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SASS END of TRAIL
(See page 23)



The Cowboy Chronicle

The Monthly Journal of the Single Action Shooting Society®

Vol. 28 No. 4

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April 2015

GHIVANS FERRY

Southeast Regional Honors Vets

Draws Shooters from 15 States

By Mat Bastarson, SASS #16116

Ridgeville, South Carolina. The November sun shown bright and warm on gunslingers and their sidekicks at the SASS 2014 Southeast Regional Championship, otherwise known as “The Shootout at Givhans Ferry.”

This, the fourth annual gathering at expansive Palmetto Gun Club, not far from historic Charleston, SC, was themed “Veterans of the Wild West,” in honor of those who served us then and now, and it attracted well over 200 shooters from 15 states. Each stage recalled a famous or infamous veteran from the Old West; the shooter would signal ready by reciting a line attributed to that veteran.

Our hosts, The Geechee Gunfighters, offered up ten tree-lined, grass-bermed pistol bays, most of them fronted by props—a Hollywood cowtown-style bank,



Bigger is always better, as evidenced by the 2014 Southeast Regional match at Ghivans Ferry—and by High Pockets Bill (SASS #93659), shown here with two other standard size competitors.

SASS Cowboy Chronicle

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saloon, jail, and even a ferry boat—to lend atmosphere and nostalgia to the stages of the four-day event. Meanwhile, if you needed cowboy gear or good vittles, they could be found here. A steady stream of ladies and gents filled the tents and tables of delighted merchants ranging from Jackson’s Western Store and Clark’s Bullets to gun engraver Yves Halliburton, aka Have-a-Bourbon (SASS #50227). And next to them, vendors of hot food and

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*They may have been too young to shoot Range War 2014, the Michigan State Championship, but four-year-old Speed Stevens (SASS #89038—standing) and three-year-old J.R. Dynamite (sitting) had a great time playing cowboy and shot some great stages in the campgrounds with their Nerf guns!*



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The Cowboy Chronicle is published by The Wild Bunch, Board of Directors of The Single Action Shooting Society. For advertising information and rates, administrative, and editorial offices contact:  
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 http://www.sassnet.com

The Cowboy Chronicle (ISSN 15399877) is published monthly by the Single Action Shooting Society, 215 Cowboy Way, Edgewood, NM 87015. Periodicals Postage is Paid at Edgewood, NM and additional mailing offices (USPS #032). **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to The Cowboy Chronicle, 215 Cowboy Way, Edgewood, NM 87015.

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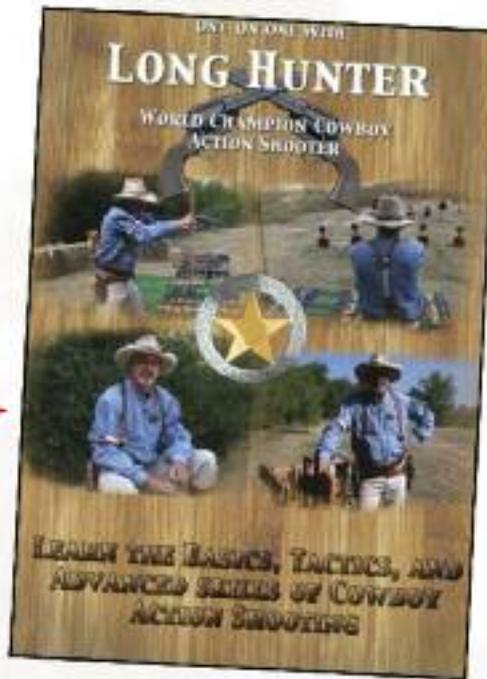
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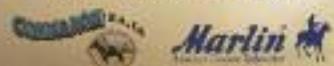
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# ❁ SKINNY'S SOAPBOX ❁

## Reading the digital Chronicle

### Addendum



*Skinny*  
SASS #7361

Several people have brought to my attention that for them, when accessing a link in the PDF version, the link replaces the *Chronicle* window rather than popping up in a separate window. I have tried to replicate this experience on my own computer, but I always get a separate window, as I'm supposed to. After some investigation, I believe I have localized the problem to Windows users who open the PDF in their browser through an Active X add on. I'm not sure there is a work around for this, so if you're having this problem and it bothers you, my only suggestion at this time is to open the PDF in a stand-alone Adobe Acrobat Reader application, not through your browser.

I believe this will be the last of my "digital *Chronicle*" tutorials for now, unless readers make me aware of any other issues. If there are any, please feel free to direct questions or comments my way at [skinny111@icloud.com](mailto:skinny111@icloud.com).

#### Comic book pages—yea or nay?

This edition of the *Chronicle* contains a comic book story featuring "Arizona Raines," from the pages of *Crack Western* #84, published in May 1953. This is another comic book title that began life as a super hero anthology in the 1940s (as *Crack Comics*), but switched over to a Western theme in the 1950s with the growing popularity of the genre.

Since I introduced comic book pages a few issues back, the vast majority of feedback I've received from those I've spoken to at various events (including the SASS Convention and Winter Range), has been positive. However, a handful of readers—and I'm talking less than a half dozen—have expressed displeasure at seeing this feature in the *Chronicle*. Some believe the inclusion of comic book material gives our publication a juvenile and/or non-respectable look. But I'll point out to them that comic books have not been viewed by our society as inferior publications since the 1950s and 60s. Today,

Graphic Novels (comic books) are routinely included on bestseller lists, and are often chosen for movie adaptations.

I've also heard the sentiment that readers would rather see the space occupied by some other type of feature. To them, I'll point out that we are now a virtual publication with no restrictions on page count, so you're actually getting the comic book pages in addition to—not instead of—something else. If, for example, the 10 pages of comic book story in this issue were not included, you would not get 10 pages of something else. You'd just get 10 fewer pages.

Having said all that, this will be the final edition of the *Chronicle* to include comic book pages—for now. This is based on the theory that if a few people have expressed displeasure, there may in fact be many more who are just suffering quietly. If you would like to see them return (or not), please let me know at [skinny111@icloud.com](mailto:skinny111@icloud.com).

#### Safety and SASS

Finally, I'd like to call your attention to the letter featured in this issue, dealing with range safety not only for match participants, but also for spectators ("Will Common Sense Ever Prevail?"). Sundown Jones, SASS #5403, makes a very good case for the necessity to include instructions for appropriate behavior to spectators as part of a club's safety briefing. Give his letter a read.

Also in this issue, we're starting a new series of short articles on match and range operations and procedures by Palaver Pete, SASS #4375. This will all be information with which everyone is no doubt already familiar, but positive reinforcement is always a good thing. Thanks, Pete, for putting this in concise form for us.

—Skinny 🐾



# Special Matches Highlight finale of the **Civil War Sesquicentennial**



*White's Company, 35th Virginia Cavalry competes during the smoothbore musket match held at the N-SSA 130th National Competition last fall. The man in the foreground fires an original US Model 1835 Hewes & Philips percussion conversion; one of the few smoothbores to include a rear sight.* Photo by Todd Harrington

The North-South Skirmish Association (N-SSA) will hold its 131st National Competition on May 14-17, 2015, at Fort Shenandoah, near Winchester, Virginia. Member units compete in live-fire matches with original or authentic reproduction Civil War period muskets, carbines, rifles, revolvers, mortars and cannons. It is the largest Civil War event of its kind in the country.

Founded in 1950, the N-SSA has more than 3,200 individuals that make up its 200-member

teams. Each team represents a Civil War regiment or unit and wears the uniform they wore over 150 years ago.

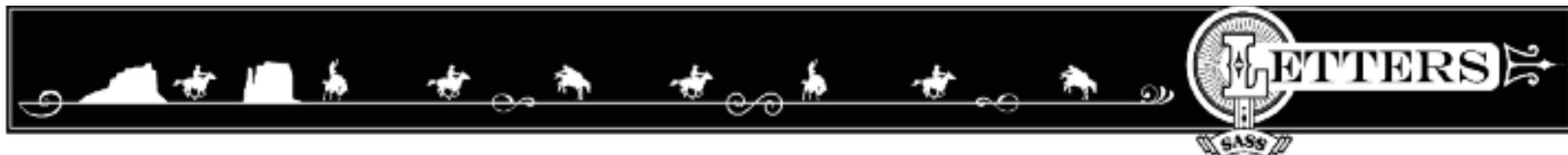
As we observe the end of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, this N-SSA National will feature two special matches. The first is a unique intercollegiate artillery match between several schools including Virginia Tech and Slippery Rock University. Cannon crews from each school will compete with guns from, and under the supervision of, N-SSA artillery units who will conduct a "School of the Piece" prior to the match. The second special match will be the inaugural "Traditional Musket Match." The purpose of the match is to encourage competition with unaltered firearms of the Civil War and using the paper cartridge ammunition of the period. Uniforms must be authentic in textiles and patterns, including period footwear.

N-SSA members come from all over the country to Fort Shenandoah each spring for this national competition that traditionally opens the year's activities. Competitions, called "skirmishes", will be held throughout the summer on a regional basis. At a skirmish, participating teams shoot at breakable targets in several timed events. The teams with the lowest cumulative times win medals or other awards.

Women participate along with the men in all events. There are also competitions for authenticity of Civil War period military and civilian dress, period music, and lectures on topics of historical interest. Spectators are welcome and admission is free. There is a large sutler area and food service is available. For more information, visit the N-SSA web site at: [www.n-ssa.org](http://www.n-ssa.org).

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# WILL COMMON SENSE EVER PREVAIL?

A recent post on the SASS Wire by Wyatt, SASS #48246, labeled “Pop Quiz” drew much interest as to what call would or should be made for a situation that is possibly or probably or likely to be encountered while a shooter is engaging a stage course of fire.

To set the stage, in essence, a person (shooter or observer) has encroached upon the shooters 170-degree field of engagement which resulted in being “swept” by the shooter with a loaded firearm. Of course, many opinions were offered that ranged from a simple one line rule being quoted, “sweeping anyone with a loaded firearm,” to lengthy discussions siding with or against the shooter and/or the person who encroached.

So, who is the guilty individual and what penalty should result? Is the shooter, while vigorously involved and mentally engaged in the course of fire, responsible for someone over whom he or she has no control, who steps into the field of fire for whatever reason, causing the shooter to make a serious rule violation? Is the RO/TO responsible for not controlling the stage and safely assisting the shooter through the course of fire? Or does the fault lie with the encroaching individual?

One could wonder and question why another shooter would voluntarily step into the field of fire, interfere with a shooter in their course of fire, be swept by a loaded firearm (probably cocked) and cause the MDQ of the shooter (which was the call by many responders to the Wire thread). Or for what reason, if it was a non-shooter or observer, was that person allowed on or so close to the firing line as to interfere with the shooter?

A few responders thought this type of action by another shooter would be a good way to get a competitor disqualified and eliminate a possible threat to their or a buddy’s chance of winning the match.

The final verdict published, by PaleWolf Brunelle, SASS# 2495, and supported by the RO Committee, was the shooter should not have received a MDQ in such circumstance for “sweeping anyone with a loaded firearm.”

After numerous opinions were posted, the question was asked by Wyatt, what penalty, if any, should be addressed to the encroaching individual because such action is not covered in the SASS rule book. Now before anyone gets upset, this article is ***not advocating another rule to be added to the book.*** In my humble opinion, such a rule already exists.

In all of my shooting experience, for more than 55 years, I have always been taught, and teach as a Certified NRA Firearms Instructor, that you **NEVER** cross a firing

line or enter a field of fire while a range is “hot.” Anytime such a violation occurs, it must be addressed instantly because of the potential of serious bodily injury or death. There is no qualifying reason good enough to relieve this responsibility from the Range Officer in charge.

A severe and stern warning should be issued to the encroaching individual for violation of the most basic simple and plain safety rule. If such individual had been assigned a position near the firing line, they should be relieved for such responsibility. All competitors present and any person legally beyond the spectator’s line should be reminded of this basic safety rule. Any reoccurrences of such action by any shooter or person should result in immediate expulsion from the match/range.

The potential accident that could result from such an occurrence would have disastrous consequences on all parties concerned. A recommendation would be to address this issue in the opening shooter’s meeting as a reminder of safety and a warning to violators that would negate the necessity of a later “severe and stern warning” on a stage.

A responder stated a MDQ was issued to a shooter for sweeping a photographer that had crept downrange taking photos of the action. First and foremost, ***any shooter*** who is required to commence a course of fire in such circumstances should flatly refuse to even touch a firearm. The RO/TO should be tar and feathered and the Match Director, if they had prior knowledge and given permission to the photographer, should resign. As for the rest of the posse, a big reminder that each and every one of them is a SAFETY OFFICER and each have a responsibility to stop an unsafe and potentially dangerous situation. For the most part, we of the Single Action Shooting Society are adults and we should not have to be reminded at every match or stage to yell “CEASE FIRE” when anyone is downrange.

Responder Ace of Hearts, SASS# 77697, topped off the thread with his contribution that can be seen at <https://www.youtube...h?v=F5AW-LHL3J4>. It shows a photographer kneeling between two targets while a line of shooters opens fire from an apparent distance of 10 to 12 feet!

In retrospect, this is simply my opinion and, like other things, everyone has at least one and sometimes two. However, regardless of what call a person would make in this circumstance, it does not relieve our responsibility to exercise basic safety rules; a responsibility that *can not be delegated to another person.*

—Sundown Jones  
SASS#5403L



# Gloves

## A Very Important Accessory

By Texas Flower, SASS Life #43753

**Note:** I enjoy all the fabulous costumes we encounter in SASS, but the many accessories have always been of interest to me, also. One of the simplest accessories, and often taken for granted, are gloves. After doing some research, I wanted to share some of my findings about the history of gloves including the Victorian Era.

— Texas Flower

Gloves are one of the most versatile and important articles of clothing. Not only did they serve a specific purpose, keeping hands warm and protected, they were an important fashion accessory and have been associated with numerous customs and symbolisms. Most of us have heard of “throwing down the gauntlet,” which was to issue a challenge.

The word glove comes from the Middle English word *glof*, which is related to the Old Norse word *glofi*. We do not know who invented the glove, but necessity probably was the mother of invention. Gloves were made by hand until 1807, when James Winter of England invented the “Gloving Donkey”



1833—Kid leather wedding gloves.



Early seventeenth century glove.

which remained in use until the invention of the sewing machine. Earlier gloves were made in three- and five-finger designs. The three-finger glove designs were referred to as country man’s gloves. Gloves date back to ancient societies. They have been found in tombs of royalty and bishops. For many centuries fashion gloves formed part of the costume worn by royalty, bishops, and higher-ranking men and women. By the fourteenth century, they were worn by members of all classes. The glove represented an outward and visible sign of a person’s wealth, power, position, social, and economic status. The fashion gloves worn by the upper class were crafted of finer



1875—Retractable glove button hook, open.



1875—Retractable glove button hook, closed.



Texas Flower,  
SASS Life #43753

leathers such as doeskin and kid. The common folk generally wore gloves of less expensive skins and designs while knights and military wore more practical leather or metal gauntlets. Being associated with cleanliness and protection, gloves quickly took on more symbolic meaning when worn by royalty

*(Continued on next page)*



## Gloves • (A Very Important Accessory) . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*

and church officials. Priests wore elaborate gloves for ceremonies. Judges often wore gloves as a symbol that their hands were unsullied by the criminals over whom they had jurisdiction. Gloves lined with money were famous as formal bribes. Men removed their right glove when coming into the presence of a social superior as a mark of respect. Keeping your gloves on indicated that you retained power by declining physical contact.



1880s—Embroidered kidskin gloves.



ied in length, style, shape, and color. From 1500 on, fabric gloves crafted from silk, satin, velvet, cotton, and linen were stylish. Gloves knitted from thread and cotton appeared around the 1600s, the same time as knitted stockings.

Women's gloves became a fashion accessory during the  
*(Continued on page 10)*

The demand for leather gloves in the 1100s resulted in the establishment of companies of Glovers. The occupation of Glover was big business throughout Europe. Glovers used a number of skins, fabrics, scents, and decorations in the crafting of gloves, which var-



1900s—Glove holder clip, usually attached to a purse.

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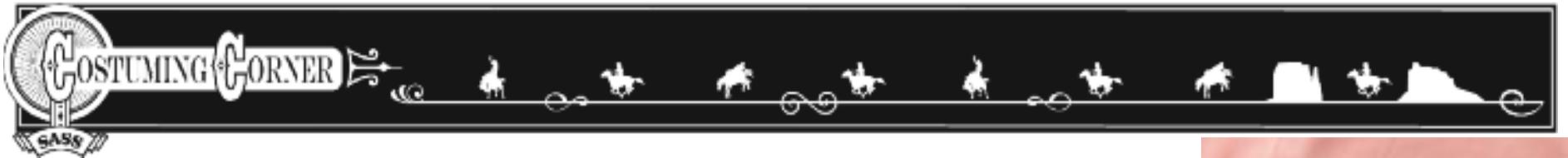
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## Gloves • (A Very Important Accessory) . . .

(Continued from page 9)

thirteenth century. Novelties in gloves included tassels, ribbons, and monograms. Some were beautifully fringed, richly embroidered, and adorned with precious stones or beadwork. Queen Elizabeth I wore jeweled and embroidered gloves. It was said that she had more than 2,000 pairs of gloves. Thanks to her obsession, gloves became the height of fashion and London became the center of the glove trade. The French also loved gloves. Napoleon I was reported to have owned at least 240 pair. After the nineteenth century French Revolution, Empress Josephine introduced a new look, the short sleeved empire waist gown paired with long over the elbow “opera gloves.”

Between 1500 and 1700, “chicken skin” gloves



Glove clip, holding gloves.

were in high demand by refined women. They were called chicken skin gloves probably because it was less disagreeable than the truth that they were actually made from the skins of unborn calves. They were so fine that they came folded in the shell of a walnut. Ladies not only wore them during the day, but also at night to keep their hands soft and white. They were often filled with marigold cream.

Perfumery was held in high regard by all eastern nations. Gloves along with hair, stockings, and shoes, all had to be scented. Scented gloves were also referred to as “sweet gloves.” Many different scents were used. A flower or spice scent would be mixed with animal fat or some kind of oil and rubbed into the glove.

Glove styles have included the short, mid-length, and long-buttoned gloves. Short gloves were generally worn in the daytime or when wearing long sleeves. When short sleeves became stylish in the 1700s, women would wear long gloves. By the 1870s, twelve- and fifteen-button white kid, silk, or velvet gloves were worn with evening or dinner dress. From 1890-1902, very long suede gloves with as many as twenty buttons were in style. The *mousquetaire* opening for women’s long gloves became popular during the Victorian era. *Mousquetaire* gloves had buttons at the wrist so the wearer could open the buttons and slip her hand out without taking the glove off. The finger section would be folded in and kept away tidily. This worked very well for dinner. After the meal, ladies would put their hands back into the gloves.

Mitts or fingerless gloves have a long history dating back to the Romans and Greeks. They kept the hands covered both from weather and from society’s censure. Since ladies often wore gloves in the home, the prac-



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Mousquetaire gloves.

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(Continued on next page)



## Gloves • (A Very Important Accessory) . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*



*Lady wearing fingerless gloves.*

tical side of fingerless gloves was they allowed a person to carry out tasks requiring finger dexterity such as stitching and embroidery.

During the Victorian Era, gloves were always worn outside of the home. It was considered poor breeding to be seen without gloves. The etiquette was so strict that ladies could not leave the house until they had their gloves on and buttoned. A lady of refinement regarded her hand as a part of her body, which was not to be displayed lightly to members of the opposite sex. It was considered bad form for a gentleman to touch a lady without his gloves on—far too intimate. The only time a lady did not wear her gloves was while eating. She would remove her gloves, place them under her napkin in her lap, and put them back on as soon as possible.



*Chicken skin glove with walnut holder.*

At large house parties, ladies came down to breakfast in gloves. At luncheons, tea parties, and anywhere there was much shaking of hands, the ladies of the

house usually wore gloves. White gloves were worn for weddings and black gloves for funerals. It was said that relatives of the deceased would often supply black gloves for the poorer members of the congregation, for fear of the shame of un-gloved



*Metal gauntlets.*

mourners. Both ladies and gentlemen wore gloves while dancing. Not only did it eliminate the problem of dancing with someone with sweaty hands, but they also kept the lady's gown protected from sweat and body oil. White gloves for men's evening dress were obligatory.

*(Continued on page 12)*

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# Gloves • (A Very Important Accessory) . . .

*(Continued from page 11)*

The tradition of wearing fashionable gloves carried well into the twentieth century. By the 1970s gloves began to fall out of favor as a part of formal dress. Gloves had made a complete circle. They were now once again used mainly to keep the hands warm or protected. But, I think we will all agree... gloves will always be a necessity!

We have heard that a lady used her fan to communicate, but it has been said that gloves were also used as a means of communication.

\*\*\*\*\*

*These are a few of the glove communication codes:*

- Twirling one's gloves around her fingers—We are being watched.
- Holding the tips of the gloves downward—I wish to be acquainted.
- Gently smoothing the gloves—I wish I were with you; I would like to talk with you.



*Wooden glove darner.*

- Holding one's gloves loosely in her right hand—Be contented.
- Holding one's gloves loosely in her left hand—I am satisfied.
- Striking one's gloves over her hands—I am displeased.
- Tossing one's gloves up gently—I am engaged.
- Tapping one's chin with her gloves—I love another.

*(Continued on next page)*

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## Gloves • (A Very Important Accessory) . . .

(Continued from previous page)



Queen Elizabeth the First gloves.



Military leather gauntlet.

