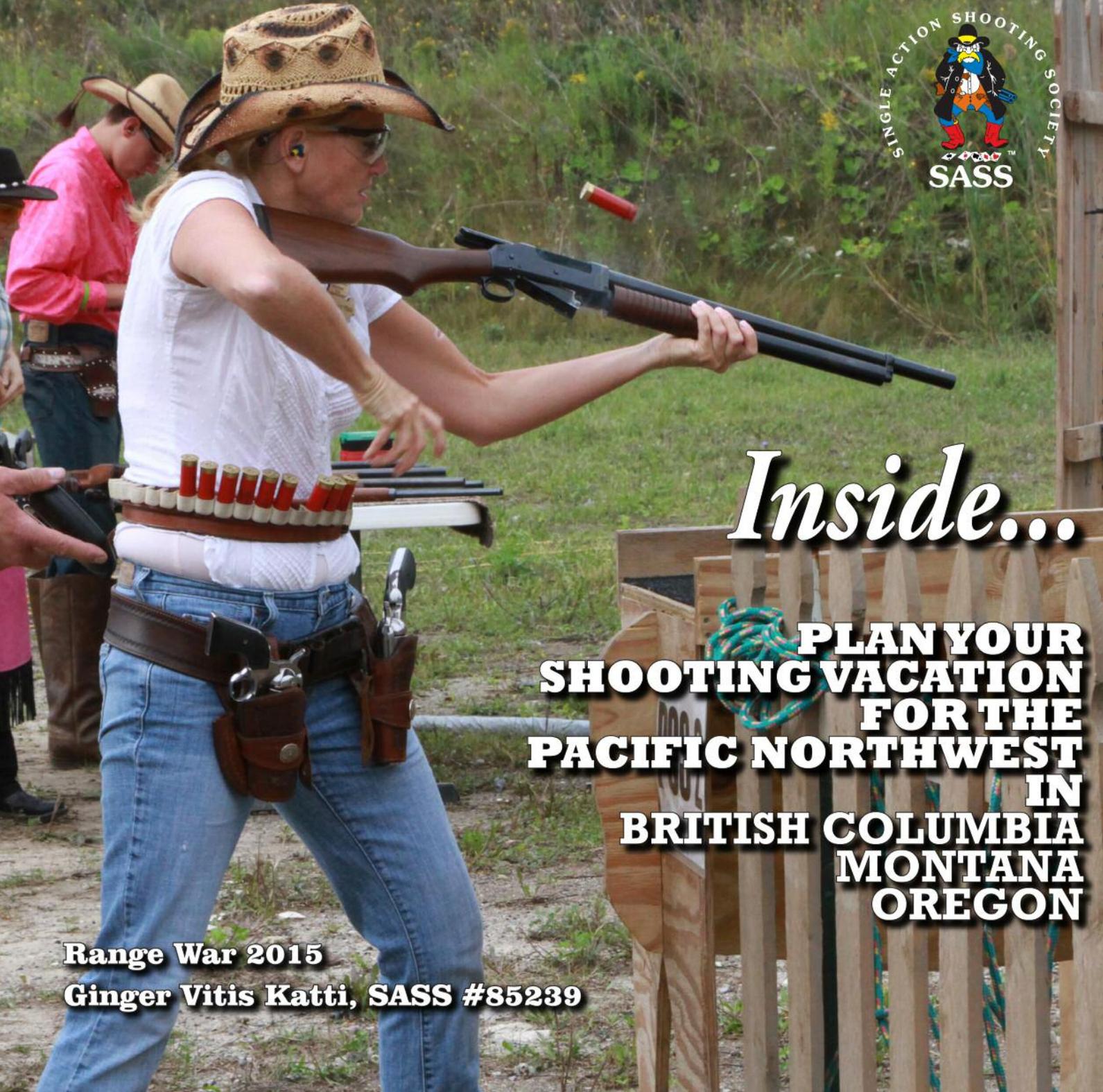


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JUNE | 2016



Cowboy CHRONICLE



Inside...

**PLAN YOUR
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OREGON**

Range War 2015

Ginger Vitis Katti, SASS #85239

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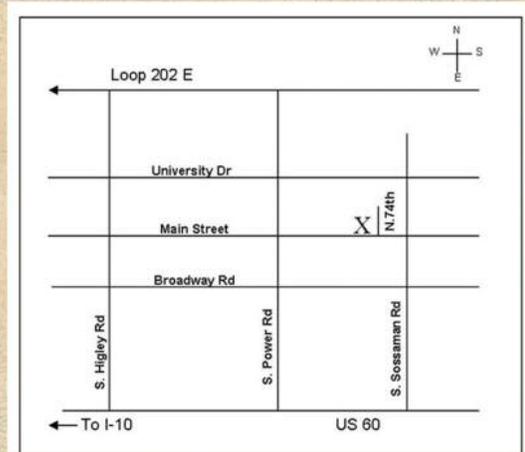


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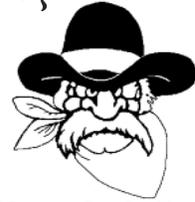


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An iconic image can conjure up all manner of Hollywood Old West fantasies and this is one of the best we've seen.

