Largent
Peacemaker National	As Sch	Cole McCulloch	703-789-3346	Gerrardstown
WY				
Cheyenne Regulators	1st Sat	Deputy Cuny	307-634-2449	Cheyenne
Colter's Hell Justice Committee WSAS	1st Sat	Yakima Red	307-254-2090	Various
Bessemer Vigilance Committee	1st Sun & 3rd Sat	Smokewagon Bill	307-472-1926	Casper
High Lonesome Drifters	2nd Sat	Kari Lynn	307-587-2946	Cody
Sybil Creek Shooters	2nd Sat	Wyoming Roy	307-322-3515	Wheatland
Southfork Vigilance Committee WSAS	2nd Wkd	Wennoff Halfcock	507-332-5035	Lander
Powder River Justice Committee WSAS	3rd Sun	Doc Fehr	307-683-3320	Buffalo
Great Divide Outlaws	4th Sat	Sling Lead	307-324-6955	Rawlins
Donkey Creek Shootists	4th Sun	Poker Jim	307-660-0221	Gillette
Snake River Rowdies	As Sch	Sheriff J. R. Quigley	307-733-4559	Jackson

International

DOWN UNDER

AUSTRALIA

Gold Coast Gamblers	1st & 3rd Sat	Dagger Jack	61 75 537 5857	Gold Coast
Adelaide Pistol & Shooting Club	1st Sat & 3rd Sun	Lobo Malo	61 08 284 8459	Korunye
Flint Hill Prospectors	2nd Sat	Judge Ruger	61 41 838 3299	Glenlogie
Westgate Marauders	2nd Sun	Stampede Pete	61 393 695 939	Port Melbourne
Little River Raiders	3rd Sun	Lazy Dave	61 40 377 7926	Little River
SASA Little River Raiders Single Action Club	3rd Sun	Tiresome	61 25 978 0190	Melbourne
Cowboy Action Shooters of Australia	3rd Wkd	I.D.	61 29 975 7983	Teralba
Fort Bridger Shooting Club	4th Sun	Duke York	61 418 632 366	Drouin
SASA Single Action Shooting Australia	Sat/Sun	Virgil Earp	61 74 695 2050	Millmerran

NEW ZEALAND

Trail Blazers Gun Club	1st Sun	Ernie Southpaw	64 37 557 654	Mill Town
Bullet Spittin Sons O' Thunder	2nd Sat	Billy Deadwood	64 63 564 720	Palmerston N.
Wairarapa Pistol and Shooting Club	2nd Sun	Doc Hayes	64 63 796 692	Gladstone
Frontier & Western Shooting Sports Association	2nd Sun	Doc Hayes	64 63 796 692	Gladstone
Tararua Rangers	3rd Sun	J.E.B. Stuart	64 63 796 436	Carterton
Western Renegades	4th Sat	Black Bart Bolton	64 27 249 6270	Wanganui
SASS Pistol New Zealand	As Sch	Tuscon the Terrible	64 32 042 089	Varies

EUROPE

AUSTRIA

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

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

Danish Blackpowder Federation	As Sch	Slim Dane	45 20 655 887	Copenhagen
Association of Danish Western Shooters	As Sch	Mrs. Stowaway	45 602 013 65	Greve

FINLAND

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

FRANCE

SASS France Golden Triggers of Freetown	1st Sun	Cheyenne Little Colibris	33 67 570 3678	Villefranche de Rouergue
L'Arquebuse d'Antony	2nd Sun	Jeppesen	33 1 4661 1798	Antony
SASS France Greenwood Creek	4th Sat	Handy Hook	33 68 809 1360	Bormes les Mimosas
Association Mazaugaise de Tir	As Sch	Redneck Mike	33 494 280 145	Mazaugues
SASS France Alba Serena Tir Club	As Sch	Marshall Tombstone	09 62 53 83 32	Poggio Mezzana