- Dropping one of her gloves—Yes.
- Clenching them (rolled up) in the right hand—No.
- Dropping both gloves—I love you.
- Turning the wrong side of one's gloves outward—I hate you.
- Using them as a fan—Introduce me to your company.
- Biting the tips—I wish to be rid of you very soon.
- Folding up carefully—Get rid of your company.
- Striking them over the shoulder—Follow me.
- Right hand with the naked thumb exposed—Kiss me.
- Left hand with the naked thumb exposed—Do you love me? ♫



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# GHIVANS FERRY

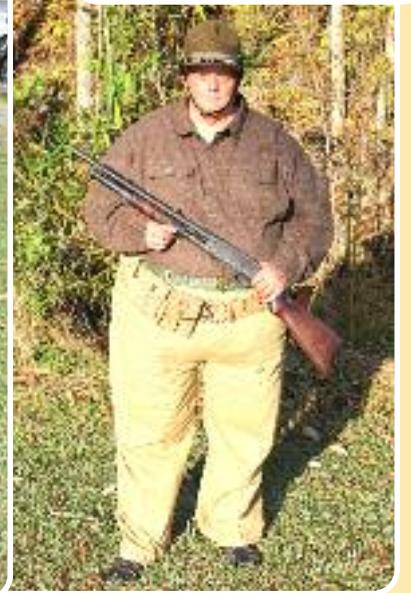
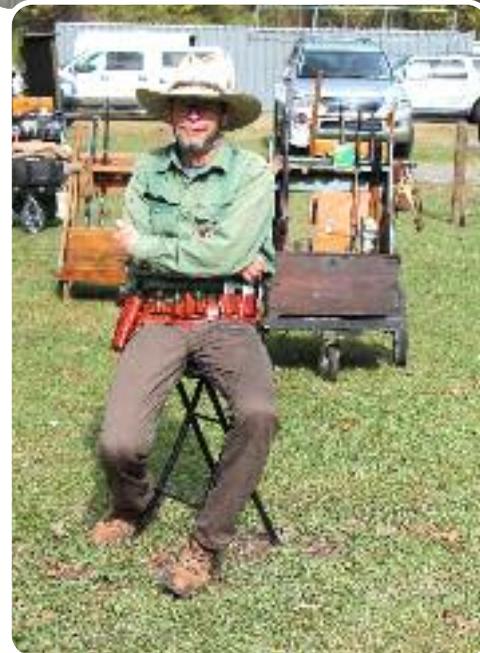
*(Continued from page 1)*

cold drinks served folks early until late.

Thursday was arrival and side-match day, the latter well attended with additions of Wild Bunch, Black Powder and new "Blast" matches. Friday and



Saturday brought the varied and imaginative main stages, which Match Director Doc Kemm (SASS #52557) and his henchmen (henchwomen sounds disrespectful, but them too) designed to please damned near everybody. There were stand and delivers, move between targets, aim at some, dump on others, and run-fast strings, rifle rhapsodies, and shotgun boogies. People were tuckered but cheerful. Nobody complained.



The Saturday night Banquet and Ball's customary raucousness was somewhat contained by vocalist Dandy Don, singing cowboy classics. Some joined in—the womenfolk sweetly, the dudes off-key as usual. Side-match awards and raffle prizes triggered applause, jeering, back-slapping and renewed pandemonium.

Sunday morning started early with Lash Toru (SASS #85004) conducting Cowboy Church, followed, in honor of Memorial Day, with a moving bagpiper and

*(Continued on next page)*

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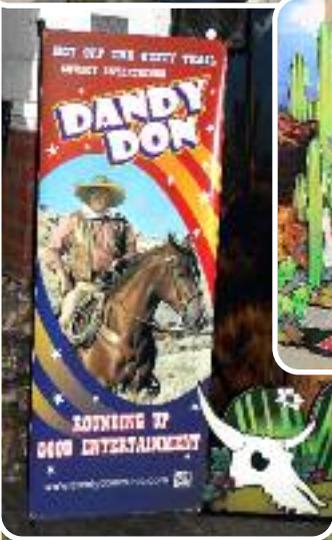
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### Ghivans Ferry ...

(Continued from previous page)

a 21-gun salute to our servicemen and women, past and present. More than a few wet eyes were noted in the audience. Next came the Main Match awards presentation under the big tent. Awards went deep, so many a cowboy and cowgirl was called up to the cheers of their fellows. (Visit the Ghivans Ferry official website



at <http://givhansferry.homestead.com/scores1.html> for complete results and for information on the 2015 match.) Near high noon, the lingering and expectant crowd was rewarded by the next best thing to the Lincoln County Range War... the Big Shootoff! The Best of the Best went head-to-head and all the knock-down targets went a' clangin'. Join us next autumn, won't 'ya? 🤠

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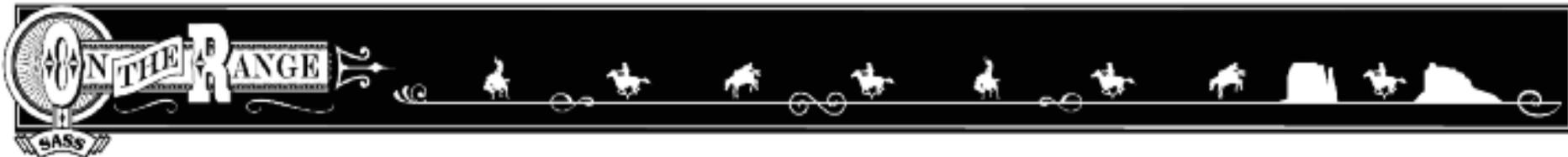
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# RANGE WAR

# 2014

*By R.J. Law, SASS Life #15466*

Another successful Range War is in the can. Range War, also known as the SASS Michigan State Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting™, is held over Labor Day weekend each year near beautiful Port Huron, Michigan. We would like to thank our Main Match Sponsor, Jimmy Spurs (SASS #65014) and Cowboy Gunworks [www.cowboygunworks.com](http://www.cowboygunworks.com), for their sponsorship of our State Championship. We would also like to thank our Main Awards Sponsor Ed's Custom Leathercrafts (Steady Eddie, SASS #29255); Hotel Sponsor, Baymont Inn & Suites; and our Raffle Sponsor, Doc Noper Gun Leather (Doc Noper, SASS #65017). Thanks also to all the vendors who helped make Range War another success. These included long time vendors and supporters of Range War, Gunpowder Creek Trading Post, Ed's Custom Leathercrafts, Major Photography, Michigan Rattler Leather, The Cowboy Outpost, and new vendors Hit More Steel, and Ears to Go. We do not ask anything of our vendors other than to treat our shooters like family.

We had a total of 231 registered shooters coming from the states of California, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas



*Our 2014 Michigan State Champions are husband and wife Deuce Stevens and K.J. Stevens, pictured with their new daughter Elsie Mae. This is their fifth time as Michigan State Champions together. Congratulations!*



*Our 2014 Overall Champions are Red River Ray from North Carolina and K.J. Stevens. We were happy to have Red River Ray join us this year for his first Range War. Congratulation!*

and Wisconsin. It was nice to see most of our old friends come back and to welcome a bunch of new shooters. We also had the regular contingent of our Canadian brothers and sisters come over the Blue Water Bridge near beautiful Port Huron. Congratulations to Overall Men's Winner, Red River Ray (SASS #33254) who attended Range War for the first time. Red River Ray came up from North Carolina with his shootin' pards Mustang Dave (SASS #95854) and Three Cut (SASS #58264). Thanks to Match Director Deuce Stevens (SASS #55996) for talking Red River Ray into coming north to Michigan to shoot with the Yankees. Congratulations also to Deuce, the Michigan State Men's Champion, and his lovely wife K.J. Stevens (SASS #62782), the Overall Ladies' Champion and the Michigan State Ladies' Champion. This was Deuce's fifth Michigan State Championship and K.J.'s ninth. We were also pleased to have 34 Clean Shooters!

This was the third year that we had on-line registration available with the option to pay via PayPal or credit card. This was again very well received.

*(Continued on next page)*



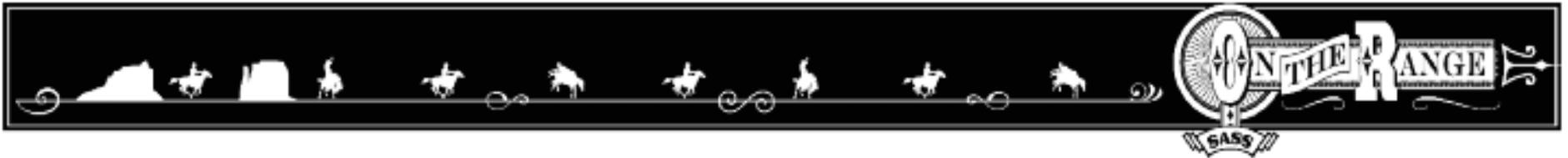


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## Range War 2014 . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*

Most of our shooters are now computer literate and appreciate the convenience of signing up on-line. Thanks again to the ladies and my daughter, Cosmopolitan Christine (SASS #89401), for coming up with the idea for on-line registration and implementing it and for doing a great job with handling registration virtually by herself.

This year we again used the ACES Scoring System to score our match. We still had a few kinks in working through this but we were all very pleased with the way ACES worked. It definitely saved a lot of time. All of our scoring over the last many Range Wars was handled manually by Camptown (SASS #22279). He is a perfectionist and takes it per-



sonally if there are any mistakes. I was happy to see that Camptown was able to shoot the match for the second time in many years. The Wolverine Rangers bit the bullet and bought ten iPads so everyone could use the same device.

For Range War 2014 we paid homage to one of our favorite Cowboy actors, Ben Johnson. Our stage scene  
*(Continued on page 18)*

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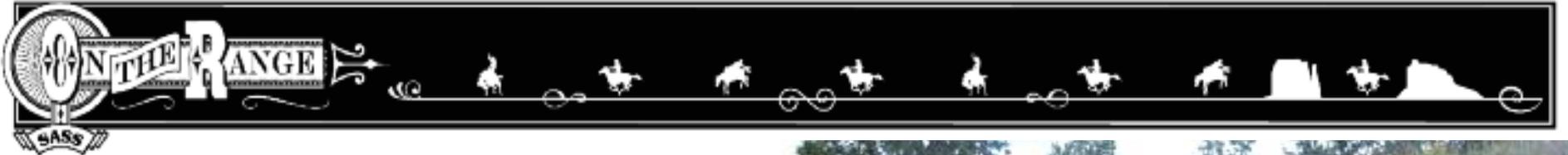
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## Range War 2014 . . .

*(Continued from page 17)*



narios and shooting lines were taken from 10 of his movies including *Fort Apache*; *She Wore A Yellow Ribbon*; *Wagon Master*; *Shane*; *Will Penny*; *The Wild Bunch*; *The Last Picture Show*; *Bite The Bullet*; *The Sacketts*; and *My Heroes Have Always Been Cowboys*. Ben Johnson was the real deal. He was a World Team

Roping Champion and was inducted in the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame in 1973. It was an honor to feature Mr. Johnson and his movies. Although he was seldom the leading man, he added authenticity to every movie he was in. All he did was play Ben Johnson.

For Range War 2015 over Labor Day weekend (September 4, 5 and 6) our theme will be Women of the West. We love our women and it is about time we made them the center of attention at Range War.

Our mission each year is to make sure Range War is a competitive and fun match for anyone who wants to participate. We know we are in the entertainment business. We want our shooters to have a fun weekend and we strive to provide good food, good entertainment, and friendly competition in a stress free environment.

On Friday, we had our Wild Bunch mini-match along with our normal side matches, including long range. We had 43 shooters participate in the Wild Bunch mini-match. We also continued with our Cowboy mini-match this year, with 75 shooters participating. We found that many of our shooters like the opportunity to engage in some practice stages with all their guns. We will definitely continue the Cowboy mini-match and the Wild Bunch mini-match in 2015. Thanks to Hoot Hamilton (Sass #86407) for running the Wild Bunch mini-match and to Straight Arrow Hombre (Sass #64386) for running the Cowboy mini-match.

Friday evening, the board of directors of the Blue Water Sportsman's Association, our Range War host, was kind enough to bring in Steve Ludeman's DJ & Karaoke Service, featuring the lovely Laurie L'Amour (SASS #94581) for a Karaoke Show on Friday night.

Saturday morning our Opening Ceremonies com-

*(Continued on next page)*

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## Range War 2014 . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*



menced at 8:30 a.m. with the safety meeting given by Match Director Deuce Stevens and with the opening prayer by First Lieutenant Bad River Marty (SASS #23076). We then shot five stages on Saturday in pleasant late summer weather. The weather in

Port Huron in early September has been great for Range War just about every year.

On Saturday afternoon, Mike Fink (SASS #29047) and Moe Guns (SASS #26854) again ran



our popular Cowboy trap event. It is an annual tradition at Range War, where our cowboys and cowgirls get to shoot their cowboy shot guns on the trap range. On Saturday evening, Ernie Sites provided the evening entertainment after dinner in the Club House. Ernie put on a great show. Ernie is a real cowboy and is a great singer. Please check out his website at [www.erniesites.com](http://www.erniesites.com).

Sunday morning started with Cowboy Church at 7:30 at the food tent on the range, led by Rev. C.S. Missalot (SASS #53069). After some spiritual nourishment at Cowboy Church, we started shooting on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and finished the remaining five

*(Continued on page 20)*

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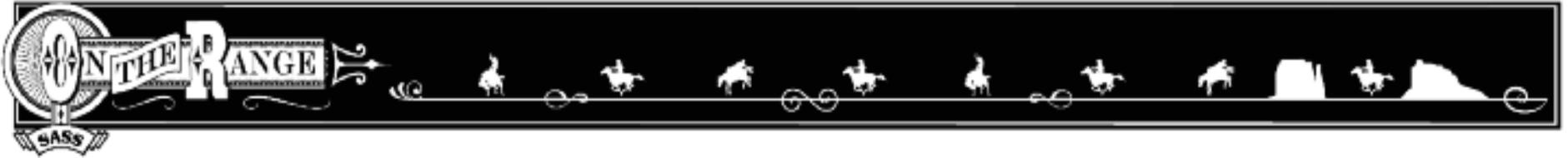
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## Range War 2014 . . .

*(Continued from page 19)*



stages. We will again be moving back the starting time for shooting on Sunday for 2015 to 9:00 a.m. to give our shooters sufficient time to attend Cowboy Church and still get their gear ready to start shooting on time.

We were able to return to our favorite banquet location this year at Alexander's in Marysville. Alexan-

der's is just a few minutes from the range and they have been our regular banquet and awards presentation location on Sunday night just about every year. We are known for having one of the nicest banquets in SASS and Alexander's is a big part of that. We already have our reservation in for 2015. Artie Fly (SASS #25397) and Sexie Sadie (SASS #25398), of Major Photography, are usually kept pretty busy at the banquet taking pictures of our cowboys in their finest frock coats and their ladies in their finest gowns and dresses. We always try to get our shooters out at a decent time after the awards presentation. We were done this year by about 8:30 p.m. Sunday is a long day and we try to be efficient in getting our business done.

We also continued a tradition we started two years ago based on a suggestion from one of the shooters, by reading the Top 10 Lady Shooters at the banquet. The Top 10 Lady Shooters for 2014 were: K.J. Stevens (SASS #67782 – Michigan); Ruby Red

*(Continued on next page)*

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## Range War 2014 . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*



Jo (SASS #71481 – Michigan); Canadian Two Feathers (SASS #70784 – Ontario, Canada); Honey B. Quick (SASS #47009 - Ohio); Katie Callahan (SASS #23077 – Michigan); Serenity (SASS #64982 – Ontario, Canada); Perfecta Vaquera (SASS #69780 – Kentucky); Cactus Kay (SASS #15157 – Michigan); Lainey Mae (SASS #62147 – Michigan) and Grannie Annie (SASS #37063 – Iowa). Congratulations to these ladies and thanks to all the SASS ladies for being our partners in this sport. It is definitely more fun to have the ladies compete with us.

Raffle awards/door prizes included a pair of Ruger Vaqueros with an action job done by Jimmy Spurs; a handcrafted holster rig donated by Doc Noper; and a handmade leather pistol case donated by Steady Eddie.

We will be trying something new for Range War in 2015 and as far as I know, it has never been done at a major SASS event. Saturday evening we will be having a Cowboy Campfire in the Campground and all shooters are invited to participate. We are asking all shooters who can play a guitar, fiddle, harmonica or any other musical instrument to bring it along. Our vision is to try to capture the feel of a bunch of Cowboys and Cowgirls sitting around the campfire on a cattle drive, singing, playing instruments, reciting Cowboy poetry, telling stories (and maybe jokes as long as they are G-Rated), and generally just having a good time. Many of us played instruments growing up and I know for a fact that we have some shooters who are pretty good at it. We will have microphones for voices but we would prefer to keep the instruments acoustic. I realize that there were not too many women on cattle drives and there were no microphones but I hope no one holds that against us.

Thanks to all of the cowboys and cowgirls who worked to make

*(Continued on page 22)*

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## Range War 2014 . . .

*(Continued from page 21)*

2014 Range War a success. Our sport does not work without many volunteers. It is not practical to list everyone by name but I would like to especially thank Camptown for his work in handling all of the scoring for the past eight years. I don't know what we would do without him. I would also like to say thanks to Artie Fly and Sexie Sadie of Major Photography for their excellent photos, which appear in this article. Last and definitely not least, I would like to thank my wife for all of her work behind the scenes and for her support in putting up with the work that I do for the Wolverine Rangers and Range War.

We look forward to having all of our shooters back and to meeting new friends in 2015. If you are looking for a competitive and fun shoot in pleasant late summer weather in Michigan's Blue Water country,

Range War over Labor Day weekend is the place to be. And by the way, don't forget to bring your musical instruments and please sign up early. We will have a cap of 250 shooters. Please visit our website at [www.wolverinerangers.org](http://www.wolverinerangers.org) for more information.



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| Overall      | Red River Ray<br>SASS # 33254     | NC | FC Duelist           | Rye Miles<br>SASS #13621                | OH | L S Senior     | Ruby Red Jo<br>SASS #71481              | MI | Andy               | SASS #20360 |
|              | Deuce Stevens<br>SASS #55996      | MI |                      | Royal Flush Chuck<br>SASS #89617        | MI | L Wrangler     | Longshot Lillian<br>SASS #94602         | MI | Horshurodinon      |             |
|              | K.J. Stevens<br>SASS #62782       | MI | FC                   | Stone Creek Drifter<br>SASS #58853      | OH | Outlaw         | Hundred X Kid<br>SASS #34788            | IN | Anita Nugun        | SASS #16235 |
| Buckaroo     | Rapid Fire<br>SASS #82608         | IN | Gunfighter           | Flat Water Johnny<br>SASS #41998        | MI | Pale Rider     | Woody Shootem<br>SASS #24816            | OH | Bad Brass          | SASS #84355 |
| B-Western    | Faygo Kid<br>SASS #26408          | MI | Frontiersman         | Split Rail<br>SASS #24707               | OH | Senior         | Doc Noper<br>SASS #65017                | MI | Baldy Bill         | SASS #23303 |
| Cattle       | Darby<br>SASS #41290              | OH |                      | Slippery Pete<br>SASS #40726            | MI | S Duelist      | Doc Roy L. Pain<br>SASS #28321          | MI | Big Bad Jim        | SASS #83859 |
| Baron        | Dakota Doc<br>SASS #9695          | MI | Grand Dame           | Cactus Kay<br>SASS #15157               | MI | S F            | Catlow<br>SASS #4697                    | OH | Boss Outlaw        | SASS #71947 |
| C Cowboy     | Ethan Callahan<br>SASS #41005     | MI | Grand Patron         | Michigander<br>SASS #48325              | MI | Cartridge      | Three Dueces McKee<br>SASS #24539       | MI | Cactus Kay         | SASS #15157 |
| C Cowgirl    | Serenity<br>SASS #64982           | ON | Gunfighter           | Boaz<br>SASS #88829                     | OH | S Gunfighter   | Lassiter<br>SASS 2080                   | OH | Camptown           | SASS #22279 |
|              | The Lady<br>SASS #15467           | MI | L B-Western          | Cayuse Jack<br>SASS #19407              | MI |                | Bad River Marty<br>SASS #23076          | MI | Canadian Major     | SASS #38916 |
| Cowboy       | Deuce Stevens<br>SASS #55996      | MI |                      | Perfecto Vaquera<br>SASS #69780         | KY | Silver Senior  | Lefty Wheeler<br>SASS #78042            | TX | Card Shark Charlie | SASS #56002 |
| Cowgirl      | K.J. Stevens<br>SASS #62782       | MI |                      | Lady Bandit<br>SASS #89877              | MI |                | Lightning Wayne<br>SASS #45658          | MI | Catlow             | SASS #4697  |
| Duelist      | Shaddai Vaquero<br>SASS #69779    | KY | L Duelist            | Laurie L'Amour<br>SASS #94581           | MI | S S Duelist    | Smokin' Iron<br>SASS #22149             | OH | Clay Creek         | SASS #65874 |
|              | Ira Bigelow<br>SASS #62675        | MI | L 49'er              | Canadian Two<br>Feathers<br>SASS #70784 | ON |                | Sauk Trail Mike<br>SASS #73580          | MI | Clint Chisum       | SASS #42877 |
| Elder        | Hoot Hamilton<br>SASS #86407      | MI |                      | Lainey Mae<br>SASS #62147               | MI | Wrangler       | Three Cut<br>SASS #58264                | NC | D.K. Tracker       | SASS #80366 |
| Statesman    | Red River Ray<br>SASS #33254      | NC | L F                  | Miss Elaineous<br>SASS #45042           | MI |                | Straight Arrow<br>Hombre<br>SASS #64386 | MI | Deuce's Uncle      | SASS #61848 |
| 49'er        | Card Shark Charlie<br>SASS #56002 | MI | L Gunfighter         | Bdoc<br>SASS #76983                     | PA | Young Gun      | Crazy Nate<br>SASS #78754               | MI | Johnny             |             |
| F. Cartridge | Mean Gun Mark<br>SASS #78668      | OH | L Senior             | Honey B. Quick<br>SASS #47009           | OH | Young Gun Girl | Kaya<br>SASS #98924                     | IN | Doc Noper          | SASS #65017 |
|              | Crazy Mingo<br>SASS #64041        | MI | L Sr                 | Granny Annie<br>SASS #37063             | IA |                | Ginger<br>SASS #101093                  | MI | Drover Dan         | SASS #47291 |
|              |                                   |    | Gunfighter           |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Faygo Kid          | SASS #26408 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Flush Draw         | SASS #86966 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Gray Squirrel      | SASS #46705 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Henry Moon Shine   | SASS #95950 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Hey Sugar          | SASS #93109 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Hoot Hamilton      | SASS #86407 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Horse Keeper       | SASS #59867 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | J.J. Longley       | SASS #38655 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | J.R. Hammer        | SASS #45907 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Kid Orion          | SASS #30621 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | K.J. Stevens       | SASS #67782 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Lady Bandit        | SASS #89877 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Lainey Mae         | SASS #62147 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Lefty Dutchman     | SASS #41480 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Montana Longhair   | SASS #27261 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Rodent             | SASS #41270 |
|              |                                   |    |                      |                                         |    |                |                                         |    | Rogues Pierre      | SASS #18436 |

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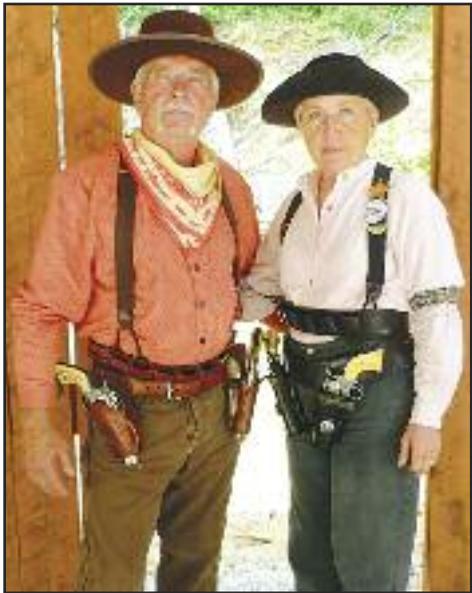
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# SHOOTIN' OUR WAY ACROSS AMERICA Vermont



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

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

Going into Vermont, our 45<sup>th</sup> state, we found more choices for camping than you can imagine. Vermont has it all, kayaking, historic sites, fly fishing, rock climbing, gold panning, theater, farmers markets, artisan cheeses, wineries, covered bridges, and real maple syrup. Vermont has 52 state parks with tent sites, cabins, lean-tos, and only one U.S. Army Corps of Engineers site at Winhall Brook. Our choice was clear; Winhall Brook has water and electric with a dump station where we can camp with our Golden Age Pass for a grand total of \$11 per night. Rio and I chose to drive the Connecticut River National Byway, Scenic Route 100, the Crossroads of Vermont, Molly Stark Byway and part of the Stone Valley Byway; each drive showcasing the best and most beautiful of Vermont.