Photo courtesy Kelley Moore, taken February 2015 at the Texas Tenhorns Shooting Club in Leonard, Texas.



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Skinny, SASS #7361

From The Editor

SKINNY'S SOAPBOX

By Skinny, SASS #7361

Vacation Plans?

This issue, several of our Club Reports center on the notion of taking a shooting vacation through the Northwest this summer. In her article, Fire Opal, as a matter of fact, focuses exclusively on how you can spend an entire month shooting matches and taking in the sights of Montana. Having shot in a few of Montana's matches, I can personally tell you that would be a fun vacation. But not to be outdone, Palaver Pete and Miss Mary Spencer are also on hand to regale you with the options you have available for an Oregon or a British Columbia getaway. Sadly, I've never shot a match in either of those locales, but the scenery is beautiful so either would have to be an exceptional experience.

And speaking of interesting places to visit...

I recently had the opportunity to attend a one-day event at The Buggy Barn, located in Blanco, Texas and let me tell you, if you're interested in any way in personal transportation from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, this is a museum you have to visit when you're in the area. On display and in various stages of restoration are many dozens of vintage carriages, wagons, and buggies from the personal collection of the owner, Dennis Moore. The particular day I visited they were featuring chuck wagon food as well as live entertainment, which is usually not the case, but for the admission price of \$8.00, the museum itself is a must see, and if you call in advance they can usually accommodate requests for buggy rides. Their next big



The Buggy Barn

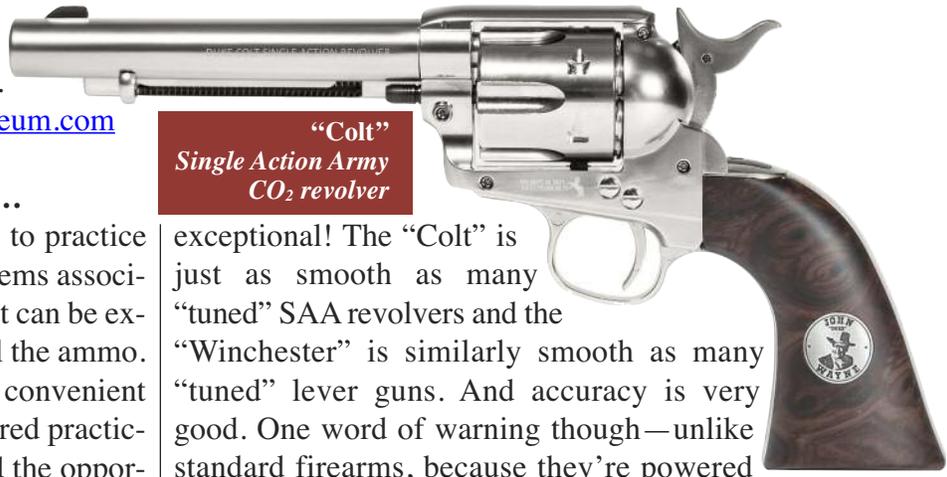
Skinny's Soapbox (cont.) . . .

event is scheduled for November 4-5 2016.

Visit their website at www.buggybarnmuseum.com for more details.

Inexpensive practice at home...

We probably would all like to be able to practice more than we do, but there are problems associated with frequent practice. For one thing, it can be expensive and time consuming to make up all the ammo. And a range on which to practice is not so convenient for many of us. I'll confess I never considered practicing with air guns until recently, when I had the opportunity to evaluate two exceptional products—a "John Wayne" Colt Single Action Army CO₂ revolver manu-