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS MONTHLY SHOOTING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
FRANCE (continued)				
Old Pardis Shooting Society	As Sch	Charles Allan	33 1 4661 1798	Versailler
		Jeppesen LaSalle		Anthony
Club de Tir Beaujolais	As Sch	Woodrow the Wild Frenchie	33 047 838 0374	Villefranche sur Saone
Old West French Shooters BERAC	As Sch	Curly Red Ryder	33 3 8582 0203	Caromb
	As Sch	Delano L. Oakley	33 3 8020 3551	Premeaux Prissey
Club de Tir Brennou	As Sch	French Bob	33 2 4767 5888	Varies
Reverend Oakley's Cowboy Klan	As Sch	Delano L. Oakley	33 3 8020 3551	Varies
Les Tireurs de l'uzege	Dimanche	Lictevoet Jean-Claude	33 04 66 759 529	Uzes
Black Rivers	Last Sun	Kid of Neckwhite	33 3 8526 3029	Roanne
Club de Tir de Bernay	Sat	Chriswood	33 2 3245 5900	Bernay
SASS France Yellow Rock	Sat	Little Shooting Missie	336 7555 8063	ECOT
Societe de Tir Bedoin Ventoux	Sat-Sun	Sheriff Ch. Southpaw	33 490 351 973	Bedoin
Tir Olympique Lyonnais	Sun	Barth	33 6 1324 6128	Lyon
Club de tri de nuits Saint Georges	As Sch	Delano L. Oakley	33 38 020 3551	Nuits Saint Georges
Club de Tir Sportif de Touraine	As Sch	Major John Lawson	brisset37@hotmail.fr	Tours
CAS/SASS France	As Sch	John Peacemaker	33 4 4273 9157	Varies
GERMANY				
Germany Territory Regulators	As Sch	Westphalian Phil	49 29 216 71814	Varies
CAS Europe	Fri	Hurricane Irmi	49 28 23 5807	Bocholt
Cowboy Action Shooting Germany	Last Sat	Marshal Heck	49 345 120 0581	Edderitz
SASS Europe	Mon	Niers River Kid	49-282-39-8080	Wegberg
Jail Bird's Company	Mon	Orlando A Brick Bond	49 21 317 42 30 65	Wegberg
SASS Germany	Wed	Rhine River Joe	49 28 235 807	Spork
HUNGARY				
Westwood Rebels	As Sch	El Heckito	362 0460 1739	Galgamacsa
ITALY				
Old Gunners Shooting Club Western Shootist Posse	As Sch	Renato Anese	33 51 24 5391	Toppo di Travesio
Green Hearts Regulator	1st Sun	Marshal Steven Gardiner	39 338 920 7989	Trevi
Fratelli Della Costa Onlus	3rd Sat	Oversize	35 05 642 4677	Livorno
Lassiter Fan Shooting Club	3rd Sun	Ivan Bandito	39 34 7043 0400	Mazzano
Maremma Bad Land's Riders	As Sch	Alameda Slim	alamedaslim@owss.it	Siena
Old West Shooting Society Italy	As Sch	Alchimista	39 33 420 68337	Varies
Canne Roventi	Last Sun	Valdez	39 07 1286 1395	Filottrano
Honky Tonk Rebels	Last Sun	Kaboom Andy	39 33 5737 8551	Vigevano
Wild West Rebels	Sun	Bill Masterson	alberto@fronti-srl.it	Malegno-BS
LUXEMBOURG				
SASS Luxembourg	As Sch	Smiley Miles	35 26 2128 0606	Varies
NETHERLANDS				
SASS Netherlands	As Sch	Lightning Anja	31 51 759 2120	Leeuwarden
NORTHERN IRELAND				
Kells County Regulators	1st Sat	Independence Carroll	28 93 368 004	Varies
NORWAY				
Black Rivers	As Sch	Charles Quantrill	47 9325 9669	Loten
Quantrill Raiders	Sun	Charles Quantrill	47 9325 9669	Loten
Schedsmoe County Rough Riders	Thurs	Jailbird	47 63 994 279	Lillestrom
POLAND				
SASS Polish Western Shooting Association	As Sch	Trigger Hawkeye	trigger-hawkeye@hotmail.pl	Lodz
SERBIA				
Union of Western Shooters of Serbia	As Sch	Hombre des Nudos	63 721 6934	Humska
SWEDEN				
SASS Sweden Northern Rangers	As Sch	Northern S. T Ranger	46 72 206 7005	Varies
SWITZERLAND				
Old West Shooting Society Switzerland	As Sch	Hondo Janssen	44 271 9947	Zurich
INTERNATIONAL				
CANADA				
Aurora Desperados	1st Fri	Destry	905-551-0703	Aurora ON
Robbers Roost Hamilton	1st Sat	Bear Butte	905-891-8627	Ancaster ON
South Mountain Regulators	1st Sat	Dutch Charlie	902-538-9797	Berwick NS
Red Mountain Renegades	1st Sun	Preacher Flynn T. Locke	604-820-1564	Mission BC
Barrie Gun Club	2nd & 4th Sat	Northern Crow	705-435-2807	Barrie ON