Verdant Mountain Vigilantes Cowboy Action club is located on the grounds of the Caledonia Forest and Stream Club at Marshfield, Vermont. The Caledonia Forest and Stream Club Pledge is as fol-



lows: "I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its soil and minerals, its forests, waters and wildlife." Food for thought? Our first day in we met Northern Hayseed (SASS #52502. Hayseed has been a member of the Caledonia Forest and Stream Club for 69 years. We found him to be a walking history book for the club.

The Verdant Mountain Vigilantes hosted the fifth annual Vermont State Cowboy Action Shooting<sup>TM</sup> Championship August 8 through 10, 2014, with 84 registered shooters. Eleven states were represented, with shooters from Vermont, Arizona, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Alaska, and Florida. Founding sponsors were Molten Lead, the Dalton Gang, the Dude Bandit, Harvard Ghost Riders, LaValley Building Supply, Robins Mountain

*(Continued on next page)*





**Shootin' Our Way Across America • Vermont**  
*(Continued from previous page)*

Outdoor Sports, Circle K Regulators, and Belmont Forge. There were many unique things about this shoot, one of which was a bottle of true Vermont maple syrup donated by Chuck Bolton, one of a kind awards made by Klassic Laser Works (the Tazzmanian Kid, SASS #45750, and Single Rose, SASS #52133), and portapotties, sponsored by Chuck Would for the fifth year, naming just a few.

A special award for five years of above and beyond service was presented to Doc McCoy (SASS #8381) who acted as Match Director. Doc was aided and abetted by the Green Mountain Mayhem Committee, with Buckskin Ranger (SASS #21941), Ol' Beaver Tooth (SASS #57336), Chelsea Kid (SASS #47400),

Spirit Warrior (SASS #57526), Emma Goodcook (SASS #49743), Belle Evans (SASS #76517), and Three Barrel Chris (SASS #70513). Three Barrel Chris wrote six fun and fast stages. Island Pond Paul (SASS #65015) and Three Barrel Chris are the new  
*(Continued on page 26)*



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**Shootin' Our Way Across America • Vermont**

*(Continued from page 25)*



SASS Vermont State Champions, with Jimmy Spurs (SASS #65014) and Crystal Creek Chris (SASS #64500) the Top Guns overall. All the scores are available for your perusal on their website, [www.greenmountainmayhem.com](http://www.greenmountainmayhem.com).

We were privileged to meet a bunch of new cowboys, and especially so in getting to shoot with Renegade Roper (SASS #86367), Six Gun Schwaby (SASS #87405), Milo Sierra (SASS #22947), Bear Lee Tallable

(SASS #23670), Tazzmanian Kid, Penny Candy (SASS #89708), Crackshot Bev (SASS #59869), Birdie Cage (SASS #32773), Three Barrel Chris, and Belle Evans; a nice mix of old friends and new ones. Gotta comment on the artwork on the stages. Ol' Beaver Tooth creates a new character each year to add to the stage decorations. Not just simple decorations, but elaborate beautifully done caricatures

*(Continued on next page)*



### Shootin' Our Way Across America • Vermont

*(Continued from previous page)*



of old west characters.

It was evident that lots of hard work, careful planning and thought went into the Vermont State

Match, stages were good, targets good, camping excellent, food good, and shooters the best! Thanks for having us. 🐾

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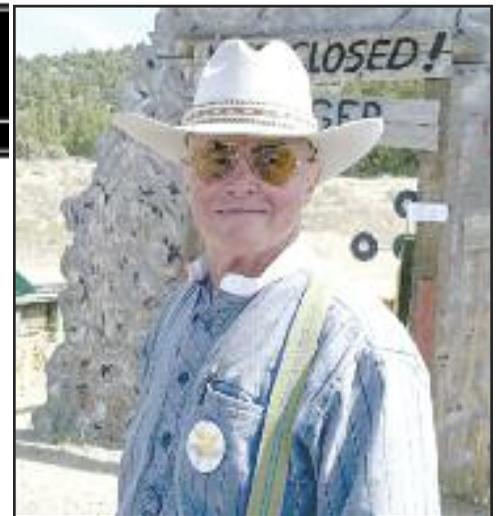
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# GETTING BLOWN AWAY

## Or Shooting in a Gale!

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375



Palaver Pete,  
SASS Life/Regulator  
#4375

*“In an effort to distribute the workload evenly within the Posse, and as a means of preventing ‘burnout,’ the Pine Mountain Posse is asking more women to get involved in stage design and set-up.”*



Range Officer Sunrise Bill closely watches a warmly-dressed GDub stage her rifle on Stage 5.

**Bend, Oregon:** Latitude 44° 03’ North—121° 18’ West. The Wind over the Shooting Range in Central Oregon can sometimes be of epic proportions. No, that’s saying it too mildly—let’s change that—the wind can sometimes be of epic *Tornado ranking*. The latter was the case on Sunday, November 9, when a few brave members of the Pine Mountain Posse (PMP) took the field to gut-it-out in the wind for five stages, while laughing in Mariah’s face—“take that Mariah,” they said, “you simply do not understand the heart and soul of a Cowboy Action Shooter. You’re huffing and puffing is totally futile... period.” (PS: in case you didn’t know it, *Mariah* is the name of the Wind Goddess—you know, like Frankie Lane used to sing it... Okay pardos, our younger cowboys may need help on that one!)

While our iPad score keeper, Diamond Willow (SASS #37688) was swathed in coats and blankets, Hoss Reese (SASS #88815) took the first place trophy

home with a dazzling 125.14 seconds total time for five wind-blown stages. An incredible average of 25 seconds per stage or, another way of saying it, 24 rounds out of four different firearms while moving 10 to 15 yards in less than half a minute! No wonder he is called “Hoss” Reese. Hoss was not alone in his performance, as both yours truly and Deadwood Pete (SASS #57450) did the same in 27 and 29 seconds respectively. Well, now, perhaps having Mariah around does help blow the bullets in the right direction!

One advantage to having Mariah around is how she can rapidly disperse the smoke created by black powder shooters such as The Stonewood Kid (SASS #62875) and Tetherow Tex LaRue (SASS #90999). Mariah did, with her huffing and puffing, make it easier to see and to breathe. One disadvantage to Mariah’s presence is she caused our esteemed Territorial Governor, Sunrise Bill (SASS #64301) to slip a bit, thus landing him so far down the standings that they had to pump oxygen to him. Bill will avenge himself next month, no doubt. Stages were designed and set-up by GDub (SASS #98435), Deadwood Pete, and

*(CLICK HERE to continue on page 31)*



You can tell it’s windy when three out of four cowboys walk with their heads bowed to the wind. As for the other one, well, best left unsaid.



# Pine Mountain Posse

## FEBRUARY MATCH—For Those Without the Flu!

*By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375*



**Palaver Pete,  
SASS Life/Regulator  
#4375**



Many of our Posse members were in Arizona, preparing for Winter Range, the SASS National Championship Match held annually in late February and early March at the Ben Avery Range, outside of Cave Creek. But posse members who remained behind in wintry Oregon, were either at our February 8 match or home sick in bed with the flu.

We were fortunate this month to have visitors from the Siuslaw River Rangers, located in Florence, Oregon. Brother Bob, SASS #79444, and his son, Deshoots Kid, SASS #50225, added their smiling faces to our posse, which helped brighten the day. Brother Bob finished third, just 3.25 seconds behind Whisperin' Wade, SASS #36209, while Deshoots topped the Cowboy category, just ahead of GDub, SASS #98435, who won the Lady Senior category. It's always a pleasure to welcome our shooting friends from other Oregon clubs. Exchanging visits like this helps us gain different ideas for stage design and shooting scenarios. Sharing stage ideas with our friends is a big positive for our sport—keeping things dynamic is the key to defeating monotony.

Top Shooter for the day was Hoss Reese, SASS #88815, who not only took first place overall, but also had the fastest time for three of the five stages. His best performance was Stage 3, where he polished-off

3 rifle, 3 Revolver, and 3 shotgun targets in 18.28 seconds (while moving as well). Arctic Annie, SASS #37265, came in fourth overall, while winning the Lady 49'er Category and The Legend, SASS #36069, was right behind Annie, winning the Senior Gunfighter category. The best "yours truly" could do was place fourth on Stage 2, with a not so blistering time of 34.56—oh well, at least it was clean. Diamond Willow, SASS #37688, with help from Arctic Annie and GDub, set the lunch table with lasagna topped off with an Italian green salad and the usual dietary desserts, such as frosted cookies, potato chips, and things like that. Diamond Willow also kept score while sitting alongside the posse's mobile stage heater—what a gal! Thanks, ladies!

Coming soon: the Pine Mountain Posse Second Annual Wild Bunch Match, May 8, 9, and 10 at the COSSA Range. Registration forms and match flyer are now available on our website under EVENTS. Also available are recent shooting scores as well as photos and a calendar of upcoming events. For recent Cowboy Action Shooting™ information, please visit our website at: [www.pinemountainposse.com](http://www.pinemountainposse.com). You're a daisy if ya do. 🌻



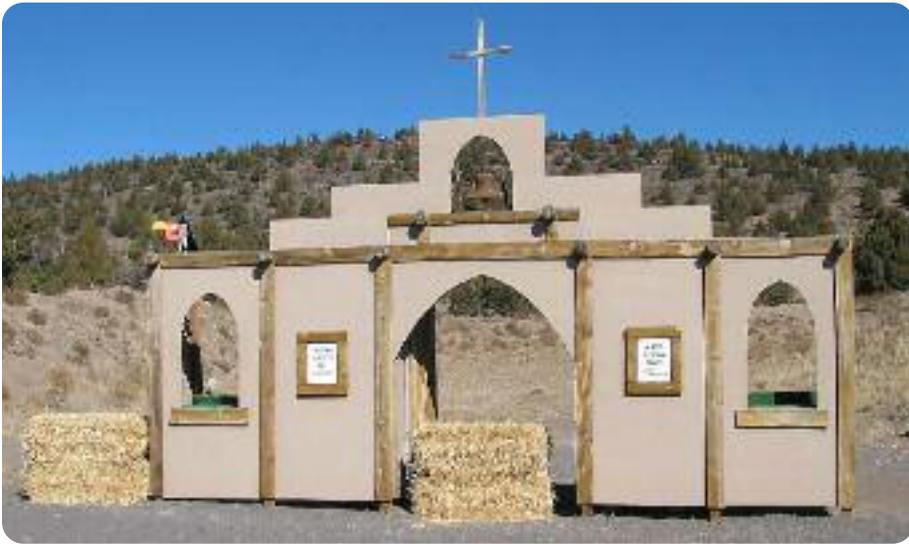


# January Thaw *at* HORSE RIDGE PISTOLEROS



*Tequila Rosie,  
SASS #94434*

*By Tequila Rosie, SASS #94434*



**B**end, OR. Sunday, January 18, 2015 dawned with a beautiful rosy hue saturating earth and sky after a blustery night of wind and rain, and it watched as eight intrepid cowboys and cowgirls strapped on their gun belts, checked their guns, made sure they had enough ammo to chase away those wintertime blues, and headed on out to the Horse Ridge Pistoleros Range. This was, after all, the first shoot of 2015. What



*GDub, SASS #98435*

with all the snow, wind, and bone-chilling temperatures, these cowpokes hadn't seen the range in a long, long while.

Excitement filled the air as Pecos Bill Corrigan, SASS #79317, and Poke, SASS #4968, set stages with able-bodied assists from Major J.B. Jones, SASS #9133, Sunrise Bill, SASS #64301, and Big Casino, SASS #4306. Soon, the smell of fresh perked coffee filled the air and beckoned the other cowpokes and cowpokes to head on up to the shack to grab a cup o' Joe, sign in and stand around jawin' and playing catch up on all the range gossip until head honcho Big Casino yelled out "It Is Time!"

All the cowpokes had a great old time and lots of laughter could be heard from the stages as cowpokes moaned; "I can't believe I did that," "Did I really miss that target," or "What do you mean I didn't shoot that right." Tequila Rosie kept score for the cowpokes and let them peek at other shooters' scores to see who

*(Continued on next page)*

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## January Thaw at Horse Ridge Pistoleros . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*

could beat whose score.

The weather was perfect, sunny and kinda warm, with a breeze that sprung up now and then. Of course, just as we were finishing up, the wind really kicked up and it got a little chilly, but nobody seemed to mind. Guns were packed away and everyone headed to the shack for more jawin', coffee, and awards. Alas, nobody shot clean (musta been all that lazing around done in front of the roaring fires during the snowstorms and icy weather). Anyhoo, The shooters all did pretty darn good considerin', and all cowboys took home blue ribbons in their categories. Now how about them apples?

Anyway, we all had fun and are lookin' forward to our next shoot. Poke has already warned us that we'd



*Sunrise Bill and Big Casino*

better make sure we have lots and lots of shotgun shells ready, 'cuz we all know Poke loves those shotgun shoot 'em ups.

For more information on our shoots, go to our website, [www.hrp-sass.com](http://www.hrp-sass.com).

## Getting Blown Away ... Or Shooting in a Gale!

*(Continued from page 28)*

Sierra Sage Sue (SASS #57487). In an effort to distribute the workload evenly within the Posse, and as a means of preventing "burnout," PMP is asking more women to get involved in stage design and set-up. This match proved it can easily be done, and women have every bit as much imagination as any man—great job ladies.

Silver Sage Outlaw (SSO), SASS #70532, and Cascades Annie (CA), SASS #70533, finally got through a match without a broken gun—ending a curse that has haunted them for the past several months. SSO placed fifth overall, while CA placed right behind the Shevlin Kid (SASS #72550), who took eighth place. Sierra Sage Sue placed a bit lower than is usual for her, due to her decision to switch category and shooting style. On the other hand, our Senior Gunfighter, The Legend (SASS #36069) proved once again that age is nothing but a numerical figure—his accurate and fast shooting placed him well up in the rankings, to no one's surprise. When the shooting was done and targets put away, the Posse retreated to the club house where a huge pot of hot Chicken Soup was rapidly devoured—thank you Diamond Willow and all our ladies for being the good pards you are!

That's it for now folks—to view final scores by time and category, plus other Northwest news, please visit our website at: [www.pinemountainposse.com/](http://www.pinemountainposse.com/) you're a Daisy if ya do. ♪

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



# DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR

*By Captain George Baylor SASS #24287 Life Regulator*

## Ultrasonic Gun Cleaning, Unicorns, and the Holy Grail

Cleaning guns is not difficult. I've been doing it (shudder) for about 50 years. Starting out making an M-1 Garand pass inspection from a martinet senior cadet trying to be the next George S. Patton was a good start. Keeping guns running the jungle was great training. I had a 1911A1 with no finish that I could clean and oil and then put it in a holster, count to 10, and pull it out to find rust on every corner. I had an XM177E2 "Colt Commando" that the safety rusted in the "safe" position in 24 hours. Cleaning guns so they don't fail in SASS competition, by comparison, is a low stress, enjoyable exercise.



**DURING:**  
*2 ROAs and cylinders in Lyman 6000 Turbo Sonic cleaner with Lyman Turbo Sonic steel parts cleaner and water.*



**BEFORE:**  
*Stainless Ruger Old Army after a long match with cap residue on recoil shield and hammer.*



**BEFORE:**  
*ROA Cylinder crusted with cap residue.*



**BEFORE:**  
*Cylinder from the front. Chambers dirty.*



**BEFORE:**  
*ROA Barrel.*

## Percussion, on the Other Hand

But cleaning a percussion pistol is still a pain. Percussion firearms have one source of crud, contamination, and corrosion that cartridge firearms don't—cap residue. Primers leave residue, but it's inside the cartridge case. Cap residue covers nipples, cylinder cutouts, the recoil shield, the hammer slot, and the hammer. It is impervious to any easy methods of removal I have so far discovered. Now that I've said that, I know I'll get two kinds of responses from long time percussion shooters: A. "I don't have any trouble cleaning them..." followed by some method that takes 15 minutes per nipple, or B. "I've never removed mine, and they work fine."

That's black powder. Everyone has his own way of doing things, and his is "THE ONE TRUE WAY."

Perhaps someday the Answer B. guy will need to remove his gun's nipples. Karma tends to be (oops, gotta insert PG substitute), ah, difficult. I could write an entire article about what's required. But I

*(Continued on next page)*



## Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*



**AFTER:**  
Hammer still needs a little brushing but is much cleaner.



**AFTER:**  
Recoil shield and hammer after 25-minute soak, about 95 percent cleaned.



**AFTER:**  
Grip frame and spring assembly exceptionally clean.

won't. If you remove yours occasionally, clean them, and put Never-Seize on the threads and reinstall them, you won't have to know.

Along the way I've tried 326 different methods of cleaning nipples "the easy way," but who's counting?



**AFTER:**  
Barrel very clean. One pass with Bore Snake with oil on aft end completed the job.



**AFTER:**  
Hammer slot clean.

## The Holy Grail, by Definition, is Hard to Find

The REAL easy way is the holy grail of percussion shooters. Hard ways are no problem. I know several hard ways. Scrub them with a wire brush. You can remove them and put them in a jig (a nut of the correct thread mounted in a vise), or you can do them on the gun. Scrub the front. Turn the nipples 180°, scrub the back, and then tighten.

### Unicorn

I've talked with several vendors who said they had the Unicorn, the product that would magically clean the nipples. I've told all of these vendors, "If your product works, you'll see an article on it in *The Cowboy Chronicle*." You haven't seen that article, have you? That's because NOTHING WORKED. Some were great products for cleaning AR15s

*(Continued on page 34)*



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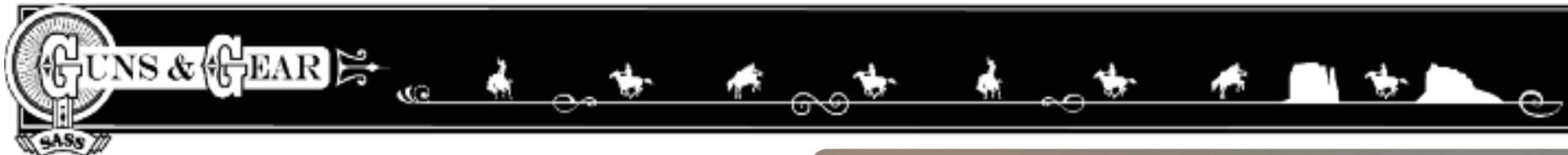
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## Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

(Continued from page 33)



**AFTER:**  
*Q-tip picks up nothing when run through hammer slot.*



**AFTER:**  
*Cylinder and nipples much cleaner. But when nipples rotated 180°, crud was still found on inside, requiring light brushing to remove.*



*Stainless Ruger New Vaquero very clean after 15-minute sonic soak, BUT there were internal rust problems the next day. Sonic cleaning removes all oil, and flash rust can result. OIL ENTIRE FIREARM IMMEDIATELY on removing from bath.*

or 1911s, but they don't use percussion caps.

Fast forward to late 2014. Another percussion shooter told me that his ultrasonic cleaner was getting the nipples clean in five minutes in the magic bath. I'd been considering an ultrasonic cleaner for a while to help clean guns. That meant one big enough to clean a pair of 5-1/2" barreled Ruger Old Armies at once. So I decided to get one. I wound up with the Lyman 6000 Turbo Sonic Cleaner.

Using Lyman's Turbo Sonic cleaner with distilled water for steel parts, I began testing on two Ruger Old Armies that had run a long match with black powder. The default setting was



**AFTER:**  
*Chambers all clean inside.*

five minutes with the temperature set to 104°F, I cleaned the first gun in five-

minute intervals to 20 minutes. Much of the gun was clean except for the hammer and part of the recoil shield.

The nipples were cleaner, but not past the point of needing a wire brush, especially on the inside surface of the cap. I tried turning the nipples 180° on one gun and leaving the others in place and cleaning for 30 minutes. The inner surface still needed wire brushing, but not as much, and the cylinder was exceptionally clean. 30 minutes is the maximum on the on-board timer, so I didn't try longer times.