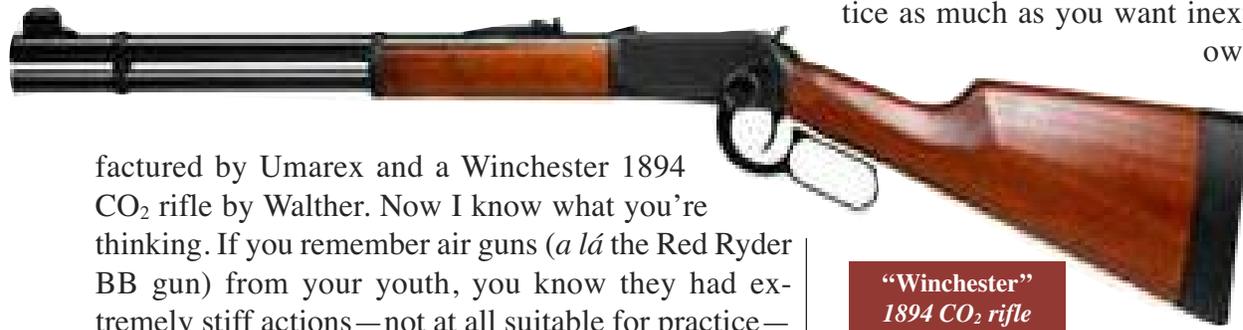
"Colt"
Single Action Army
CO₂ revolver

exceptional! The "Colt" is just as smooth as many "tuned" SAA revolvers and the "Winchester" is similarly smooth as many "tuned" lever guns. And accuracy is very good. One word of warning though—unlike standard firearms, because they're powered by CO₂, if you shoot them too fast they become too cold! But aside from that, this is the perfect way to practice as much as you want inexpensively and in your

own backyard or basement (in most places). PyramidAir, among others, sells both. Check their website at www.pyramidair.com for information.

—Skinny *A*

factured by Umarex and a Winchester 1894 CO₂ rifle by Walther. Now I know what you're thinking. If you remember air guns (*a lá* the Red Ryder BB gun) from your youth, you know they had extremely stiff actions—not at all suitable for practice—but the actions on the air guns in question are



"Winchester"
1894 CO₂ rifle

THE Cowboy CHRONICLE

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

Please submit articles in MS Word or something compatible.

Open Office and Apple Pages (saved as MS Word) are also fine. A count of 800-1500 words for the printed editions is a good target to shoot for, but shorter pieces are also fine, and we can accommodate larger reports in our virtual-only issues if the material warrants it. We may choose to break very lengthy articles up into two or more parts to run in consecutive issues, or heavily edit them, however.

Please do not embed your photos in the Word document.

They can be extracted for use in the The Cowboy Chronicle, but it can be a chore to do that. Instead, send your photos separately, in one or more emails, as attachments. Three to six photos per email usually works best. It's best to send JPEGs, but other formats are acceptable, and it's best to keep them at about 300 dpi and 3000 pixels (10 inches) on the short side. That will allow us plenty of leeway when it comes to cropping and adjusting them for publication, but in any case try to use photos that are at least 1000 pixels on the short side. If you're unsure of the size of your pictures, or how to size them, send what you have and we'll adjust them.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Usually, six photos are sufficient for an article, especially for the printed version, but we will consider using more for a "big" event, if provided.

The digital editions can accommodate more images, as well. Photos need not have captions, but captions always make photos more interesting. Ideally, the caption would consist of one or two sentences that say something about the picture that is not obvious and/or is not implicit in the body of the article. "Sam making smoke" is a title but not a caption. "Sam, SASS #XXXXX, shooting his first black powder match; after much deliberation, he decided to give it a try and now he's hooked" is much better. A caption may also serve to let everyone know why the picture is worthy of being published in an international newspaper.

For digital editions, short video clips may also be included.

MPEGs, AVIs, WAVs, etc., may all be embedded in Chronicle pages, with MPEGs (mp4) preferable. A better option would be to post your video to YouTube and then provide us with the YouTube link. Those will be viewable provided the reader is connected to the Internet.

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

RANGE WAR

We Love Our Women!

2015

By R.J. Law, SASS #15466 Life

Photos by Longshot Lillian, SASS #94602 Wildcat Rose, SASS #89822

Range War is the SASS® Michigan State Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting™ and it is run by The Wolverine Rangers, an organization composed of representatives from the 14 Cowboy Action Shooting™ Clubs in the state of Michigan. Each club has the right to appoint two members to the Board of Directors. All of our clubs work together for the common goal of trying to make Range War one of the best state matches in SASS.

Our theme for 2015 was **The Women of the West**, but we decided to make the match a tribute not only to the women of the West but also to our women. It is a great pleasure for all of us when our wives, daughters, granddaughters, girlfriends, etc., are able to shoot with us. Let's face it boys, many of the women are in this sport because the ones they love are in it. We try not to forget that in Michigan.

Each of our ten stages was a

tribute to a famous woman of the West. The women featured were Annie Oakley, Charley Parkhurst, Calamity Jane, Josephine Sarah Marcus, Etta Place, Pearl de Vere, Ellen Liddy Watson (also known as Cattle Cate), Pearl Hart, and Rose Dunn. Our Shooters Handbook contained a photo of each of the featured Women of the West along with a short biography. Please contact Cosmopolitan Christine at egillary@gillarylaw.com if you would like to receive a copy of our 2015 Shooter's Handbook.

Thanks to our Main Match



~ ALL THE WONDERFUL LADIES WHO PARTICIPATED IN RANGE WAR 2015 ~

some of them competed, some of them helped out, and some of them attended as spectators.

They were all an important part in making this Range War one of the best yet!