Club Name	Sched.	Contact	Phone	City
CANADA (continued)				
Beau Bassin Range Riders	2nd Sat	Frenchy Cannuck	506-312-0455	Riverview NB
Lambton Sportsman's Club	2nd Sat	Clay Creek	519-542-4644	St. Clair ON
Wentworth Shooting Sports Club	2nd Sun	Stoney Creek	905-664-3217	Hamilton ON
Victoria Frontier Shootists	2nd Sun	Black Ashley	250-744-4705	Victoria BC
Valley Regulators	3rd Sat	Kananaskis Kid	250-923-6358	Courtenay BC
Prairie Dog Rebels	3rd Sat	Valley Boy	519-673-5648	London ON
Valley Regulators	3rd Sat & Sun	High Country Amigo	250-334-3479	Courtenay BC
Otter Valley Rod & Gun	4th Sun	Colt McCloud	519-685-9439	Straffordville ON
Robbers Roost Wild Bunch	As Sch	Legendary Lawman	905-393-4299	Ancaster ON
Islington Sportmen's Club	As Sch	Hawk Feathers	905-936-2129	Caledon ON
Blueridge Sportsmen's Club	As Sch	Rebel Dale	519-599-2558	Clarksburg ON
Waterloo County Revolver Association	As Sch	Ranger Pappy Cooper	519-536-9184	Kitchener ON
Mundy's Bay Regulators	As Sch	Indiana Magnum	705-534-2814	Penetan-guishene ON
Nova Scotia Cowboy Action Shooting Club	As Sch	Wounded Belly	902-890-2310	Truro NS
Palmer's Gulch Cowboys	As Sch	Caribou Lefty	250-372-0416	Heffley Creek BC
Ottawa Valley Marauders	As Sch	Button	514-792-0063	Ottawa QC
Alberta Frontier Shootists Society	As Sch	Powder Paw	403-318-4463	Rocky Mtn House AB
Long Harbour Lead Slingers	Tues	Preacher Man John	250-537-0083	Salt Spring Island BC