I also detail stripped one gun after a 30-minute session to see if the hammer slot and pawl slot were clean. There was a little crud that came off easily. This is normally an area that gets cruddy if you don't detail strip the gun occasionally. My verdict was this process would still be necessary, but not as often. That is a good thing. Complete disassembly of a three-screw Ruger requires coordination and manual dexterity.

*(Continued on next page)*

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## Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*



**BEFORE:**  
*Carrier from '73 rifle, abnormally grungy.*

### Stainless Steel

Note that my Old Armies are both stainless steel. Also note that ultrasonic cleaning will remove ALL of the oil from the metal, including oil embedded in the pores. Any surface that CAN rust WILL—almost instantly. I am not kidding. I am not overstating the problem. One technical manual on ultrasonic cleaning recommends two units, one with cleaning solution, and the other with oil. Of course, that technical manual was written by a company that sells ultrasonic cleaners.

### Flash Rust

Flash Rust is a SASS alias that is currently available. It is also what can happen to a gun with carbon steel parts, even in the desert. This hasn't been a problem with my Old Armies. For one thing I have managed to spray on a light coat of oil on all surfaces and through the mainspring slot, the hammer slot, the pawl slot, and the bolt slot. I do this as soon as I get the gun dried off after its ultrasonic bath. I learned what could happen when I missed a spot on one of my Ruger Vaqueros. The next morning the pawl was rusted to the side of the hammer. Disas-

sembly and polishing was required. Ultrasonic cleaning of the Vaqueros routinely is overkill, and when I do it in the future on an occasional basis, I'll detail strip it and get oil into every screw-hole, etc.

For my carbon steel Wild Bunch 1911, ultrasonic cleaning worked very well. I did manage to oil all surfaces inside and out.

### Brass Cleaning

The Lyman unit cleaned dirty black powder brass in 15 minutes as well as a vibratory tumbler could in 12 hours. BUT it didn't polish the brass. I'll continue to use the rotary tumbler and stainless steel media to clean and polish brass. But if I didn't have one, the ultrasonic cleaner would serve as a multipurpose item. It should be noted that brass cleaned by ultrasound is FUNCTIONALLY as good as brass cleaned and polished by stainless media/rotary tumbler. It just isn't as shiny and pretty.

### After Cleaning

The unit comes with a useful draining system. There's about a gallon of water and cleaning additive to dispose of before you put the unit away. It has a three-foot section of tubing to attach to a drain, and there's a convenient switch to turn to drain it. I've drained it into a gallon jug or a five-gallon bucket. It's convenient and fairly quick. I also poured a gallon of heated water into the unit with the valve open, conveniently draining it into the bucket.

It should be noted that the unit would not heat water quickly. I finally saw the light bulb over my

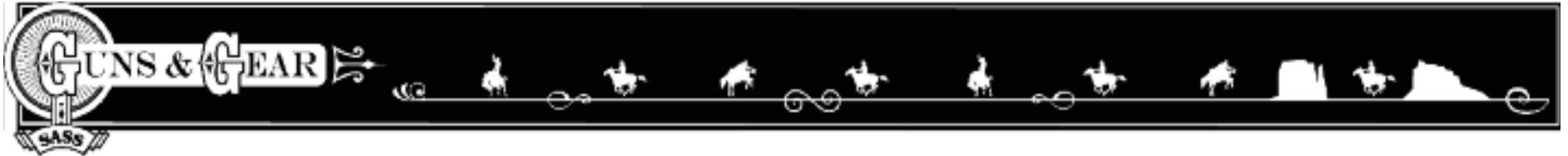
*(Continued on page 36)*

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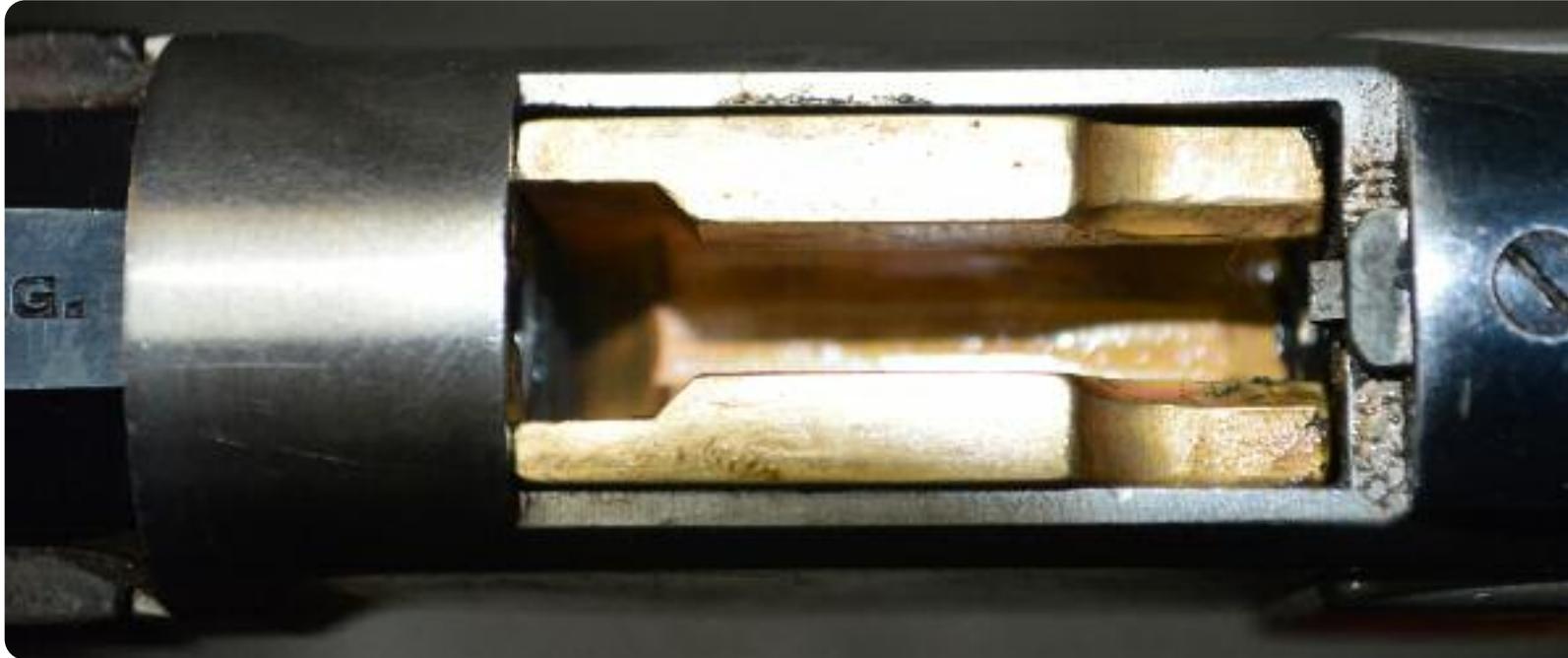
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## Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

*(Continued from page 35)*



**AFTER:**  
*Carrier  
reinstalled  
in rifle.*

head and brought in a jug of water from the hot water tap. It started at 100°. The heat settings on the machine range from 104° to 140°F. If heat is important to you, put in hot water and run a 20-

minute cycle before putting in the gun(s). Re-used solution, of course, would be room temperature.

The timer ranges from five to 30 minutes. Start *(Continued on next page)*

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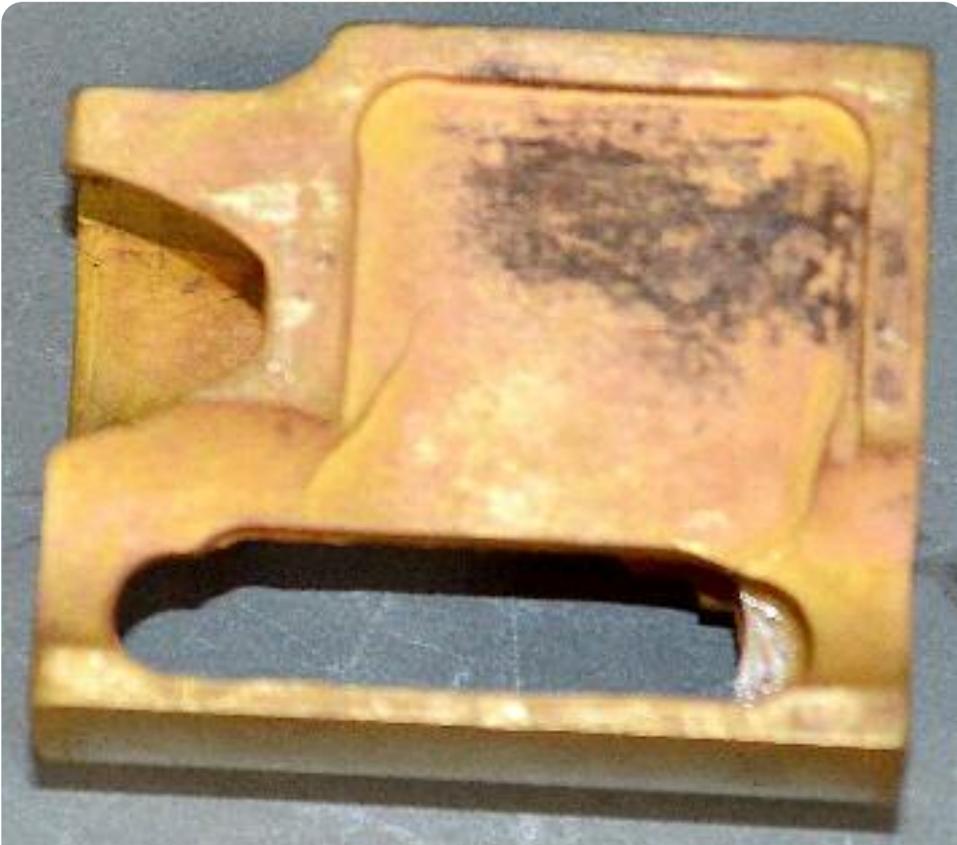
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## Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*



**AFTER:**

*Carrier after 25 minutes sonic cleaning using Lyman Turbo Sonic Brass Cleaner.*

testing at the low end and add five minutes at a time until happy with the results. You can damage a gun with excess ultrasound. I have noted that screws have loosened during ultrasound. Or, perhaps the shop is haunted.

### Verdict

The Lyman unit is well constructed and designed and works well. It is not the Unicorn or the Holy Grail. Scrubbing the nipples and other surfaces is still needed, but not as much. On the other hand, most of the time the bore was clean and didn't need scrubbing, maybe one pass with a Bore Snake. Parts that are never clean were clean; parts like the frame screw heads, which are recessed and haven't had clean slots since 2003. Flash rust is a problem that can be prevented by thoroughly lubricating parts, but you have to know it exists.

If you don't shoot percussion pistols this will probably solve most of your difficult cleaning problems, at least for guns that will fit. Since most of you shoot that evil smokeless stuff, you will probably really like ultrasonic cleaning—IF YOU OIL THOROUGHLY IMMEDIATELY. It's part of my cleaning arsenal now.

If you sell a product that really will clean cap residue encrusted nipples without use of a brush, contact me, and, to quote "Young Guns," I'll make you famous. 🐉




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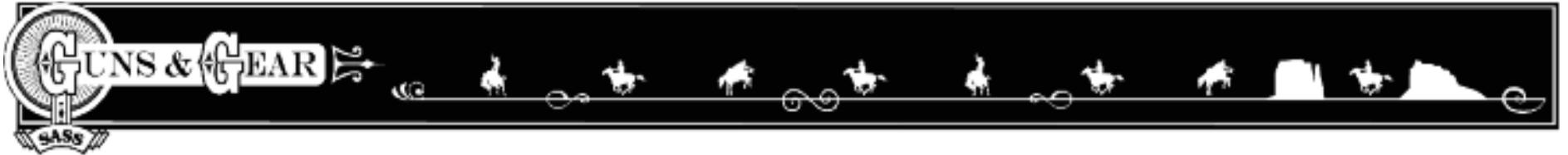
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# LOADING BRASS SHOTGUN SHELLS

By Major Art Tillery SASS #87441



I am a member of the Butterfield Gulch Gang out of Chapman, KS and recently have started loading the Magtech brass shotshells in 12 gauge 2½" chamber. These shells can be found online at Cabela's, Midway USA, The Sportsman's Guide, and other such sites. Below is a list of things you need to get started. I shoot these from a Stoeger Coach Gun and have had great success... and have not yet had to resize them. (Some guns may be different.) Here's what you need:

- Magtech 12 gauge brass shotshells
- Large pistol primers (I use CCI #300)
- FFG black powder or substitute (I use American Pioneer Powder)
- 11 gauge .125" Maxi nitro card (Ballistic Products Inc.)
- 11 gauge ½" fiber cushion wads (Ballistic Products Inc.)
- 10 gauge overshoot cards (Ballistic Products Inc.)
- 1-ounce shot cups (I cut these from WAA12SL shotgun wads)
- Duco cement
- Lead shot (I use 7½ or 8 shot)
- ¾-inch wooden dowel rod
- 12 gauge shell holder (RCBS sells one)



*(Continued on next page)*

# Loading Brass Shotgun Shells . . .

(Continued from previous page)



To start off I prime the brass using a RCBS 12 gauge shell holder (you can purchase one from Midway USA at <http://www.midwayusa.com/product/214811/rcbs-cowboy-shellholder-12-gauge-brass-case>). I use it and my Rock Chucker press priming arm to install a large pistol primer into each shell.

Now that the primer has been installed it is time to add a powder charge, I use APP (American Pioneer Powder), a black powder substitute. If you look on their website (<http://americanpioneerpowder.com/loading.html>) it says to use 51 grains FFG powder charge by weight, with one ounce of shot. Now, the 51 grains by weight is different than how most black powder is measured, which is by volume, but that is how they have it listed, so that is how I did it for my brass shot shells. I feel that makes for a nice low-recoil load.

A set of Lee dippers or such helps a lot with loading the correct powder load, I have an adjustable dipper and 51 grains happens to be about what the lowest setting is, so I just dip up the powder, level it off and pour it in. (I have also used a "square load," which is

*(Continued on page 40)*



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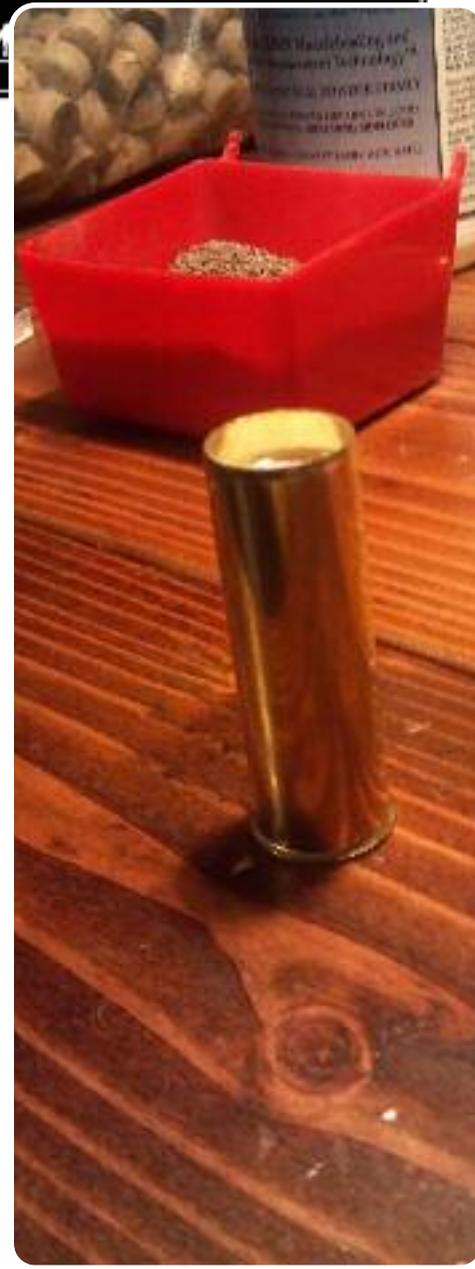
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## Loading Brass Shotgun Shells . . .

(Continued from page 39)



basically one ounce of BP substitute and one ounce of shot of your choice. That works well on heavier knock downs targets.)

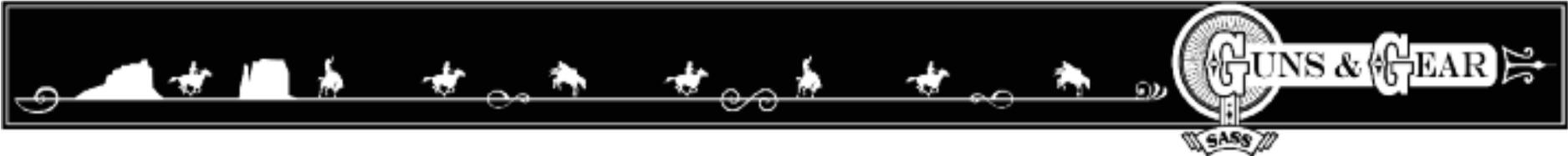
Then I place an 11 gauge .125" Maxi nitro card on top of the powder charge and press it down using the 3/4" wooden dowel. You can kind of get a feel for how much compression to give... I just kind of "lean" into it. Once you have placed the nitro card in, it is time to add two 11 gauge 1/2" inch fiber cushion wads on top of the nitro card, forming a one-inch column. The cards I use are not pre-lubed. Some people prefer the lubed ones, but I have not noticed a difference in the non-lubed ones. Once again, press these two wads down using the wooden dowel rod. Some people use just a regular "red" shotgun wad in this step instead of the two fiber wads. I learned using the fiber wads, so that is what I stick with, but the "red" wad is another option to try if you like.

The next step is to add the shot. Like I mentioned, I use one ounce of 7 1/2 or 8 lead shot. Most clubs I

shoot at do not want you using anything larger. There are a couple of different ways I have tried on this step. The first way is to just dump the shot right on top of the fiber wads, which seems to make the pattern scatter a bit out of the barrel. The second way is to use a shot cup from a normal shotgun wad, which I just cut off using a knife. The shot cups I use come from the "pink" WAA12SL wads. This option seems to keep the pattern a little tighter for knock down targets. You can mess around and see what works best for you. Now that the shot is in the shell it is time to add the overshot card. For this card I use a 10 gauge overshot card. It is placed on top of the lead shot and once again pressed down with dowel rod... remember just kind of "lean" into it. Once that is done take the Duco cement and place a bead of glue around the edge of the overshot card. Some people use hot glue, "liquid glass," silicone, or Elmers, among others. I have had really good luck with the Duco cement, and it can be picked up at most stores.

As you might have noticed none of the wads or cards I am using are true 12 gauge size. This is because of the thin-walled Magtech brass, the inside diameter of which

(Continued on next page)



## Loading Brass Shotgun Shells . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*

is larger than a true 12 gauge, so you use slightly larger size wads and cards to get a better and tighter fit. Also, the wads I use are BPI brand (<http://www.ballisticproducts.com/default.asp>). There is another brand called Circle Fly Wads (<http://www.circlefly.com/index.html>), which is also very popular.

The final process I do is to slightly roll the edge of the brass for easier feeding into a double barrel. Some people do not do this step and just leave the brass as is. (Adding a roll crimp will work the brass and eventually cause splits.) I do this using an RCBS shotgun reloading die I have that fits into my Rock Chucker Press. The original use of the die was to remove the “nail head” from plastic shotgun shells after crimping. But I have found it to work very well for this purpose. Now you have a brass shot shell! Just repeat for however many you wish. I load four boxes at a time.

If you’re going to use Brass shot shells in, say an 1897 Winchester pump, you probably need to have some type of roll crimp to help chamber the shell when the action is worked. There are a few different options for dies that work for the 12 gauge brass. One is made by RCBS, (<http://www.midwayusa.com/Product/296286/rcbs-cowboy-brass-shotshell-die-12-gauge>).

It comes with a 12 gauge shell holder, a decap unit for large rifle primers and a roll crimp to finish the case mouth. It does an ok job, not the best, but for

the money it works. If loading brass shot shells is something you enjoy doing and plan to continue doing for a long time, I would invest in a set of CH4D dies. They are pricey, but worth the money if you are going to reload a lot of brass shot shells. ([http://www.buffaloarms.com/Buffalo\\_Arms\\_Company\\_it-157411.aspx?CAT=4030](http://www.buffaloarms.com/Buffalo_Arms_Company_it-157411.aspx?CAT=4030)) I plan on purchasing a set very soon.

I hope this helps any of you shooters out there who have thought about loading up the brass shot shells made by Magtech. They take a little more time to load, but I find it fun to do so and a little more authentic for use in Cowboy Action Shooting™. You have to admit... THEY SURE LOOK COOL! 🤠

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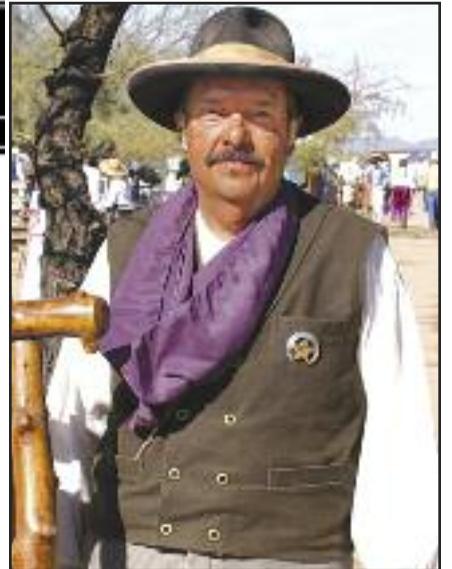
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# UBERTI Magazine Plug

By Larsen E. Pettifogger, SASS #32933 Life



Larsen E. Pettifogger, SASS Life #32933



One of the things that need to be done on a regular basis to the Uberti 66 and 73 lever guns is clean and lubricate the magazine spring, the follower, and the INSIDE of the magazine tube. The magazine tubes are notorious for collecting dirt and grime and for rusting. When a lever gun starts having feeding problems, one of the first things that needs to be looked at is the inside of the magazine tube. Lots of feeding problems can be traced to a simple lack of maintenance of the magazine assembly.

A frequent problem with doing this maintenance is, on many guns the magazine end plugs are TIGHT and getting them out the first time can be a chore. The end plug has a long narrow slot and



when you couple a tight fitting plug with an improperly fitted screwdriver, the slot is often damaged or marred when the plug is removed. Cowboy Action Shooters are resourceful and, following the old adage that *necessity is the mother of invention*, Scrub Oak Willie, SASS #53737, has come up with a dandy new replacement magazine plug. What makes this plug unique is, rather than having a narrow screwdriver slot in its end, it has an Allen head socket!

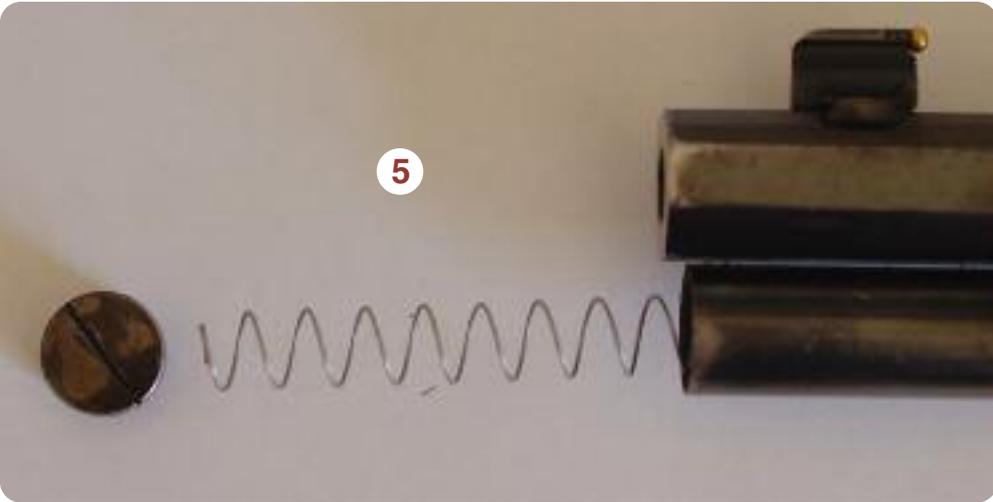
The plug comes as a kit in a small bag along with a properly fitted Allen wrench. Photos 1 and 2. (The wrench is a standard 3/16" in case you lose it.) Photo 3 shows the business end of a well-worn 15-year-old Uberti 73 that is still serving as a main match rifle. Over the years, the plug's bluing has

*(Continued on next page)*





**Uberti Magazine Plug . . .**  
 (Continued from previous page)



worn and the slot shows evidence of minor damage. Using the largest hollow ground screwdriver tip available that fits the slot width, remove the original magazine tube plug. Photos 4 and 5. While you have the plug out make sure to clean and lubricate the spring, follower, and the inside of the magazine tube! Photo 6 shows the new Allen head magazine plug next to the nasty old one we just removed. Take the 3/16" Allen wrench and screw the new plug into the magazine tube. Photo 7. After struggling mightily to remove the magazine plug, a lot of



people have the tendency to over tighten the plug when they reinstall it. Remember, it is not a head bolt on a Diesel engine. Follow the admonition on the card in the kit. "DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN... Just Snug." Photo 8 shows the new plug snugged into place. Looks much better than the old worn one and is now much easier to remove and re-install when you need to remove the plug in the future.

The plug is \$15.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and is available from Scrub Oak Willie. Email [scruboakwillie@gmail.com](mailto:scruboakwillie@gmail.com). Telephone number 423-881-5685.




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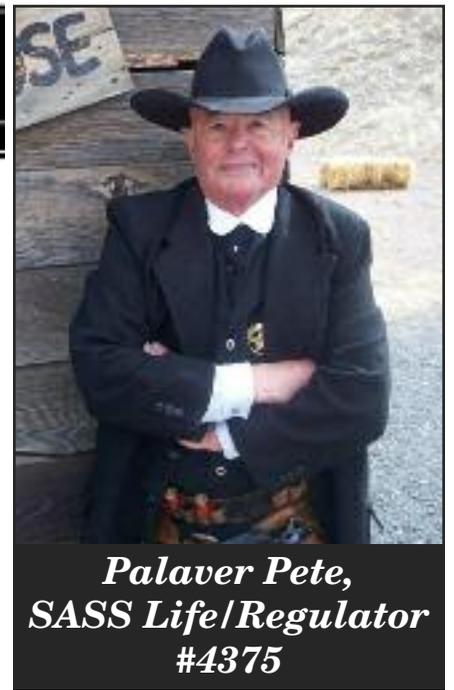
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# COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING™ ✨ MAGAZINES ✨ (Where Did They Go?)

*By Palaver Pete, SASS Life / Regulator #4375*



**Palaver Pete,  
 SASS Life/Regulator  
 #4375**

The advent of Cowboy Action Shooting (CAS™), and the establishment of the Single Action Shooting Society (SASS®) reawakened industries and crafts associated with the shooting sports and western living. Most of those industries and crafts, such as bullet making, leather work, western clothing, and of course firearms manufacturing are still going very strong. However, the same cannot be said for Cowboy Action Shooting™ magazines. Publications about Action and Mounted CAS, just didn't take off. Not surprising—one of the pitfalls of investments and capitalizing on an emerging sport (or venue) is the fact that you might not make it. Such was the fate of two magazines I personally thought were super in content as well as color and graphics. Those Magazines were *Trail's End* and *Shoot*.

Both magazines, in my opinion, were outstanding, but Cowboy Action Shooters simply were not interested in them at the time. Subscriptions were



*Both Shoot and Trail's End Magazines contained articles and photos pertinent to our sport and game even today. I miss them both!*

dismal to say the least, and unfortunately both bit the dust—WHY? Again, in my opinion, shooters were more interested in finding firearms that suited them best; training with those firearms, and attending matches where shooting competition could be had—reading magazines was the last thing on their minds. A pity indeed—the editors of those magazines did everything possible to bring the latest action and mounted shooting news to our attention, but again, our minds were elsewhere. I was one of the exceptions—I was one of the few who subscribed to both, and in some cases wrote either articles or words of praise for both, but again, words alone did not cut it.

So, I not only subscribed, but I hoarded them. I just could not throw them away or give them away, I liked the photos and colors too much, and both magazines contained so many articles pertinent to today's shooting that I just couldn't give them up.

*(Continued on next page)*

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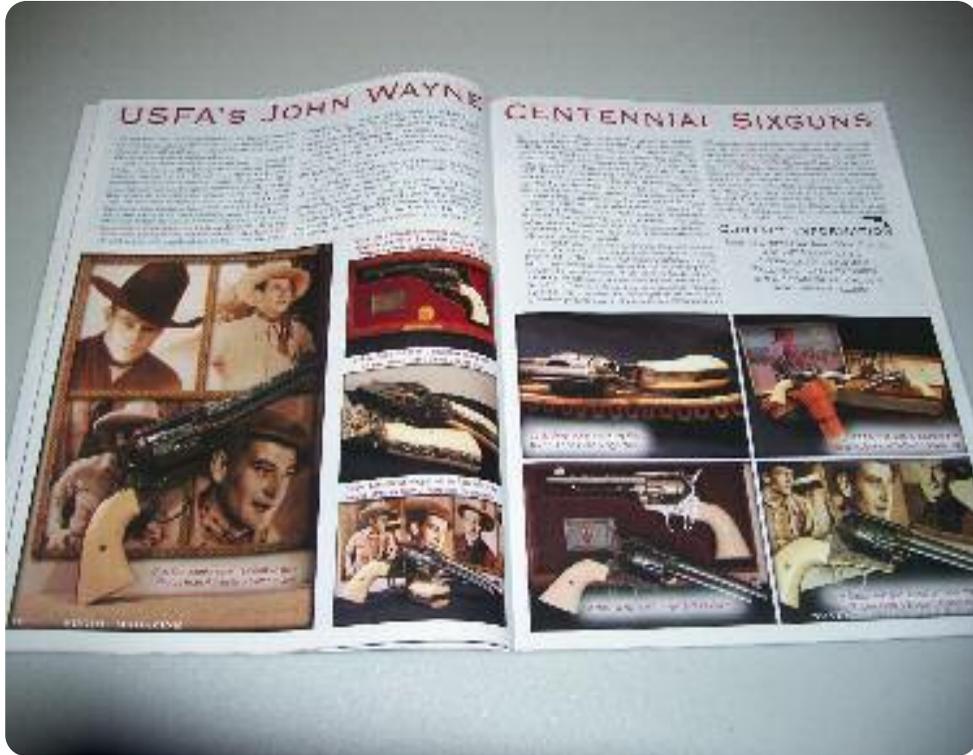
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**Cowboy Action Shooting™ Magazines  
(Where Did They Go?) . . .**

*(Continued from previous page)*



Articles about John Wayne, and the John Wayne six-guns produced by United States Firearms, drove me up the proverbial wall. That's when I realized you need a lot of bucks to play our game, but then again, it's cheaper than golf.

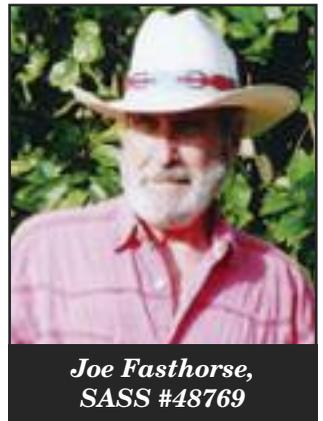
Both Magazines called upon the writing expertise of some of the most knowledgeable people within our game and sport—names such as Hunter Scott Anderson (Bounty Hunter), Evil Roy, John Taffin, Kid Durham, and Aimless Annie were often listed in the index, and more often than not, photographs were produced by Mr. Quigley and other prominent individuals. Only the best of who's who in the cowboy world appeared in these wonderful magazines. Even today I often refer back to some article about an annual shooting event, or about some individual whom I knew, or who had recently won an event. Unfortunately, many of those individuals are no longer with us, and in some cases, matches that were very popular at one time are also no longer with us, such as Mule Camp, which was held annually in Georgia. It's sad in a way, but I guess that's the way things go in our sport and game—the only thing certain is change. Bah, humbug, the loss of magazines makes me want to cry! 🤠

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**LITTLE KNOWN  
FAMOUS PEOPLE  
- Way Out West -**

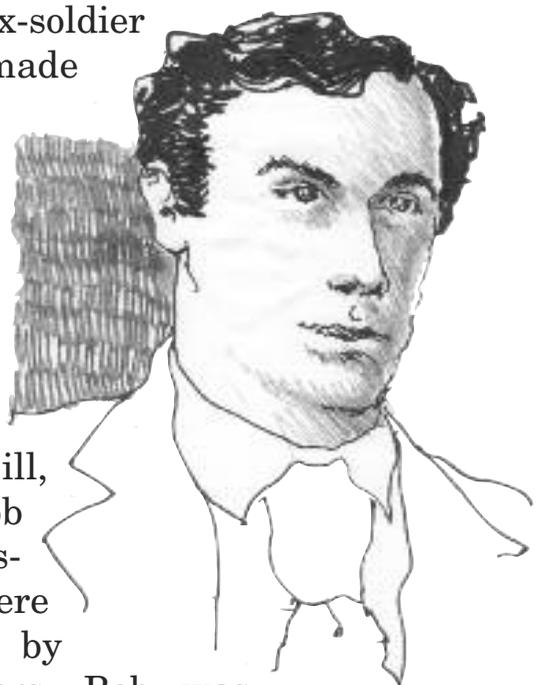
*By Joe Fasthorse, SASS #48769*



**Joe Fasthorse,  
SASS #48769**

**John Harrison Younger** was born in Missouri in 1851, the youngest brother of Cole, Jim and Bob Younger. In 1862, his father was shot and killed by a detachment of Union militiamen. As a result of this killing, Cole and Jim joined Quantrill's Raiders, but John and Bob were too young to join. In 1866, Bob and John took their mother to Independence to buy supplies, where an ex-soldier named Gillcreas made

some deprecatory comments about Cole riding with Quantrill. John shot him right between the eyes. The Youngers left for Texas. When their mother became very ill, John, Jim and Bob took her back to Missouri, where they were repeatedly hassled by Yankee sympathizers. Bob was beaten and John was hanged by a mob but survived. After the mother died, the boys moved often between Missouri and Texas. In 1871 John shot and killed two Texas Deputy Sheriffs. In 1873 John, Jim and Bob joined the James-Younger Gang. In 1874 John and Jim were riding to see friends. Deputy Sheriff Edward Daniels and two Pinkerton Detectives approached them. The Youngers pulled their pistols and fired. One Pinkerton was hit but shot John before he died. Jim killed Deputy Daniels. The other Pinkerton fled and John chased him and shot him dead. As John rode back, he swayed in the saddle and fell off his horse, dead before he hit the ground. Jim buried John by the roadside. Jim later removed John's body and re-buried him at Yeater-Cleveland Cemetery in St. Clair County, Missouri. 🤠





## 2014 Scholarship Recipient

### Miss Grizzelda, SASS #71308



*Justice Lily Kate,  
SASS #1000*

*Adapted & Edited by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000*



**S**ellersville, PA. My name is Erin Snyder. In 2004, I was introduced to SASS and Cowboy Action Shooting™ by my grandfather, Ron Zakeosian (Boomer Zak, SASS #8198), and shortly after my first shoot, my father, Jim Snyder, joined us and began shooting under the alias J. S. Sooner, SASS #73526. I was ten years old and was quickly captivated by the Old West realm that encompassed the sport. Up until then, I had been playing softball and soccer, and had also been a girl scout for four years. I never really knew what Cowboy Action Shooting™ was until my grandfather took me to watch my first shoot. I had no idea what I was going to see and I had no idea I was going to be so intrigued by the sport. He took my father and me to see a shoot at a local gun club. I did not think I was going to see anyone my age there because all I saw were people my Dad's age and

my Grandfather's age. Then my Grandfather introduced me to a girl around my age who was competing. I decided that Cowboy Action Shooting™ was something I would like to try, so that October we went to my first shoot in Tipton, Pennsylvania with The Boothill Gang.

At my first shoot, I met so many new people who were interested in what I was doing, who wanted to help me succeed at the sport, and who wanted to see me coming back week after week. This made me want to continue shooting. I wanted to keep improving, and there were so many people participating in the sport who wanted to see my improvements each week. Even today, ten years later, at my last shoot at Tipton this summer, I saw many of the same cowboys who were at my first shoot, and they all still want to know what I have been up to and how the shoot went for me. I became friends with a lot of people whom I would have never become friends with had I not started shooting, and many I still have today.

SASS and Cowboy Action Shooting™ have been a big part of my life. Shooting has been an activity that has brought me closer to my grandfather and my father because I am able to share the sport with them. Throughout the years, as I have been shooting with my dad, we have had mini competitions between the two of us. They started out with me trying to beat him after 20 seconds were taken off each of my stages, then when I started shooting faster, this went down to 10 seconds and then five seconds. Now we just compete against each other without taking time off my scores, and I even beat him sometimes. It has created a friendly competition between the two of us, trying to beat the other.

SASS has helped me gain confidence when talking to people older than I am, since most of the people I run into with SASS are. I never used to enjoy engaging in conversations with people I did not know or people with whom I was not comfortable. SASS has provided me with a welcoming environment to grow as a person throughout the last ten years and change into a more successful young adult.

*(Continued on next page)*

# Ban All Guns?

*By Miss Grizzelda, SASS #71308*

*Edited & Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000*

**G**un Control is a very controversial subject nowadays in politics and society. Many gun control activists believe that the solution is simple: ban all guns and there won't be any crimes committed with guns. Would this work? Why or why not?

On December 3, 2013, students got the news that the entire campus at the University of New Haven was in a shelter-in-place situation. When we turned on the news in my room, we saw something that shocked us all. We were told there was a man with a gun walking around campus. Other than that, we were not told if any shots were fired, if this man had intentions of harming anyone, or any other information. He was detained 20 minutes into the lockdown and was found to have two loaded handguns in his possession and an assault rifle in his car that is illegal in the state of Connecticut.

Once he was found, the officers and FBI had to continue their building-by-building search to make sure there was not a second possible gunman. Even though this happened on my campus, I still do not think a ban on all guns would have prevented it. The gunman had a firearm that was illegal in Connecticut, so a ban would not have prevented him from obtaining this weapon if he really wanted it. It was said that when he confessed all the guns were indeed his, he was very paranoid about the possibility of a shooting happening here because of all the shootings that had been happening recently with Sandy Hook and the Aurora, CO shooting. His friends had said that he was unsure where and

how he was allowed to carry guns because he did have his permits in order to be allowed to carry. This incident could have been prevented if he had been educated on the current protocols, so a ban on all guns would not be necessary and also would not be practical.

Many recent incidents we have heard about on the news and seen on the Internet have involved firearms in some way. For example, the Colorado movie theater shooting, the Sandy Hook school shooting, and more recently, the shooting of a Widener University student. With the news of these recent shootings and many other recent shooting tragedies, gun control activists are seeing this as an opportunity to bring forward the idea of more bans on firearms, with some even saying to ban all guns and these situations will be prevented. In some select situations, this may be somewhat helpful, but in many situations this will not prevent gun violence from occurring and is completely impractical.

Many times, when there is a school shooting, the firearm is legally owned by a parent, student, or another relative or friend of the shooter. The shooter oftentimes either steals the firearm from a person who legally obtained the gun or, in cases of a student bringing a gun to school, the parent has not properly stored the firearm in a place the student would not be able to get to. For example, in the Sandy Hook shooting, the firearms were all legally purchased and registered by the shooter's mother, but the son involved in this shooting, Adam

*(CLICK HERE to continue on page 49)*

## 2014 Scholarship recipient • Miss Grizzelda, SASS #71308 . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*

Young adults in SASS are the people who are going to keep the sport alive and active. Young people are important to Cowboy Action Shooting™ because without us, the sport will die out. I have been used as an example many times by other shooters to get their children and grandchildren out shooting since they are more likely to want to participate when they see someone else their age or someone who was their age shooting—much the same way I became interested in Cowboy Action Shooting™.

Attending the matches has become more difficult since I am in school most of the year, but I still try my best to attend a couple in the summer so I can continue participating and keep improving year by year.

This coming school year, I will be a junior at the University of New Haven in West Haven, CT. I will be continuing my education working towards a degree in Forensic Science with a concentration in Chemistry. Going into the second half of my undergrad, I am glad I have chosen to pursue this degree and I hope to work in a forensic lab when I finish my schooling. 🌱



# Shooting For The Stars With A Side Kick Named Rick

*By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375*



**Palaver Pete,  
SASS Life/Regulator  
#4375**



*Stargazer Sal makes most of their Cowboy outfits, including the Leather work. She is incredibly talented and made not only their Holsters, but the Chaps as well. They also shoot very well.*

**R**aised in the country, where hunting and shooting were part of daily life, Cowboy Action Shooting™ (CAS) came natural to this couple. Riding horses and the handling of six guns and lever action rifles were as routine to them as eating biscuits and gravy for breakfast. Callene and Richard Weatherson, AKA Stargazer Sal (SASS #57411) and Side Kick Rick (SASS #57410), partnered up back when long hair, the Mamas and the Papas, and Volkswagen Vanagons were the rage. They were high school sweethearts back in 1966, and tied the knot a few years later. They recently celebrated 41 years of blissful marriage, but if you listen to them talk, their life together became even brighter 10 years ago when they joined SASS®, and started playing Cowboy for fun. Now, in ad-



*The Shooting Range is not the only place Rick and Stargazer excel. They are party animals as well.*

dition to making life brighter for each other, Stargazer and Rick (as I will call them for this article) make life brighter for the members of their home club, the Pine Mountain Posse, located in Central Oregon.

Stargazer and Rick have had quite a life together. Rick spent some of his early youth logging, ranching, and driving heavy equipment and trucks. He currently works for Les Schwab Tires, but by the time you read this article, he will be retired. However, knowing Rick as we posse members do, retirement will simply mean working in another direction. Like



*Stargazer and Rick are integral parts of the reenactment programs their posse performs for local communities. Here we see the worried and dependable wife trying hold back her man from doing something foolish on the streets of Sisters, Oregon.*

Rick, Stargazer has been a Jill of all trades, working as a Certified Nurses Aid, EMT, and Administrator for programs designed to prevent child abuse. Together they also served as Foster Parents, raising some of the kids Stargazer helped protect in the program she administered. The Weathersons moved to Central Oregon to be closer to family, where they now share their enjoyment of Cowboy Action Shooting™

with Stargazer's sister, Sierra Sage Sue (SASS#57487) and brother-in-law, Deadwood Pete (SASS#57450) both of whom are also members of the Pine Mountain Posse—demonstrating again how family unity helps weld a Posse together.

Working hard to help the Posse is second nature to this couple. Stargazer held the position of Telegraph Operator for several years before working her way up to Posse Marshal. She also established and managed the Posse's first website, and when not too busy, she helps prepare lunches for the monthly shoots. While Stargazer whirls around the Posse plugging up holes,

*(Continued on next page)*

## Shooting For The Stars With A Side Kick Named Rick . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*

husband Rick conducts Cowboy Church for the annual matches, as well as other events around the state when invited to do so. He is also noted for his smooth singing voice, as well as the joy he brings to many hearts while practicing his very talented comic routine—his humor often has people laughing before he even utters a word. Together, Rick and Stargazer organized and managed the fourth weekend matches as well as fill-ins for the second weekend of the monthly Posse matches. As our readership knows, in any organization, not only CAS, it's 10 to 12 people that do all the work—this couple makes up for half that total.

Stepping up to help the club whenever needed is a given for this couple. They are both integral parts of the annual Western Reenactments the Posse performs for both the city of Sisters and the county of Deschutes here in Central Oregon. Using his aforementioned sense of humor, Rick often plays the

wayward and careless husband, while Stargazer plays the long suffering, dependable woman waiting for the safe return of her reckless husband—together they make quite a team! These reenactments have been performed for the past few years now, and have developed into regularly expected events that provide tourist revenue for our local communities as well as introducing visitors and local citizens to the sport and game of CAS.