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

Monthly Mounted USA

AZ				
Tombstone Ghost Riders Mounted Club	2nd Sun	Dan Nabbit	520-456-0423	Tombstone
CA				
California Range Riders	As Sch	Old Buckaroo	408-710-1616	Varies
CO				
Revengers of Montezuma	1st Sun	Aneeda Huginkiss	970-565-8479	Cortez
CT				
Connecticut Renegades	As Sch	Cowboy Cobbler	860-558-7484	Granby
FL				
Bay Area Bandits	3rd Sat	Slow Poke's Darlin	813-924-0156	Tampa
ID				
Border Marauders Mounted	As Sch	Bad Buffalo Bob	208-610-8229	Eastport
IN				
Heartland Peacemakers	As Sch	Rawhidenlace	765-561-2521	Fountaintown
ME				
Maine Cowboy Mounted Shooters	As Sch	Cowboy Bill	207-282-2821	Biddeford
NM				
Buffalo Range Riders Mounted	3rd Sat	Icelandy	505-263-5619	Founders Ranch
NY				
Island Long Riders	As Sch	Mecate Kid	516-610-8166	Farmingdale
Upstate New York Smokin' Guns	As Ash	Renegade Roper	518-883-5981	Galway
WI				
Renegade Rangers	As Sch	Ace Montana	920-960-1714	Ripon

Monthly Mounted International

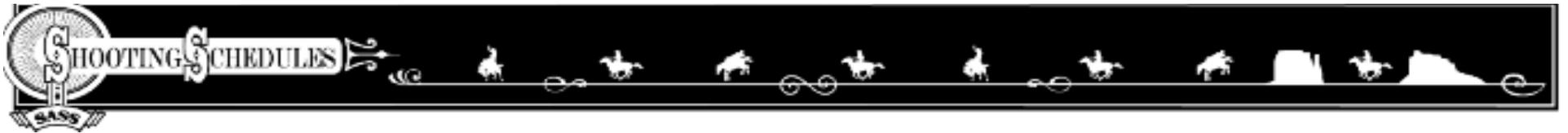
LEBANON				
SASS Lebanon - El Rancho Sporting Club	As Sch	Packin Jesse	96 1138 5982	Varies
CANADA				
Quebec Mounted Shooting Association	As Sch	Dirty Owl Bert	819-424-7842	Joliette

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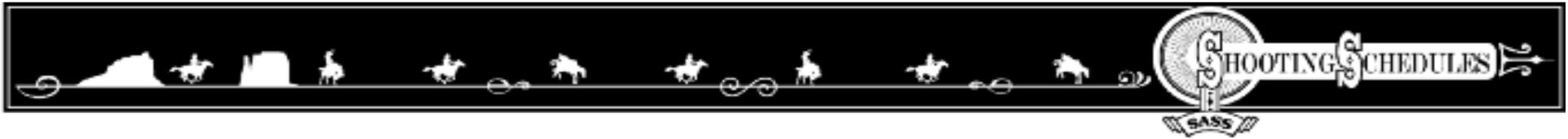


SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS ANNUAL MATCHES (Cont.)