Well, as Rick faces retirement, and Stargazer wonders what to do with him, we all hope they will continue their contribution to our sport and game, and all their trails will be as happy as the trail they have shared with their Posse. To hear more of Rick and Stargazer adventures as well as recent shooting scores and Northwest activities, be sure to visit our website at [www.pinemountainposse.com](http://www.pinemountainposse.com). You're a Daisy if ya do. 🌻

## Ban All Guns? . . .

*(Continued from page 47)*

Lanza, stole the weapons. Banning guns would have prevented the shooter from obtaining the firearms but would be completely impractical since there are hundreds of millions of privately owned guns in the U.S. that would make it impossible to get every single weapon back from every single owner of a firearm.

Although in some cases the guns are legally purchased and registered and have all papers required, there are still many cases in which this is not true. There is a very large underground market for obtaining firearms and most criminals illegally get their weapons by means of theft or this black market. Criminals are not going to follow the law when they decide to commit a crime so why would they decide to not commit one more, and illegally obtain the firearm that they intend to use? By going through this “black market,” criminals avoid background checks and other means of regulation, like the need for permits and age requirements, and purchase firearms with ease.

Another reason that a ban on all guns would not be practical is the fact that many people, including myself, would see this as a limitation on the Second Amendment and a limitation on our means of protecting ourselves. The Second Amendment provides us with the right to bear arms. Many people would see this as an attack on our rights and just the start to the complete infringement of this particular right.

A ban on all guns also will not rid the world of any violence, or even gun violence for that matter. The group a ban like this would affect would be the law

abiding citizens, since criminals will continue to find ways around the law through loopholes and illegal markets and sales. Guns are not even the go to weapon for many criminals, especially in murders. There are still knives, which many criminals use, and blunt objects, which could make practically anything a weapon. Placing a ban on guns would be like placing a ban on baseball bats, both used in sport and murder. By ridding law abiding citizens of firearms, we would be limiting their means of self-defense and therefore would create more violence, since these people would be unable to protect themselves. This would give criminals many more opportunities and subsequently create more gun violence, instead of limiting it or removing it completely.

Placing a ban on all guns would be impractical and would not improve any current situations by preventing future incidents from occurring. Criminals will still be criminals and use other weapons as well as illegally obtained firearms. As long as there are people, there will still be violence because people are the real weapons; a firearm is just one of many tools used to administer the violence.

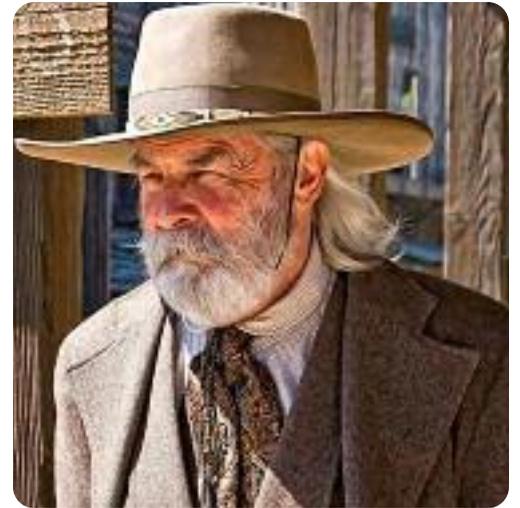
Safe gun handling and education about safe gun handling is the best way to prevent accidents from happening. SASS is very adamant about safe gun handling because it is what keeps the sport fun. I feel that learning how to shoot at a young age helped me see that with proper handling and teaching there is not an issue with the firearms themselves. I think people who do not have experience should not be able to create the laws that prevent safe handlers from continuing to do what we love to do. 🌻



# Lobo Ranger, SASS #18657 AKA Dave Bourne

~ September 20, 1939 – January 30, 2015 ~

*Edited by Tex, SASS #4*



Professor David E. Bourne's Magnificent Ensemble assembled in March to play a musical tribute to a very prolific, talented, gentle, musical soul. Magic piano man David E. Bourne passed away on January 30, 2015 at his home surrounded by his loving family.

David was a piano player, bandleader, guitarist, singer, author, historian, actor, teacher, and horseman who adored his trusty steed, Boston. He participated in Mounted Shooting and Wild West Shows for many years, turning into a true California cowboy.

David was born September 20, 1939. He started piano at age 6. His father also taught him trombone, baritone, and string bass. Music filled his high school years.

During his college years he played piano in the Calico Saloon at Knotts Berry Farm. He continued working at Knotts after graduation, playing string bass with the Wagonmasters, the country group who entertained in the Wagon Camp from 1955 to 1968. His love of Knotts Berry Farm led him to publish the book, *Knotts Berry Farm's Ghost Town (A pictorial retrospective 1940-1968)*.

In 1967 he began his 48-year gig "behind the scenes" at the fabled Magic Castle in Hollywood. He played there until December 2014. David's gigs were not one-nighters. Almost all lasted decades.

*(CLICK HERE to continue on page 52)*

**SASS Presents the  
BORDER VIGILANTES  
HELL ON WHEELS**

**THE SASS WYOMING STATE  
ACTION SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIP**

Presented by  
**Otto Road Shooting Range & Chey-Cast Bullets**

**June 19-21, 2015**

**Otto Road Shooting Range—Cheyenne, Wyoming**

For more information contact:  
**Match Director—Slowpoke Wy SASS 5164 LR 307-778-6636**

| Friday, June 19th    | Saturday, June 20th                                                                         | Sunday, June 21st        |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Warm-up Stages       | 6 Main Stages                                                                               | 6 Main Stages            |
| Side Matches         | Side Matches                                                                                | Couples, Team, Shoot Off |
| Long Range           | Postlunch Dinner                                                                            | Match Awards             |
| HD I & HD II Classes | We cook the steak provided by King Ranch. You bring a side dish or dessert & table service. |                          |
| Friday Night Social  |                                                                                             |                          |

**For Registration Forms go to:  
www.bordervigilantes.com**

SASS presents...  
**Peace in the valley**  
The North Dakota & South Dakota  
State Championships  
June 18 - 21, 2015

Hosted by the Sully Valley Peacemakers

- ◆ Thursday - long range
- ◆ Friday Side Matches - including long range, Cowboy cup, team shoot, and more
- ◆ Wild Bunch match - Friday morning - \$1000 per shooter - pre-registration a must!
- ◆ Our Junior shooters will provide a team meal on Friday - free to all shooters
- ◆ 10 Main Stages (6-Saturday, 4-Sunday)
- ◆ SASS Membership Required - SASS Rules Apply
- ◆ Pre-registration required - No walk-ins
- ◆ Registration deadline - June 1, 2015
- ◆ Early bird registration discount before May 18
- ◆ Pre-day camping
- ◆ Prizes for include: side matches, medals, 2 team meals and Sunday evening Cowboy BBQ
- ◆ Friday evening Postlunch
- ◆ Visitors and Spectators welcome

Shooter Information - Please print or type

Alias: \_\_\_\_\_ SASS# \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Shooting Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Will Ranch Notify?  Check here  Coaching?  Carpool?  Yes  No

| Please check (X) gender and category             |                                              | Male ( ) Female ( )                          |                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> B*Welder                | <input type="checkbox"/> Duck                | <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate        | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Senior (60+) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beginner/Amateur (1-10) | <input type="checkbox"/> K. Shoot-Down (100) | <input type="checkbox"/> Novice (10-1)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran (50+)       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classic Cowboy/HD       | <input type="checkbox"/> Early Season (100)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Challenge           | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Gun (14-16)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cowboy/HD               | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Cartridge   | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Dealer (50+) | <input type="checkbox"/> Circle K (10-15)    |

| Shot/200 Yards | Shooting Fees                                               | Shot/100 Yards | Shot/50 Yards |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| \$ 2.00        | Mandatory SASS Fee \$ 5.00                                  | \$ 5.00        | \$ 5.00       |
| \$ 2.00        | Main Match \$ 10.00                                         |                |               |
|                | Team \$ 25.00                                               |                |               |
|                | Y-Cup & Insurance \$ 50.00                                  |                |               |
|                | Wild Bunch Match \$ 12.00                                   |                |               |
|                | Team Cowboy BBQ \$ 12.00                                    |                |               |
|                | Cash Prize \$ 25.00                                         |                |               |
|                | \$ 25.00                                                    |                |               |
|                | *Includes lunch, pre-arranged, and catering plus Cowboy BBQ |                |               |
|                | Team \$                                                     |                |               |
|                | Enchilada \$                                                |                |               |

Please make check payable to the Sully Valley Peacemakers (SVP) and mail with completed registration form to:  
**Sully Valley Peacemakers  
PO Box 22  
Kinross ND 58061**

Registration confirmation will be mailed to you. SASS will accept all final entries to send with entry. Please use ONE APPROVATION FOR WHOLEFOOD and whole entry by phone & please allow 48 hours to process. Thanks

Peace in the Valley will be held on or near June 18, 19, 20 & 21, 2015. Advanced entry required. All entries must be received on or before June 1, 2015. All related questions will be charged \$25. No refunds at Cheyenne change requests after June 4, 2015. The Sully Valley Peacemakers reserve the right to alter the schedule. Must be a current SASS member in good standing. For questions or additional information contact: Will Hines 505-392-4500, (701) 753-4100, or willhines@stan.com



## Turtle, SASS #22271

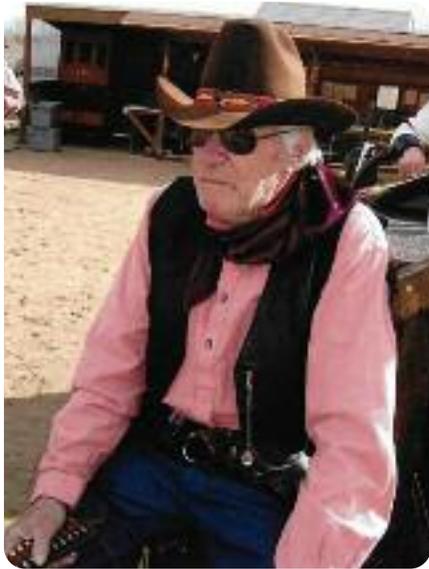
~ Aug. 21, 1924 – Feb. 7, 2015 ~

By "Angry Tom," SASS #94943

**P**ueblo, CO. Turtle, aka Clifford Arnold Gibbs, Jr., was the embodiment of everything that is great about Cowboy Action Shooting™. He had a zest for life, a great sense of humor and a quick smile for everyone.

At age 90, Turtle was still competing at matches in Rockvale and Pueblo West in Colorado. Always pleasant, he never got ruffled—even when needing his oxygen tank to complete the match. His wife of 65 years, Hannah Gibbs, always joined Turtle at the matches and helped by collecting dues and keeping scores. When the terrain got rough, it was Hannah (at age 88) who pulled the cart to the various stages.

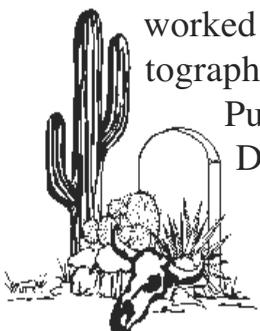
Born in the Bronx, New York, he enlisted after graduation in the US Army 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division in Colorado. He later joined the 11<sup>th</sup> Airborne as a paratrooper and served in the Philippines until 1945. After marrying Hannah in 1949, they came back to Colorado, where Turtle worked as a photographer for the Pueblo Army Depot. After



pursuing careers in photography, as a ski instructor, and a golf course pro shop manager, his enthusiasm for life turned to riding horses, team roping, hunting, raising/training hunting dogs, fishing, golfing and especially Cowboy Action Shooting™.

I met Turtle when I first went to shoot with the Pueblo West Vigilantes. We quickly became friends. Before every match I would ask him what his strategy would be that day. He would always answer, "Supreme accuracy, however, if I miss a shot, then I'll go for blazing speed."

Turtle was never at a loss for telling a good story. As his family says, "Now he has a whole new audience." He will be missed. ♪



## C.S. Fly, SASS #5078

~ 1944 – 2015 ~

By Anissa Ingoglia-Craig,  
Edited By Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000

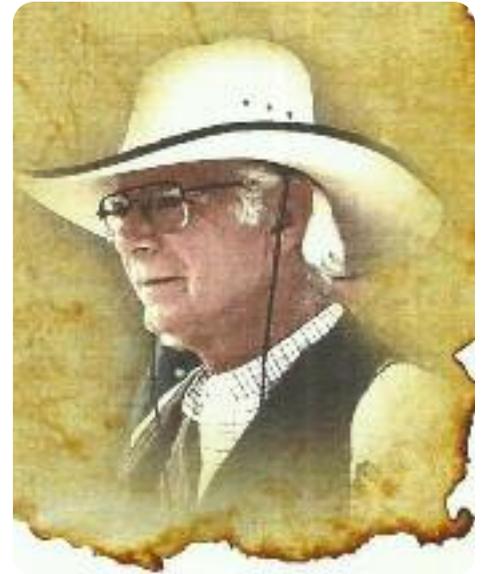


**T**om Ingoglia, aka C. S. Fly, Proprietor of Wild West Mercantile in Phoenix, Arizona, passed away February 20, 2015. Tom was married to Claudia Sacchetto, aka Claudia Feather, SASS #2816, and their 50-year marriage was blessed with two children and three grandchildren.

Tom's love and passion for his wife and children were always first and foremost in his life. In addition to hard work, Tom also knew how to play. He loved cars the most, but also enjoyed motorcycles, ATVs, and guns. His interest in guns came from his love of the Wild West. He grew up watching cowboys on TV and playing Cowboys and Indians.

What was once a boyhood dream of the Wild West for Tom eventually turned into a reality after falling in love with Arizona during a family vacation in 1977. He said it was "love at first sight" and immediately knew he belonged there. He and Claudia purchased a house while on vacation, went back to New Jersey, sold their house, and, like their pioneer forefathers before them, packed up their belongings and headed out west to their new home in search of a better way of life.

In 1994, Tom & Claudia founded Wild West Mercantile, a successful retail Old West clothing business. Because of their love for the Old West, he and Claudia were heavily involved in the Cowboy Action Shooting™ community. Tom founded Rio Salado Cowboy Action Shoot-



ing™ Society and is a lifetime member of the larger Single Action Shooting Society, a worldwide organization and "family" of Cowboy Action Shooters. Tom was especially proud of being a Territorial Governor for SASS and also served as President and as a member of the Board of Directors for Winter Range, before becoming a Trustee.

Tom also received many awards for his achievements and dedication to the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™ — the Winter Range Founders Award, the SASS Best Shoot Award for Winter Range, the SASS Spirit Award for Winter Range, the Winter Range Rough Riders Award, and the SASS Regulator award. Wild West Mercantile was awarded the first coveted SASS Vendor of the Year Award and the Best Vintage Western Clothing Outfitter Award by True West Magazine. In 2007, Tom and Wild West Mercantile were both inducted into the SASS Hall of Fame.

Tom will be missed, as he was a man who meant so much to so many. ♪



**Lobo Ranger, SASS #18657 . . .**

*(Continued from page 50)*

David had many musical irons in the fire. It was not unusual for him to play with three or four bands in a year plus the main gig at the Castle. For many years he led the Resurrection Brass Band, a twenty-piece New Orleans marching band. When that disbanded he formed the Dawn of the Century Ragtime Orchestra. The late 1960s and 70s found him entertaining in downtown L.A. at Casey's Bar. That lasted 17 years! The 6th and Grand Band evolved from Casey's. The core players remained with him for the rest of his life. For about ten years he was a regular on the Musicos Rancheros Visitadores ride. He derived much pleasure playing music at the camps in Santa Barbara surrounded by the best horses in the country.

From 1989 until 2005 David led his own western singing group, The Lobo Rangers, featuring his wife, Patty. This led to cowboy poetry gatherings throughout the western states where he performed his show "Saloon Piano of the 19th Century." Now fully transformed into a genuine California cowboy, David was the piano player in the Gem Saloon on the HBO hit series "Deadwood." His saloon piano recordings were used extensively throughout all three seasons of the show. Other acting credits include History channel's "Wild West Tech," "The Hunt for John Wilkes Booth," and "The Revenge of Wyatt Earp." He was also a regular at the SASS Conventions and END of TRAIL, providing an "old time" environment for the gamblers in the Gem Saloon. He was also a principle in Dutch's Wild West Shows at END of TRAIL in Norco, CA where his band provided live old time music as background for the shows.

The center of his life was family. He was so proud of them and loved them unconditionally. He had no regrets. He lived a very full, fun, fun loving musical life on his terms. Patty said David played music every day at their home in Agoura where half of the living room was a stage with piano, drums, guitar, and microphones at the ready for friends to stop by and play. Patty said, "The piano keys are silent now, but the music will never leave me."

**WE'RE WINGING IT!**

**THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER RANGERS PRESENT**

**SMOKIN' GUNS AT RABBIT RIDGE**

**AND**

**THE SASS MISSISSIPPI STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

**MAY 22, 23, 24, 2015**

**Come join the fun as the MRR cowboys and friends band together to save Princess PeiPei.....some of us have a plan, others are winging it. As in the past, the stages are being written by Bill Carson and Tator, and that means fast and fun. We'll have free side matches on Friday (including Wild Bunch), a meet and greet on Friday and dinner on the range Saturday night, entertainment, door prizes and surprises.....**

**You won't want to miss it!! Go to [mississippiriverrangers.com](http://mississippiriverrangers.com) to download a registration form. Get them in early, shooters are limited. Call Oglala Sue for more details (901-237-0892)**

**Lookin' forward to seeing you in May and bring your friends!!!**

**[mississippiriverrangers.com](http://mississippiriverrangers.com)**



**SASS PRESENTS**





**STAMPEDE AT SOUTH RIVER**  
MAY 14 - 16, 2015

**2015 SASS GEORGIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**  
[www.srscowboy.com](http://www.srscowboy.com)

At the South River Gun Club in Conyers, Georgia

|                          |                        |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Thurs, May 14</b>     | <b>Fri, May 15</b>     | <b>Sat, May 16</b>     |
| State Black Powder match | 6 stages of main match | 4 stages of main match |
| Wild Bunch side match    | Couples side match     | Man on Man side match  |
| Warm up match            | Team side match        | Banquet                |
| Speed side matches       |                        | Awards                 |

For registration forms and complete match information please visit the state match webpage at <http://www.srscowboy.com/events.html>

Main Match Sponsor "Jimmy Spurs" Cowboy Gunworks  
[www.cowboygunworks.com](http://www.cowboygunworks.com)

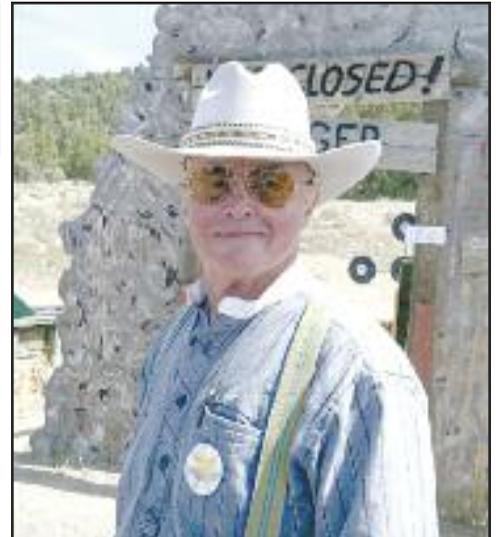
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**Palaver Pete,  
SASS Life/Regulator  
#4375**

# SPOTTER TRAINING

*Accumulated over the years from various SASS sources*

*By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375*

**T***his is the first in a series of articles presented by Palaver Pete that provides suggestions for Action training as well as safety hints developed over the years. Subsequent articles will cover: Suggested Posse Marshal Check List; Action Shooting Helpful Hints; Range Safety Rules; and Firearms Training and Keys to Faster Shooting. Also presented will be an article on how to advise visitors and onlookers about Cowboy Action Shooting™—designed primarily as a handout for spectators attending an annual or larger shoot.*

*Keep in mind these articles reflect the opinions of many shooters and are not the sole thoughts of one person—there is nothing original in these opinions—they represent, in many cases, the thought of others expressed over the SASS Wire or through the Cowboy Chronicle. If you see something that may not be correct, please send a letter to the Cowboy Chronicle editor, so others can benefit from your observation or experience. The bottom line is the same for all of us: safety and fun in the game we all love to play. Keep this in mind: you're a daisy if ya do.*

*—P.P.*

\*\*\*\*\*

The Range Officer (RO) is also the Timer Operator (TO) when operating the Timer.

The role of the RO/TO is to safely assist the shooter through the course of fire. The RO/TO does not count misses. **Counting misses is the role of the Spotters.**

The RO/TO establishes eye contact with each Spotter to insure they are ready to observe the targets before giving the Shooter a standby, then a beep.

The RO/TO insures each Spotter has an identifying symbol visible (red stick for example).

The Posse Marshal goes over Spotter rules at

the first stage of the day. The Posse Marshal either designates himself to be RO/TO, or designates a qualified shooter(s) to serve as well. Qualified is determined by each club; most require at least an RO2 level of training.

**A sound suggestion for Spotter's:**

**“If you know the bullet struck the target it's a hit.”**

**“If you think the bullet struck the target it's a hit.”**

**“If you think the bullet missed the target it's a hit.”**

**“If you know the bullet missed the target it's a miss.”**

Spotter's should look as well as listen.

Hits on target stands are *misses*.

For Black Powder shooters, DO NOT stand behind or close to the shooter in order to spot. Move out to the edge of the firing line for better observation.

After the course of fire, have the Spotters hold up fingers for the number of misses for **what they saw**. Spotters should be encouraged to use their own visual results—do not look to other Spotters for their counts. The RO/TO will make the judgment in the event of differing counts.

Spotters should not be talking to other Spotters and/or shooters. Full attention must be devoted to the shooter and the targets.

Spotters hold up fingers to indicate misses. Another technique is to hold up the thumb for a procedural. Verbal count is also acceptable: “one and one equals: one miss; one procedural,” is a good example. If you call a procedural, be sure to describe it.