Match	Dates	Contact	Phone	City	State	Match	Dates	Contact	Phone	City	State
USA 2012						SEPTEMBER (continued)					
AUGUST						Tennessee State Blackpowder Championship					
Badger Mountain Range War	03 - 05	El Gato Gordo	719-683-6713	Lake George	CO	14 - 16	Cherokee Sargent	901-674-8220		Arlington	TN
Stand on the Eagle River	03 - 05	Battle Mountain Bandit	970-390-1369	Gypsum	CO	A Gunfight in Dixie					
Ambush on the Prairie	03 - 05	Ranger Mathias Fischels	319-234-1550	Elk Run Heights	IA	15 - 16	Chuckwagon Sam	724-626-6836		Donegal	PA
SASS Washington State Championship Westmatch XX	03 - 05	Elder Kate	253-946-1438	Renton	WA	15 - 16	Billy Bob Evans	972-393-2882		Cleburne	TX
SASS Idaho State Championship Reckoning at Black's Creek	08 - 12	John Bear	208-562-1914	Boise	ID	SASS Texas State Wild Bunch Championship					
Chorro Valley Shoot Out	09 - 12	Sinful	805-286-1188	San Luis Obispo	CA	Wild Bunch on the Brazos					
SASS MIDWEST REGIONAL Guns of August	09 - 12	Deadwood Stan	513-894-3500	Middletown	OH	15 - 15	Judge Munday Coming	512-964-9955		Dripping Springs	TX
Mayhem at the Mounds	10 - 12	Okie Sawbones	360-705-3601	Olympia	WA	15 - 15	Eli Blue	806-293-2909		Kress	TX
Western Legends Roundup	16 - 18	Autum Rose	435-644-5053	Kanab	UT	20 - 23	Rock Creek Rustler	918-224-4743		Sand Springs	OK
Shootout at Pawnee Station	17 - 19	Red Creek Dick Martin	303-857-0520	Nunn	CO	Ruckus in the Nations					
Squinty Eye Western Shoot	17 - 19	Wagonmaster	218-744-4694	Virginia	MN	21 - 23	Querida	831-635-9147		Gonzales	CA
First Annual Guns of Ojo Caliente	17 - 19	J. W. Brockey	575-744-4484	Elephant Butte	NM	21 - 23	Slick McClade	318-278-9071		Quitman	LA
Last Blast of Summer	18 - 18	Yankee	781-383-9799	Scituate	MA	21 - 23	Last Word	304-289-6098		Burlington	WV
SASS Maryland State Blackpowder Championship	19 - 19	Cash Caldwell	240-285-7673	Thurmont	MD	SASS West Virginia State Championship					
SASS Hawaii State Championship Great Pineapple Shoot	24 - 26	Bad Burt	808-875-9085	Lahaima	HI	Appalachian Showdown					
Fire In The Hills	24 - 26	Captain Cook	715-248-3727	Boyceville	WI	22 - 23	Whisperin' Wade	541-318-8199		Bend	OR
SASS Kentucky State Championship	25 - 26	Double Eagle Dave	423-309-4146	McKee	KY	SASS Oregon State Black Powder Championship					
Hooten Holler Round-Up						Smoke in the Badlands					
SASS NORTHWEST REGIONAL Championship Labor Day Weekend	30 - 31	Big Casino	541-389-2342	Bend	OR	22 - 23	Trusty Sidekick	610-939-9947		Manheim	PA
SASS Arkansas State Championship	31 - 02	Bulldog McGraw	501-337-9368	Hot Springs	AR	22 - 22	Highland Drifter	801-860-9504		Fruit Heights	UT
Shoot'n in the Shade						23 - 23	Ripley Scrounger	207-876-4928		Willimantic	ME
SASS Southeast Territorial Blackpowder Championship	31 - 02	Man From Little River	678-428-4240	Covington	GA	SASS Maine State Black Powder Championship					
Smoke Out at South River						Willimantic Smoke					
True Grit	31 - 02	Dapper Dan Porter	309-734-2324	Little York	IL	SASS Outlaw Trail					
SASS Michigan State Championship - Wolverine Rangers Range War	31 - 02	R. J. Law	248-828-0440	Port Huron	MI	26 - 30	SASS Office	505-843-1320		Founders Ranch	NM
SASS Nebraska State Championship Midwest Roundup	31 - 02	Firewater	308-226-2255	Grand Island	NE	28 - 30	Ricochet Robbie	509-628-0889		Benton City	WA
Shoot Out at High Lonesome	31 - 02	Two Bit Tammy	575-626-9201	Roswell	NM	29 - 30	Deadwood Woody	352-357-3065		Taveres	FL
Labor Day Underwear Shootout	31 - 02	Jasper Wayne	541-884-2611	Keno	OR	OCTOBER					
Bad Girls and Boys						SASS NORTHEAST REGIONAL					
SASS Virginia State Championship Star City Shootout	31 - 02	Trapper Dan	540-890-5162	Roanoke	VA	Mason Dixon Stampede					
SEPTEMBER						SASS Nevada State Championship - Eldorado					
Third Annual Great Basin Long Range Shootout	01 - 03	Cascades Annie	541-318-8199	Bend	OR	SASS Alabama State Championship					
SASS US Open	04 - 09	Mose Spencer	270-349-4392	Sparta	IL	Ambush At Cavern Cove					
SASS Maine State Championship - Thunder over Beaver Creek	07 - 09	Rhino Jacks	207-324-3117	Berwick	ME	04 - 07	Charming	702-565-3736		Boulder City	NV
Shootout at Stoney Bottom	07 - 09	Curtice Clay	419-836-8760	Gibsonburg	OH	05 - 07	Drake Robey	256-313-0421		Cavern Cove	AL
Standoff at Smokey Point	07 - 09	Mudflat Mike	425-335-5176	Arlington	WA	08 - 12	Mokaac Kid	435-668-4613		Midvale	OH
Coyote Valley Cowboys Welcome the Boy Scouts of America	08 - 08	Bad Eye Bobolu	408-722-0583	Morgan Hill	CA	08 - 12	Whiskey Hayes	931-684-2709		St. George	UT
Northwest Territorial Shootout	08 - 09	White Eyes	208-734-8440	Jerome	ID	10 - 12	SASS Tennessee State Championship			Wartrace	TN
Third Almost An Annual Shooter Appreciation Chuckwagon	09 - 09	Sixty-Nine Cent Wizard	970-339-3650	Briggsdale	CO	Regulators Reckoning					
Feed and Swap						SASS WESTERN REGIONAL					
SASS Minnesota State Championship - Gunsmoke	13 - 15	Bronco Kate	507-269-2230	Morristown	MN	Last Stand at Chimney Rock					
Six Gun Justice	14 - 15	Teton County Jr.	208-709-1708	Rexburg	ID	SASS Arkansas State Championship					
SASS Indiana State Championship Hoosier Ambush	14 - 16	Thorny Rose	574-893-7214	Warsaw	IN	Blackpowder					
Gateway To The West	14 - 15	Bounty Seeker	314-740-4665	St. Louis	MO	Mayhem On the Mountain					
Shoot Out at Old Magdalena	14 - 15	Slippery Steve	575-835-8664	Magdalena	NM	SASS Arizona State Wild Bunch Championship					
SASS New York State Championship Heluva Rukus	14 - 16	Homer Suggs	518-274-8505	Ballston Spa	NY	SASS Arizona State Wild Bunch Championship					
Purgatory Rush	14 - 17	Dry Gulch Geezer	814-827-2120	Titusville	PA	Wild West Extravaganza Shootout					
						SASS Wisconsin State Championship					
						Mississippi Fandango					
						The Shootout on The Santa Fe					
						Peacefuls End of Track at High Sierra					
						SASS Kentucky State Black Powder Championship					
						Smokeout in the Hills					
						SASS New Jersey State Championship					
						Purgatory in The Pines					
						The Last Hurrah					
						SASS Florida State Blackpowder Championship					
						Code of the West End					
						SASS Kansas State Championship					
						Border Wars					
						Diamond Four Roundup					
						SASS West Virginia State Wild Bunch Championship					
						Hanging Tree Shootout					
						SASS Arizona State Championship					
						Bordertown					
						The Gunfight Behind The Jersey Lilly					