The RO/TOs make the hard calls. Spotters may want to provide assistance to the shooter, but **that is not their job.**



ARTICLES



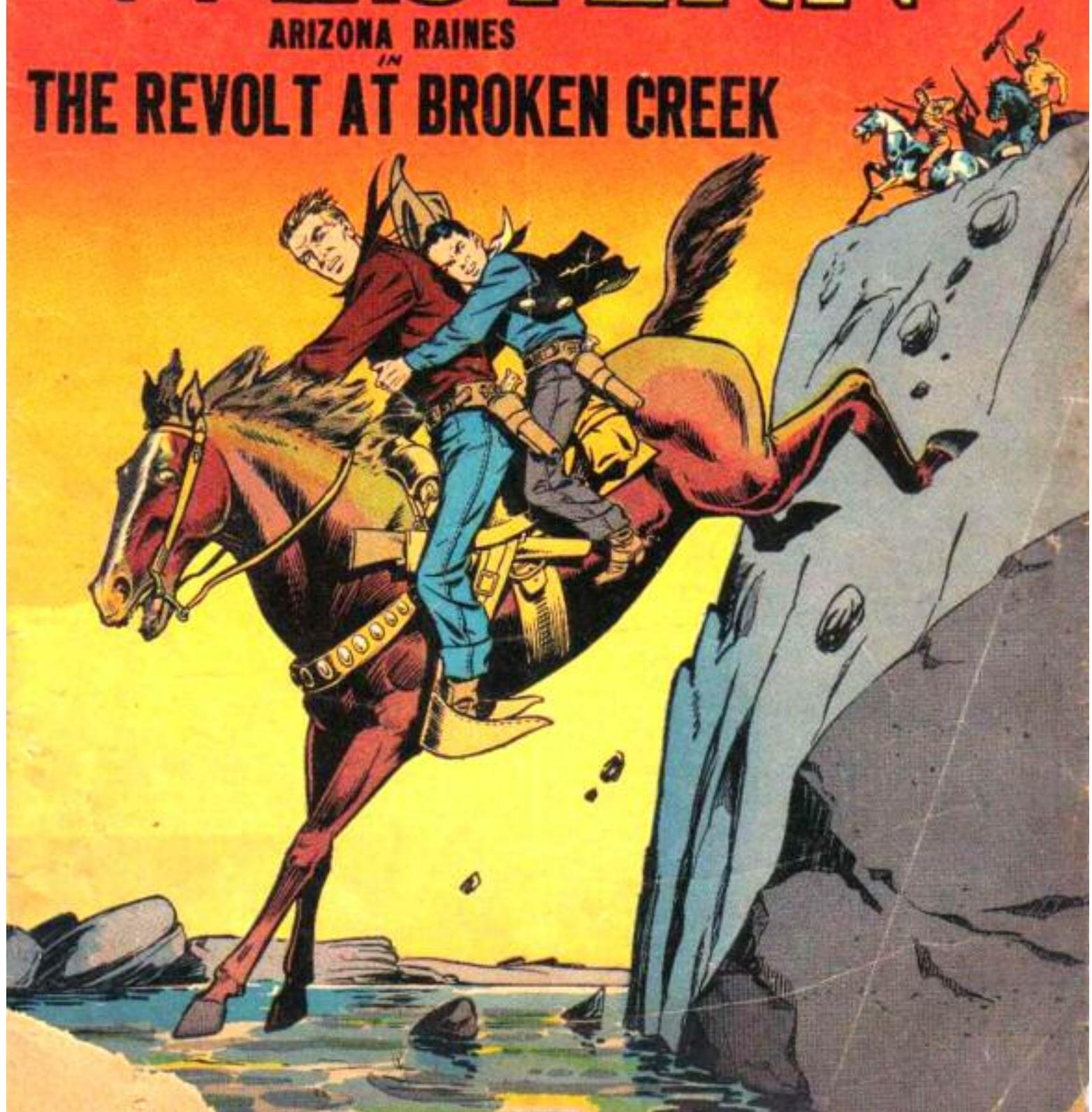
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# CRACK WESTERN

100  
5  
MAY  
No. 84

ARIZONA RAINES

IN  
THE REVOLT AT BROKEN CREEK



CRACK WESTERN

# Arizona Raines



FOLKS IN BROKEN CREEK SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT TWICE BEFORE THEY SAID IN DISGLIST "GIVE IT BACK TO THE INDIANS"! FOR THE CHIU INDIANS TOOK THEM UP ON IT! AND NOT ONLY THE CHIU SAVAGES-- BUT THE MURDER-BENT SHARP STENGER GANG OF DESPERADOES! AND NOT ONLY THE STENGER-LED CUTTHROATS -- BUT MIKE FRISKE'S ROUGHNECKS FROM THE CHICAGO UNDERWORLD! ROLL 'EM ALL TOGETHER AND YOU GET THE MOST BLOODY AND BRAZEN GRAB OF PUBLIC PROPERTY IN THE BULLET-SPATTERED HISTORY OF THE WEST! ONLY ARIZONA RAINES, WANDERING COWPOKE, AND HIS SADDLEPARD, SPURS, TRIED TO BATTLE AGAINST...

## The REVOLT AT BROKEN CREEK!

# ARTICLES

## CRACK WESTERN

ONE AFTERNOON, IN TYLerville, TERMINUS OF THE TULSA AND WESTERN RAILROAD SYSTEM, AS ARIZONA RAINES AND HIS SIDEKICK, SPURS, LEFT THE CATTLE CARS--



HMM... THE FIRST MONEY WE SEEN IN A DOG'S AGE, ARIZONA! YUM-YUM! IT EVEN SMELLS GOOD!

LIKE CABBAGE, YOU MEAN! DON'T GO FALLING IN LOVE WITH MONEY, SPURS! YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF WORKING EVERY DAY IN THE WEEK TO ENJOY THAT AROMA!



WORK? DON'T MENTION WORK TO ME! WE JEST SPENT TWO WEEKS DRIVING A HERD HERE! THAT'S ALL THE WORK I INTEND TO DO FOR A LONG TIME!

SPEAKING OF A LONG TIME.. IT'S A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE SEEN CRITTERS LIKE THOSE!



IF THEY'RE NOT A PACK OF CITY GUNMEN, I'LL EAT MY HAT!

BUT WHAT'RE THEY DOIN' HERE? UNLESS THEY CAME WEST FOR THEIR HEALTH!



NOT THEM -- THEY LOOK TOO HEALTHY! THOSE HOMBRES SPECIALIZE IN TAKING OTHER FOLKS' HEALTH AWAY-- WITH BULLETS! LET'S LOOK INTO THIS, SPURS!



HEY-- YOU! WE WANT TO TAKE THE NEXT STAGE TO BROKEN CREEK! WE HEAR THERE AINT NO OTHER WAY TO GET THERE!

THAT'S RIGHT, BUT WE'RE BOOKED FOR THE NEXT COACH, SIR! YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT TILL THE NEXT ONE LEAVES!



MIKE FRISKE DON'T WAIT FOR NOBODY OR NOTHIN'! --BOYS, THROW THE PASSENGERS OFF THE COACH! WE'RE TAKIN' THEIR PLACES!

BUT YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO D-DO THAT! THAT'S ILLEGAL!



YOU STUPID CRUM! WHAT DO I CARE IF IT'S ILLEGAL! I'LL --

YOU'LL WAIT YOUR TURN, MISTER-- LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE! AND, I CARE IF IT'S ILLEGAL!

CRACK WESTERN



YOU MEDDLIN' FOOL-- I'LL BLOW YOUR LIVER OUT-- UKKK!

SORRY, PAL! I LIKE MY LIVER WHERE IT IS!

LOOK WHAT HE DONE TO MIKE! GUN HIM!



KEEP YORE PAWS AT YORE SIDES OR I'LL BLOW 'EM OFF!

NICE WORK, SPURS! COVER 'EM WHILE I PALAVER WITH THEIR BOSS!



I--I'LL GET THE SHERIFF!

LET'S GET DOWN TO CASES, MIKE! YOU'RE A LONG WAY FROM THE GUTTERS OF CHICAGO! WHY?

I'M GOING TO BROKEN CREEK FOR A VACATION! ANYTHIN' WRONG WITH THAT?



DO YOU USUALLY TAKE ALONG ALL YOUR GUTTER PALS TO HELP YOU PICK DAISIES?

THEY GOT A RIGHT TO TRAVEL WHERE THEY PLEASE! WE'RE GOING TO BROKEN CREEK AN NOBODY'S STOPPIN' US!



I'LL COOL OFF THOSE BIG TOWN COYOTES IN JAIL FOR 24 HOURS JEST AS A LESSON THET THE WILD WEST AINT AS LAWLESS AS THEY THINK!

GOOD IDEA, SHERIFF! ME AND MY SADDLEPARD WILL MOSEY ALONG TO BROKEN CREEK AND FIND OUT WHAT'S SO ATTRACTIVE!

THE FOLLOWING MORNING, NOT FAR FROM BROKEN CREEK..



GOLLY, ARIZONA, I BEEN HEARIN' WAR DRUMS EVER SINCE WE HIT CHIU TERRITORY! WHAT'S GOIN' ON? THE CHIUS'VE BEEN PEACEFUL FOR OVER 20 YEARS!

I THOUGHT SO, TOO, SPURS! BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT NOW! TROUBLE'S BREWIN' IN BROKEN CREEK!

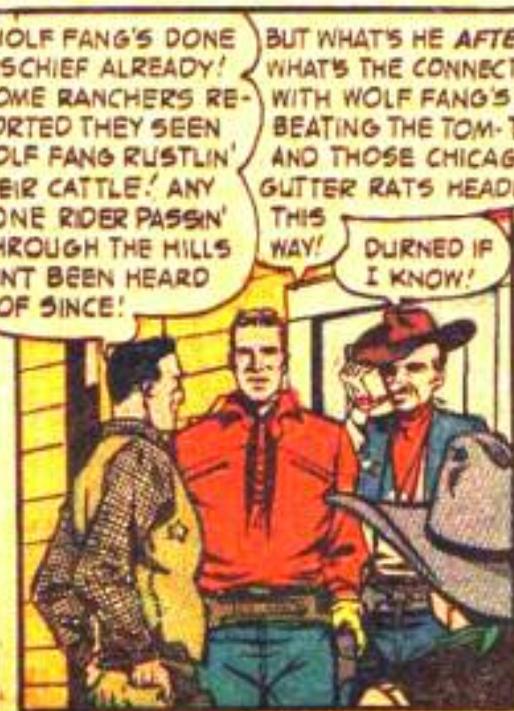


BREWIN'? IT'S BOILIN' OVER! LOOK WHAT'S COMIN'! THEY AINT AIMIN' TO TRADE WAMPUM, EITHER!

THEY'RE AIMIN' AT US! RIDE SPURS! THOSE BRAVES ARE WILD WITH FIRE WATER!

# ARTICLES

## CRACK WESTERN



CRACK WESTERN

LATER... INSIDE THE TELEGRAPH OFFICE...



JIM, I WANT TO SEND OUT A GENERAL ALA — ...?GASP! SHARP STENGER!  
YORE DEAD IN OUR SIGHTS! TAKE THEIR GUNS, BIFF!  
OKAY SHARP!



YEP, WE BLEW INTO TOWN AN HOUR AGO! ACCOMPLISHED QUITE A LOT IN AN HOUR, DIDN'T WE!  
JIM! HE'S DEAD!



HE AINT THE ONLY ONE, SHERIFF! MY GANG IS MOVIN' IN ON ALL THE KEY PLACES IN TOWN.. LIKE THE PONY EXPRESS STATION AND THE STAGE COACH OFFICE...  
IF THIS IS A STICKUP, YUH'LL GIT NOTHIN' HERE! THERE AINT BUT A FEW BUCKS IN THE JOINT!  
WE AINT JEST TAKIN' OVER THIS DUMP! WE'RE GRABBIN' OFF THE WHOLE TOWN!



WE TOOK OVER THE STABLES, THE ARSENAL, THE WAREHOUSES, EVEN TOWN HALL!  
HOW DARE YOU BREAK INTO TOWN HALL! I'LL SEE YOU ALL HANG-- URGHHH!  
ALL YUH'LL SEE, MR. MAYOR IS THE PEARLY GATES! THIS IS OUR TOWN!  
BANG.



WE GOT ALL ROADS IN AN' OUTA TOWN BLOCKED BY OUR MEN!  
BUT WHY? WHAT'S YOUR GAME STENGER?  
YUH'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH, PARDNER! GIT GOIN'! YUH'LL HEAR A BIG ANNOUNCEMENT IN TOWN SQUARE!



AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF BROKEN CREEK...  
BROKEN CREEK IS JUST A SMALL TOWN, BUT THE TOWNSHIP ITSELF COVERS 400 SQUARE MILES, INCLUDING THE CHIU RESERVATION-- HELLO! A ROAD BLOCK!  
TURN AROUND AN' GO BACK TO TOWN OR WE'LL OPEN FIRE!



YOU'RE NOT DEPUTIES! ON WHOSE AUTHORITY DO YOU DECIDE WHAT TRAFFIC PASSES ON THIS ROAD?  
ON THE AUTHORITY OF OUR GUNS! AS FUR TRAFFIC... NOTHIN'S COMIN' IN AN' OUT OF BROKEN CREEK! NOW DO YUH GIT-- OR DO WE START SHOOTIN'?

# ARTICLES

## CRACK WESTERN



CRACK WESTERN



YES! IT'S A LIE! AND A STEAL! I BELIEVE THEM DOCUMENTS WAS FORGED! I'LL GIT THE LAW ON YUH POLECATS!

LOOKIN' FUR THE LAW, FELLER? IT'S RIGHT HERE!



ONLY I WASN'T TALKIN' OF THE SHERIFF! I WAS SPEAKIN' OF MY SIKERS! FROM NOW ON GUNS ARE THE LAW IN THIS TOWN!

YOU JUST SAW YOUR NEW LAW-OFFICER IN ACTION. SHARP STENGER! ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?



NONE? THEN THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF SYKESVILLE IS HEREBY UNANIMOUSLY VOTED INTO EXISTENCE! AS YOUR FIRST PRESIDENT, I DECLARE MARTIAL LAW IN SYKESVILLE! NOBODY ENTERS OR LEAVES! NOBODY DOES ANYTHING WITHOUT MY PERMISSION! MEETING ADJOURNED!



BY THE WAY, STENGER -- SHOULDN'T THE STAGE COACH WITH MIKE FRISKE HAVE ARRIVED BY NOW?

--WE JEST INTERCEPTED AN OFFICIAL TELEGRAM! YORE GANG BUSTED LOOSE FROM THE SHERIFF IN TYLerville AN' OUGHTA GIT HERE ANY MINUTE!



HEAR THAT ARIZONA?

THE WHOLE PLOT'S CLEAR NOW! SYKES, STENGER AND FRISKE DONT CARE A PLUGGED NICKEL FOR THE CHIU'S RIGHTS! IT'S THE LAND-GRAB THEY WANT! IT'S NAKED LAWLESSNESS HIDING BEHIND THE CAMOUFLAGE OF A LEGAL TECHNICALITY!



SYKES DIDN'T TRUST STENGER'S GANG, SO HE SENT FOR GUNMEN HE COULD COUNT ON TO PROTECT HIS SHARE! HENCE MIKE FRISKE'S INVASION OF THE WEST!



I CANT BELIEVE THE WHOLE CHIU TRIBE WILL REVOLT! WHILE WE CAN STILL GET OUT OF TOWN -- LET'S PAY 'EM A VISIT!

I SURE HOPE IT WILL DO SOME GOOD!

USING THE NORTHERN ROUTE TO THE CHIU RESERVATION, WHILE WOLF FANG'S DRUNKEN KILLERS APPROACH BROKEN CREEK FROM THE SOUTH -- ARIZONA AND SPURS RACE TO THE CHIU VILLAGE!



# ARTICLES

## CRACK WESTERN

AFTER ARIZONA SWIFTLY EXPLAINS THE SITUATION...

NONE OF THESE EVIL MEN ARE INTERESTED IN YOUR WELFARE! THE MOST HORRIBLE CRIMES WILL BE COMMITTED IN YOUR NAME!

YOU ARE RIGHT, PALE-FACE! IT WAS AN EVIL DAY WHEN WOLF FANG BECAME CHIEFTAIN! HOW ARE THE CHIUS WHO ARE LAW-ABIDING TO HELP YOUR PEOPLE AND OURSELVES?



OFFERING HIS PLAN, ARIZONA AND SPURS TAKE OFF...

YOU MAY COUNT ON US!

AND YOU MAY COUNT ON JUSTICE FROM THE GREAT WHITE FATHER IN WASHINGTON! MAY LUCK ATTEND YOUR EFFORTS!



AN HOUR LATER...

THE GANG'S ALL HERE! WOLF FANG'S BLUNCH IS RIDIN' INTO BROKEN CREEK! WHAT'S OUR STRATEGY?

THERE'S ONLY ONE STRATEGY! WHEN YOU'RE FACED WITH MASSACRE! -- FIGHT LIKE BLAZES! LET'S BEGIN!



GASP! H-HEY! THEM'S THE TWO I WAS TELLIN' YUH ABOUT! -- THEY'RE COMIN' BACK!

ONLY TO GET THEIR TOES CURL'D UP!

FIRE, SPURS! IT'S THEM OR US!



SHOW 'EM NO MERCY, SPURS! IF WE DONT GET THROUGH, HUNDREDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL BE BUTCHERED!



FIVE MINUTES LATER, AT TOWN HALL...

THIS IS ONE LESS SKUNK TO CONTEND WITH LATER!

YOUR HUNCH WAS RIGHT, ARIZONA! I HEAR SYKES VOICE INSIDE!



HERE'S THE TOAST OF TOASTS! TO SYKESVILLE -- GASP!

IT'S A TOAST YOU'LL NEVER FINISH! RAISE 'EM!

YEAH? GUN 'IM!

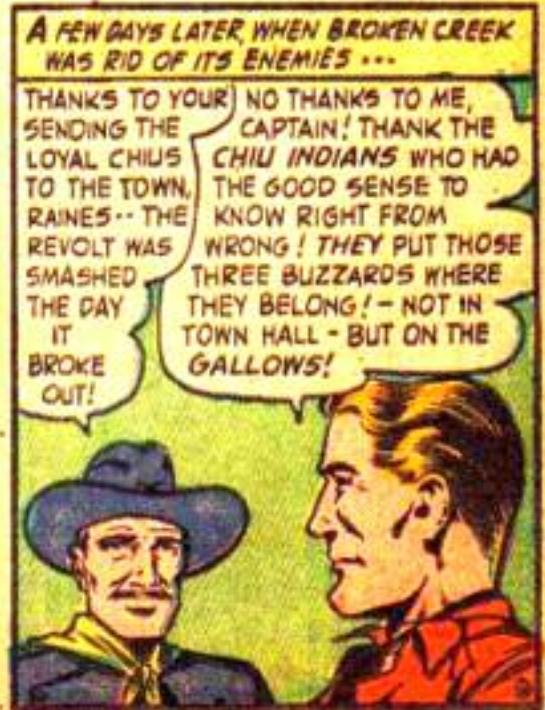
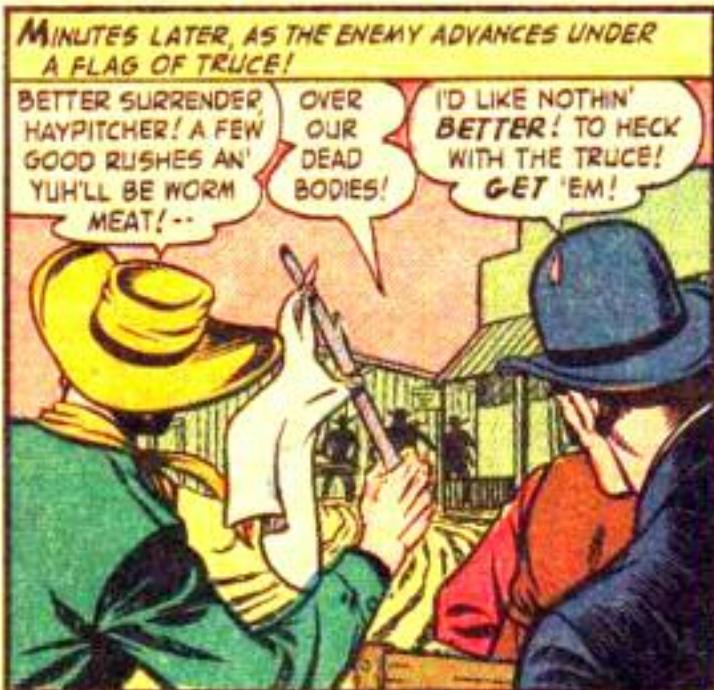


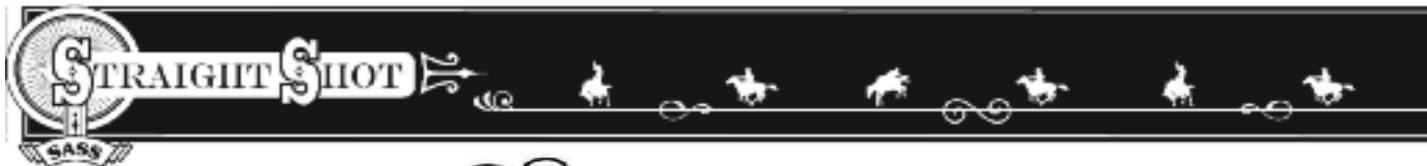
GASP! THEY'RE DEAD SHOTS! RUN! RUN!

YOU STAY PUT, SYKES, OR YOU'LL RUN STRAIGHT INTO YOUR GRAVE!