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SASS AFFILIATED CLUBS ANNUAL MATCHES (Cont.)

Match	Dates	Contact	Phone	City	State
USA 2012					
OCTOBER (continued)					
SASS Missouri State Championship The Show-Me Shootout	25 - 28	Longshot John	417-461-0033	Marshfield	MO
Comin Thru The Rye Gunnin' Fer A Showdown	26 - 28	Derringer Di	205-647-6925	Hoover	AL
Sussex County Range War	26 - 28	Missouri Marshal	757-471-3396	Waverly	VA
Guns of Autumn	27 - 27	Bad Lands Bob	706-654-0828	Gainesville	GA
NOVEMBER					
SASS SOUTHWEST REGIONAL Comin' At Cha	01 - 03	Honey B. Graceful	903-272-9283	English	TX
SASS Utah State Wild Bunch Championship Dixie Desperados Go Wild	02 - 03	Alaskan	435-635-9134	St. George	UT
Vengeance Trail	04 - 04	Shady Brady	352-686-1055	Brooksville	FL
SASS SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Gunfight at Givhans Ferry	08 - 11	Doc Kemm	843-737-3501	Ridgeville	SC
SASS Southwest Regional Blackpowder Championship Hangin' at Coyote Creek	09 - 11	Rattlesnake Blake	985-796-9698	Amite	LA
Dulzura Duststorm	10 - 10	Reuben J. Cogburn	619-997-2755	Dulzura	CA
The Great Northfield Raid Twentieth Anniversary	16 - 18	Gun Hawk	818-761-0512	North Hollywood	CA
DECEMBER					
Cowboy Christmas Ball	08 - 08	An E. Di	509-787-1782	Quincy	WA
JANUARY 2013					
Yuma Territorial Prison Breakout	18 - 20	Boston Anniebelle	928-502-1298	Yuma	AZ
Ambush at Butterfield Trail	26 - 27	Fast Hammer	575-647-3434	Las Cruces	NM
MARCH 2013					
Butterfield Range War Law Enforcement vs Cowboys More Fun Less Run	23 - 23	Fast Hammer	575-647-3434	Las Cruces	NM
APRIL 2013					
Comancheria Days	04 - 07	Red Scott	210-316-0199	Fredericksburg	TX
MAY 2013					
SASS Texas State Championship Ride with Pancho Villa	02 - 02	Long Juan	512-750-3923	Lockhart	TX

Annual International Matches

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

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

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Colonel Dan,
SASS Life #24025

Ron Paul's OBJECTIVE

By Colonel Dan, SASS Life / Regulator #24025

I'm about to undertake an unusual editorial risk by tackling a topic that could be either completely obvious or totaling wrong by the time this column hits the street. As of this writing, 30 May 2012, Romney has won the GOP nomination. Conversely Ron Paul, having never won a single primary, suspended his active campaigning in remaining primaries and although never having a realistic shot at the nomination "stayed in the race." What's his objective? What follows is the course I believe he may be charting ... and is pure speculation on my part! In order to attempt this, I must view the world as he does and make clear to you, my readers, that I'm no hardcore Paul or Romney fan ... and certainly no fan of Obama. I'm also certain some will hold different views on the minor details of Paul's vision, but for now let's not concern ourselves with the mice in the attic, but concentrate on the elephants jumping up and down in America's living room.

For decades, Paul has repeatedly and consistently expressed concern over how very far America has strayed from our Constitution and how expansive, wasteful, and powerful our federal government has become. He's boldly described his view of what the Founders intended, contrasting that with the role we've allowed/demanded of our government. In so doing, we've stretched America's resources and treasure so thin as to endanger the existence of our republic. We've incurred generational debt through unconstitutional spending that should have never even been proposed; we've allowed Washington to control our lives in ways over which the Founders could only weep were they alive. If our Founders saw the power of today's government, they'd be asking us how long their Constitution lasted

before it died, when did America fall, and why didn't the people revolt long before it reached this point? Love him or hate him, Paul articulates the Founders constitutional views relatively better than most modern politicians. Is he naïve in terms of the threat posed by a nuclear Iran? I believe so, but that's just the view from my saddle. For now, let's concentrate on the bigger picture concerning Paul's objective, given his history, views, and current situation.