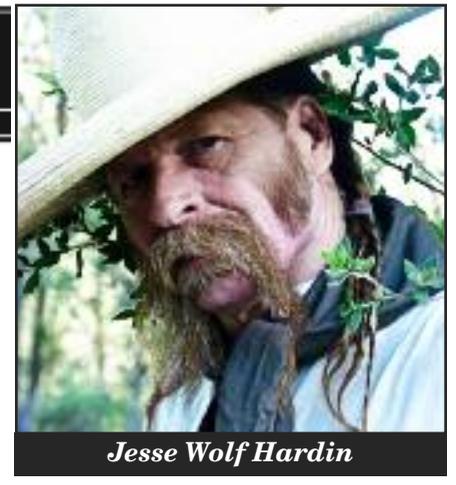


CRACK WESTERN





# THE STRAIGHT SHOT Hidden Thunder



Jesse Wolf Hardin

## Part I: Derringers Pocket-Pistols, & Cane Guns

(excerpted from the book, Old Guns & Whispering Ghosts)

By Jesse Wolf Hardin

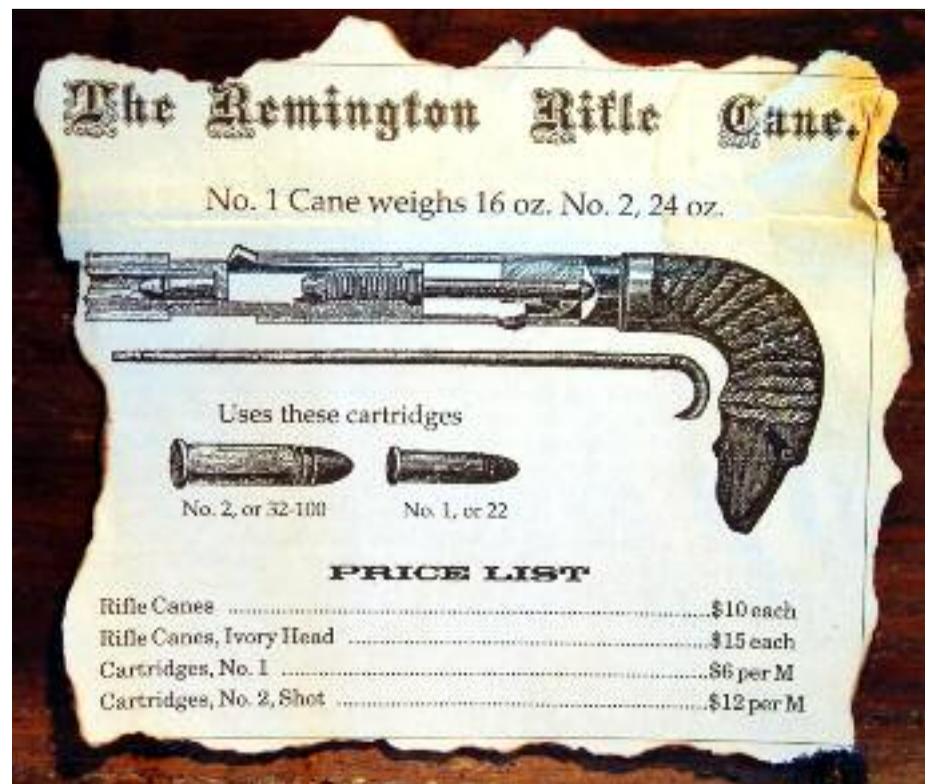
There's a good reason why there are derringer and pocket pistol side matches at many: whether for daily "dressed-down" carry or as a "backup" piece in case one's main arm failed, pocket guns were common in the Old West. Rifles have always been more powerful, more accurate, and more effective at long ranges as well as short. And no firearm is more deadly than a scattergun. The overriding advantage of a hand-held firearm, whether large or small, is its relative light weight and convenient size—making it more likely to be actually carried when the rare occasion arises to put it to use... and much easier to hide.



Author Jesse Wolf Hardin, with five concealed firearms, demonstrating the efficacy of the hideout arms of the Frontier.

Concealability has been a factor in gun choice for as long as European Monarchies and US city councils have sought to restrict them. Gun control laws that were long a reality in the American East, soon spread to the quickly settling West.

No less a notorious shootist than Wild Bill Hickok was a strict enforcer of an antigun ordinance in his days as Sheriff, clubbing anyone senseless who didn't immediately turn his in upon arrival in town. The number one option for men was a leather-lined pocket with a medium- to full-



Original advertisement for the Remington cane gun.

sized arm, thus the term "pocket pistols." But specially scaled-down models made it possible to sneak some degree of protection even in Summer dress. While lacking the knock down capabilities of their bigger brothers, these "belly guns" made the difference whenever a partying miner found himself suddenly needing to protect his hard earned gold dust, or a schoolmarm needed to defend her honor in the face of an amorous and aggressive drunk.

There's a rough sounding dictum well understood by those we say have "been and done," the veteran survivors of armed confrontation. I've heard one version or another from Navy SEALs,

*(Continued on next page)*



## The Straight Shot • (Hidden Thunder) . . .

*(Continued from previous page)*

country sheriffs and contemporary outlaws: “The gun that counts, is the one you’re packin’.” Many of the situations that call for active self defense occur when least expected, and not always in the most obvious places and situations. At such times both the Henry hanging inside on the wall or the shotgun stashed under the buckboard seat are likely well out of reach. The gun that counts most, then, is often the one that’s carried every day—on foot and on horseback, at work and at play.

For scantily clad saloon girls and bare armed faro dealers this would have meant derringers and other

tiny, easily secreted pistols often referred to as “stingy guns.” Many of these were anemic .22s, one of the smallest of which was the minuscule Remington Vest Pocket “saw-handled” single shot. Early multi-round .22 caliber derringers include the two round American Arms Wheeler model, the five-shot double-action Remington-Elliott’s “ring-trigger” design, the extremely rare Reid “My Friend” with its revolving cylinder and no barrel, the Bacon “pepperbox” and Sharps models with four fixed barrels and a rotating firing pin. Only slightly larger were the host of single-shot breech loading derringers chambered for the moderately more powerful .41 rimfire cartridge. These generally featured barrels that either pivoted up or down, or rotated to the side for loading. The acknowledged progenitor of this type is the Daniel Moore, patented in 1861. Others followed, including Colt’s National, #1 and #2 models, the Wesson, the Charles Ballard, the John Marlin “Victor” and “XLs,” the Stevens, the Allen, and the so-called “Southerners” made by Brown Manufacturing Co. and Merrimac Arms. Loaded with a 130-grain conical bullet and stuffed with 13 grains of black powder, it could barely achieve 400 feet per second velocity out of the typical three-inch-long barrel.

Even Henry Deringer’s original percussion pocket

pistol had considerably more penetration and knock-down power than the .30, .32 and .41 rimfire breech loaders that followed (now collectively thought of as “derringers,” a misspelling of Henry Jr.’s name). These lilliputians nonetheless contributed to an owner’s sense of security, and no doubt their brandishment alone was enough to calm escalating disputes. After all, no one wants to be shot, even by an underpowered round. And the terror of being wounded was justifiably all the greater in the West of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with it’s paucity of doctors, questionable hygienics, and failure to fully appreciate the importance of sterilization when it came to dressings, hands and medical tools. Many deaths by gunshot were the result of subsequent infection, rather than the size or location of the wound. A .41 RF that barely penetrated would still carry into the body minute pieces of germ-laden material from the clothes one wore, and the specter of a long painful illness and feverish death would have made all but the most cavalier de-

*(Continued on page 66)*



*Remington pocket handguns.*



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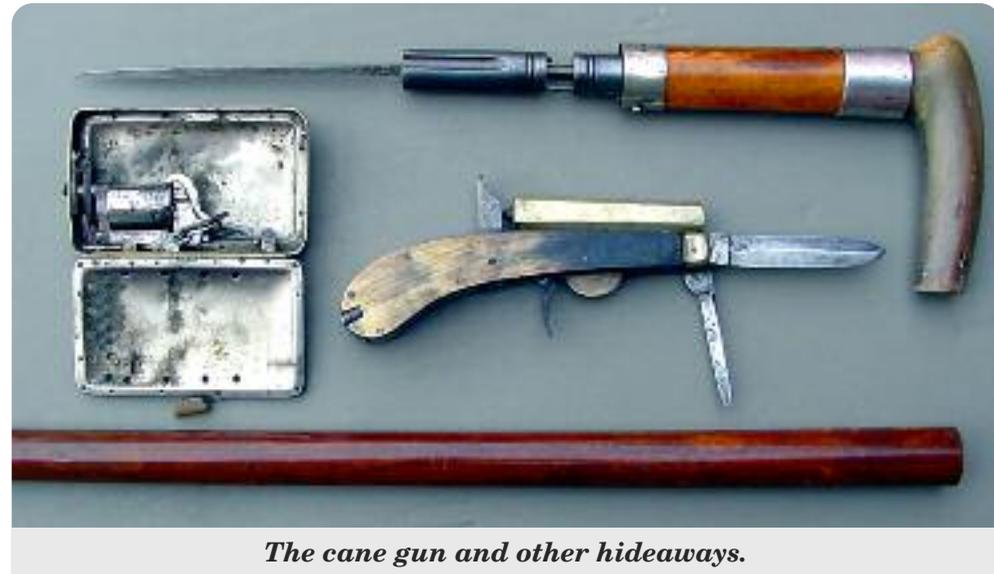


## The Straight Shot • (Hidden Thunder) . . .

(Continued from page 65)

bater reconsider his more provocative arguments.

According to Capt. Joseph Bourke, one 1880's Arizona lawman packed as many as ten small derringers secreted on his person at a time. Believe that or not, anyone with a soft spot for early Wild West Show entertainers, Western pulp fiction, movies or television serials has some idea of how these pip-squeak backups might save the day. In his sunset years Buffalo Bill Cody often relied on an ivory stocked, nickel-plated Remington over and under .41 derringer with amateurish engraving. The character Paladin on *Have Gun Will Travel* packed the same under the skirt of his revolver holster. Special agent James West in *The Wild Wild West* had a similar Remington rigged up on some kind of mechanical device inside his shirt cuff, and he could cause it to spring into his hand on command. They make it easy to imagine some hero, with his hands in the air and an empty holster on his hip, suddenly turning the tables with a firearm



*The cane gun and other hideaways.*

the size of single Colt Peacemaker grip.

Fiction was matched by reality in at least one dramatic event, a surprise shootout at a peace conference between Modoc war chief Captain Jack and US General Canby. The Indian warrior shocked everyone by suddenly pulling out a hidden revolver and shooting the General in the head. When another Indian, Schonchin pulled out his own weapon, one-time Indian agent A.B. Meacham wounded him and brought him to the ground with a shirt pocket .41.

There have also been some fascinating arms created solely for the purpose of disguised carry. Some of the most fascinating are revolvers disguised as handbags or "wallets." Imported from Europe or hand made by tinkerers in the good ol' USA, they were made of cloth-covered metal, and could be set off by a hidden trigger. No doubt the women who bought them liked to imagine the surprise of a robber who, after asking a woman for her money bag, gets either a bullet in the belly or at least the scare of his life! Other clever oddities included single shot pistols that could double as "brass knuckles" once fired, plus revolvers with built in folding knives, and even pocket knives that "go boom."

Cane or walking stick guns replaced walking cane, swords the backup of choice for nineteenth century English gentlemen. The earliest were muzzle loaders, later models usually fired a single rim-fire cartridge, and eventually rounds as powerful as the .410 shotshell found its way into these orthopedic aids and symbols of taste and class. Particularly interesting are the British made air-canes marketed at the turn of the century through various New York distributors. The reservoirs were re-filled using an attachable stirrup pump, took a long time to charge, and fired what was usually a .32

(Continued on next page)

# PRINCE OF THE PISTOLEERS

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Costume Contest ♦ Banquet ♦ Old West Sulfers

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Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup> through Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015.  
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**The Straight Shot • (Hidden Thunder) . . .**

*(Continued from previous page)*

caliber ball with far more force than you might think. Every cane type included a muzzle cap to keep dirt and debris out of the barrel, and the results could be dramatic if someone ever forgot to remove it before firing.

While most popular in the deep South, a few canes undoubtedly found their way West, especially following Remington's introduction of an American made model. Available in either .22 or .32 RF, they could be purchased with either plain, ivory, carved claw-and-ball or dog's-head handles.

Anyone with a real likelihood of armed defense was unlikely to choose a derringer any more than a walking stick gun. For this purpose most people wanted multiple shots without reloading, with the result being a burgeoning new market in medium powered, pocket-sized revolvers. Colt, Remington, Rupertus, Hopkins & Allen, and Forehand & Wadsworth produced the highest quality examples

*(Continued on page 68)*



*1<sup>st</sup> Combined Annual:*

**SOUTHEAST NEW MEXICO**

**SHOOTOUT**



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**LOCATION: Hobbs Gun Club in Hobbs, NM**

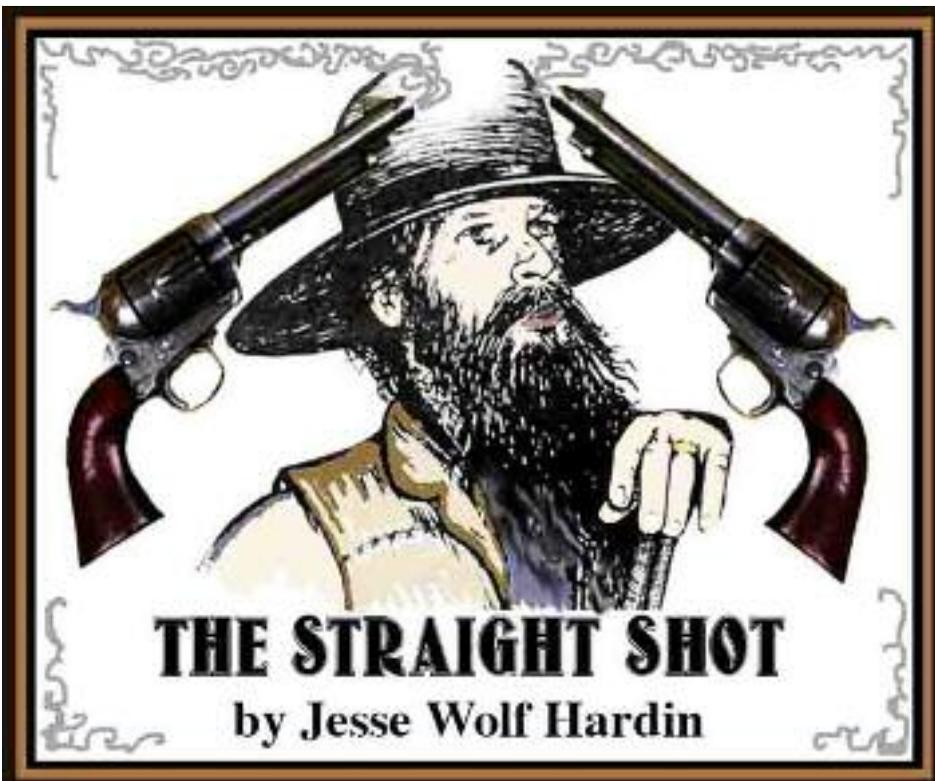
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**Friday:** Four-Stage Wild Bunch Match starting at 1:00 PM  
**Saturday:** Six Main Match Stages, Lunch, and Side Matches  
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*Dry camping is available at the Range. Camping is also available at Harry McAdams RV Park (575-392-5845) and Zia RVillas RV Resort (575-392-7887).*

**For Additional Information:**  
 Curly Bill at (575) 942-8445, [www.msbswhackers.com](http://www.msbswhackers.com)  
 Stink Creek Jones at (575) 885-9879, [www.sevenrr.com](http://www.sevenrr.com)



Jesse Wolf Hardin is a wilderness-dwelling writer, artist, arms collector, co-editor of *Plant Healer Magazine* for students of herbal medicine (see: [www.PlantHealer.org](http://www.PlantHealer.org)), and author of dozens of books. Portions of this essay are excerpted from the full-color book *Old Guns & Whispering Ghosts: Firearms of the Old West & Those Who Used Them, 1866-1916*. He most recently released the conversation-stirring *Lawmen of The Old West Unmasked*. Bothbooks are available through [www.OldWestScribe.com](http://www.OldWestScribe.com). Hardin's work has garnered the respect of characters like John Taffin, Boge Quinn, Jim Supica, Doug Turnbull, Ned Schwing, Dennis Adler and Bob Boze Bell, while verily confounding the thin-skinned and politically correct. You can send indignant comments or letters of cheer directly to Wolf at: [Scribe@OldWestScribe.com](mailto:Scribe@OldWestScribe.com)

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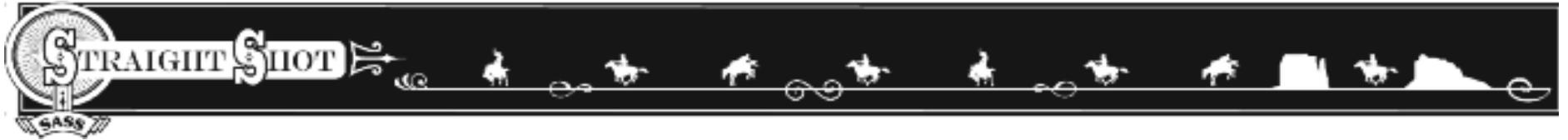
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**The Straight Shot • (Hidden Thunder) ...**

*(Continued from page 67)*

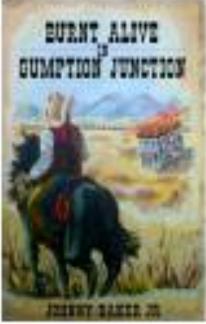
of this genre. At one time or other, Pat Garrett owned a .41 RF Forehand & Wadsworth “Swamp Angel” (serial number #4318) featuring a gold plated cylinder and a backstrap engraved with his name, as well as a .38 S&W centerfire caliber Merwin & Hulbert Pocket Army revolver with a unique folding hammer presented him by the favored citizens of Uvalde, New Mexico. Both featured ivory stocks and rudimentary “New York” style scroll engraving.

All such arms sported similar profiles to the early S&W tip-ups: “sheath” or “spur” triggers (sans trigger guard) with three- to five-inch barrels and generally rounded, “bird’s head” grip frames. Around 1874 Remington added their “two cents” worth with their Smoot patent line. The .30, .32, and .38 rimfire Remingtons featured simple ejector rods, while their .41 RF variant did not.

Colt continued its tradition of pocket arms with the 1870 release of their “Cloverleaf” (deep fluted)

cylinder “House Pistol,” a four shot revolver in .41 RF, one of which is provenanced to Inspector of Railroads and onetime Confederate General William Hardeman. That same year they began flooding the market with the itsy-bitsy .22 “open top,” churning out some 110,000 before finally giving it up in 1877. Both were essentially made obsolete in 1874 with the introduction of five Colt “New Line” series in five different graduated frame sizes. Served up in rimfire .22 and .30 rimfire, plus .32, .38 and .41 centerfire. The last of this configuration was their New Police .38 centerfire. Like the cleverly named “House” pistol, its “cop and thug” motif grips appealed to the need for convenient personal and home security. The New Lines often served as back up guns, paired with Colt’s ubiquitous large bore Peacemaker. They were effectively phased out by the mid 1880s under market pressure from the scads of cheap imitations such as the two-dollar “suicide special” removed from Hickok murderer

*(Continued on next page)*



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## The Straight Shot • (Hidden Thunder) ...

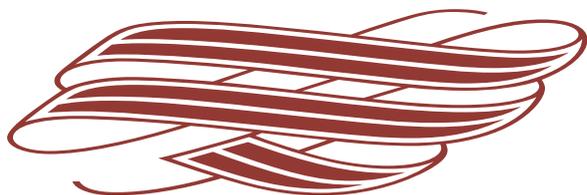
*(Continued from previous page)*

Jack McCall in 1876. Their niche in the prestigious Colt lineup remained unfilled until the 1896 release of the double action New Police.

Since the day Smith & Wesson locked up the patents for the bored-through cylinder (and thus for the repeat shot breech loading handgun), their various small arms have enjoyed a fervent and faithful following. Beginning in 1857 with the introduction of the tip-up models #1 in .22, and the previously discussed #1-1/2 and #2 in .32 rimfire, S&W went on to even greater success with a much stronger top-break design first introduced in 1870 in their large frame, large bore Model #3 American. This was followed in 1876 and 1878 with medium frame topbreaks in .38 and .32 centerfire. The .38 S&W centerfire cartridge was more briskly loaded with a 16-grain black powder charge, topped by a 145-grain round nosed bullet. Smith & Wesson manufactured and shipped in excess of 130,000 "New Model" or "Baby Russian" .38s before finally taking it off line in 1891. This medium powered round went on to be one of the most popular calibers of its time.

In 1892 a posse headed by Marshal Paden Tolbert surrounded and eventually blew up with dynamite a recessed log "fort" manned by the Cherokee outlaw Ned Christie. In a photo taken shortly after the raid, posse members are seen to have Harrington and Richardson, S&W and Colt New Line pocket revolvers tucked into their vests and waistbands, along with a large frame Colt 1878 .44 WCF and a hodgepodge of rifles and shotguns. In the end, it was the TNT that carried the day, and these lightweight backups were unlikely used in the fray. Sheriff William "Billy" Tilghman helped bust up the Doolin gang and clean up Oklahoma's infamous "Hell's Half Acre," and his reputation alone was enough to settle most disputes. But it was a hidden belly gun in the hands of a boozed-up Prohibition Agent (!) that ended both his life and his career. 🐉

*(continued next issue)*



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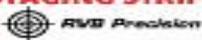


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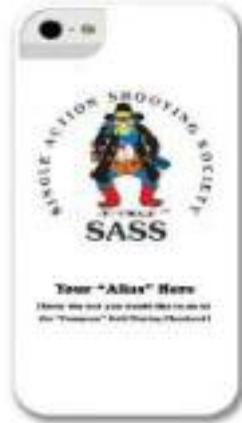
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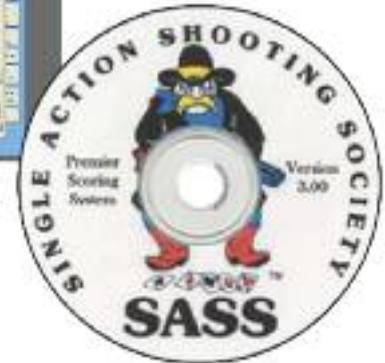
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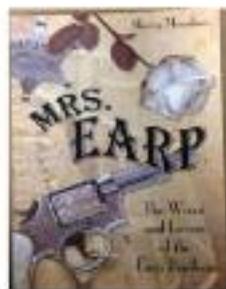
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102,283.....Western Wizard

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102,250.....Poke Along  
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