Ron Paul is no dummy nor is he politically green. He's seen Washington politics up close for years. He knew he wouldn't be getting the nomination, but he also knows he has a significant, very dedicated, and highly enthusiastic voting block that could help Romney tremendously were they so inclined. Just as importantly, Romney also knows this. Considering Paul's staunch adherence to constitutional principles, were I he I'd use whatever power and leverage I had to pressure American politics toward some semblance of the course chartered by our Founding Fathers. We must cut the strangling tentacles of government that continue controlling our lives in more ways than we could have envisioned just a few generations ago. If we fail in this, we will spend ourselves into unsustainable/irremediable debt and stretch our resources to the breaking point worldwide. In short, we could become modern day Greece domestically and the ancient Roman Empire internationally—both failed societies due in part to an insatiable desire for largess and an ever expanding reach for worldwide influence that exceeds our grasp. A return to that inspired Constitution and a respect for moral values is the only way we can hope to survive. As John Adams warned in a 1798 speech, "*We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion ... Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious*

people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

What resources does Ron Paul have that can further those goals—dedicated supporters. It's those fired up voters in their current numbers that I'd certainly use to advance my influence, power, and objective. I'd seek to string my campaign out as long as I could, staying highly visible and publicly involved to the very end garnering as many delegates and as much grassroots support as possible. The bigger the numbers the bigger the stick he can wield at the convention and beyond. Romney will need every possible advantage to overcome not only Obama, but the lapdog media and those willing to go to any lengths, legal or otherwise, to impose their candidates and statist philosophy on America. In other words, they'll do whatever it takes to advance that "fundamental transformation" Obama promised in 2008. I'd ensure that I entered the convention with as much political clout as I could muster, then use it as leverage to shape the party platform, push the GOP as much as possible toward being an authentic constitutional conservative party for a change, and perhaps play an influential role in a Romney administration ... if not him specifically, his son, Rand, heir apparent to the struggle. Is this a quixotic quest—probably, but one worth pursuing.

Now the path Ron Paul should not consider is throwing his support or taking his candidacy to some third party. Such a siphoning of conservative votes would simply help give Obama and his statist four more years during which they'd be unconstrained by re-election concerns. For any disgruntled voter who is apprehensive about America's future, to either stay home because their preferred candidate didn't get the nomination or vote third party in protest is to lend your hand directly to those whose goal is to "transform" America. It's just that clear in 2012. There's far too much at stake this time around to open

any doors that lead to such a nightmare. I'm so convinced of this that I fear for America's survival as we've known it if we don't turn out those intent on destroying the system that took us to heights unmatched by any civilization in history. Were I Paul, I'd plan on strongly backing Romney, as should every former GOP candidate, even if I didn't agree with all his positions, and I'd encourage my supporters to do likewise. I know some heads will explode at the mere mention of backing Romney, but the indisputable fact remains, Romney is now the **ONLY** candidate that can realistically unseat Obama, which is what we **MUST** do for America's sake. Compared to Barack Obama, Mitt Romney is a pillar of constitutional conservatism—"Romneycare" notwithstanding! At the same time, I'd try to leverage my power to encourage our Founder's vision became part of a Romney presidency ... not just part of convention rhetoric. Aside from holding the Presidency himself, it's the only viable course for Paul or any of us to now consider if we're truly concerned about America's future as a free republic.

I've always advocated voting your conscience regardless of party and still do. By advocating unification behind the only nominee that can now defeat the dangerous Obama, I'm listening to a conscience that is driven by a deeply held concern for my country. Having expressed that apprehension, I remain optimistic and confident American patriots can and will once again rise up to save our republic. I'm just as certain the Obama supporters among us will blast me for this column—so be it. The inevitable negative email is both utterly inconsequential and absolutely irrelevant when weighed against my concern for our future and what I see hanging in the balance. Soldier on boldly my friends; constitutionalists still outnumber statist by a large margin in America—harbor no doubts!

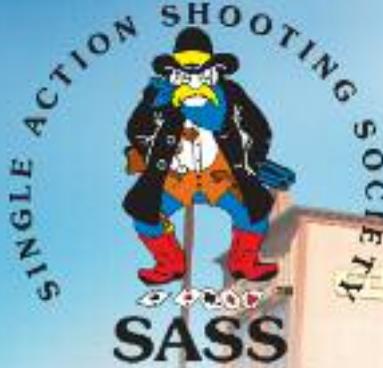
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