Photo by Major Photography—a 4" x 10" or 8" x 20" printed copy can be ordered off their web site, <http://majorphoto.com>



*~ Range War 2015 Michigan State Champions ~
husband and wife Deuce Stevens and K.J. Stevens,
pictured with their daughter Elsie Mae.
This is their sixth time as Michigan State Champions together.
It looks like Elsie Mae wants Mom's buckle.*

Lady Shooters were K.J. Stevens, Honey B. Quick (SASS #47009), Bdoc (SASS #76983), Southpaw Slingin' Sally (SASS #39737), Buslin' Belle (SASS #91885), Hey Sugar (SASS #93109), Katie Callahan (SASS #23077), Cactus Kay (SASS #15157), Kaya (SASS #98924), and Perfecta Vaquera (SASS #69780). Congratulations are also due to our 35 Clean Shooters. Deuce's theory is the more clean shooters the better. We also continued our practice at our Awards Banquet to read the names of the Top Ten Ladies to show them how much we appreciate them being there.

Range War takes place every year over Labor Day Weekend at the Blue Water Sportsman's Association in Kimball, Michigan near Port Huron. We tried something a
(Continued on page 10)

Range War 2015 . . .

Sponsor, Doc Noper Gun Leather and our Main Awards Sponsor, Ed's Custom Leather Crafts. Thanks also to Slick McClade, maker of Sure Hit Sights, for his donations and support. Thanks especially to all the shooters who participated in Range War for 2015 and to all our volunteers. We had 14 shooters join us from Canada and also had shooters from California, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

Congratulations to Deuce Stevens (SASS #55996) our Overall Winner and Michigan State Champion and to his lovely wife K.J. Stevens (SASS #67782), Overall Lady and Michigan State Champion. Congratulations also to all of the category winners. The Top Ten



Doc Molar (SASS #18470) of Indiana instructs his son Big Shot (SASS #82609) on the shooting scenario. This was the first year that Doc Molar's entire family shot Range War together. Doc and his wife Ginger Vitis Katti (SASS #85239) have three sons, Mini Doc (SASS #82314), Rapid Fire (SASS #82608) and Big Shot.



Range War 2015 . . .

(Continued from page 9)

little different on Saturday night at Range War 2015. We had a Cowboy Campfire and asked our shooters to bring their musical instruments to play and sing around the campfire. Thanks to all who participated. It was a lot of fun. We are definitely planning on doing this again in 2016 and will again ask our shooters to join in.

This is somewhat of a learning process for us and we hope to make it bigger and better in 2016.

Our Match Director is Deuce Stevens and he, along with his wife K.J. Stevens, designs all the stages and shooting scenarios. One of our principles for the Wolverine Rangers and for Range War is we do not micro-manage. We learned long ago that it works best for us to get good people and

then let them do their job. Deuce is one of the best Match Directors in this sport and he has free rein to do whatever he wants.

On Friday we had a Wild Bunch mini-match and a Cowboy mini-match along with our normal side matches, which included long range again this year. Thanks to hOOt Hamilton (SASS #86407)

(Continued on page 12)

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Range War 2015 . . .

(Continued from page 10)

for designing and running the Wild Bunch mini-match and to Straight Arrow Hombre (SASS #63486) for designing and running the Cowboy mini-match. Also, thanks to Mike Fink (SASS #29047) and Moe Guns (SASS #26854) for again running our popular Cowboy Trap event on Saturday afternoon.

Thanks to Longshot Lillian and her assistant Wildcat Rose for all of the great photos. Longshot Lillian not only shot the match but also took the time to take action photos of virtually all of our shooters. Wildcat Rose recorded the names of all of the shooters. The photos are posted on our website (www.wolverinerangers.org) for anyone to enjoy.

We also tried something new this year. We made arrangements for Tri-Hospital EMS to have an ambulance on-site. We were able to have the ambulance parked for much of Range War and the EMTs used the Shooting Range as their base for making

Range War 2015 . . .

runs. We believed their presence helped to make the event safer for our shooters.

Each year at our Awards Banquet we pass out comment cards and I read each and every one and all comments are passed on to our Board of Directors to be discussed at the Board Meeting after Range War. We are always looking for ways to improve and the comments from our shooters are very important to us. In fact, we will be adopting one of the suggestions from one of our shooters to use as our theme for Range War 2016—that we honor our men and women who have served in the military and in law enforcement/public safety. We will be asking for all shooters who



have served to let us know some of the details of their service and we will include that in our Shooters Handbook. Each of our 10 stages will follow that theme.

We look forward to seeing our old friends as well as new friends at

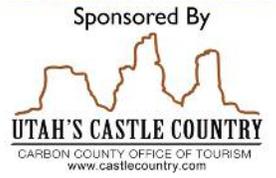
Range War this coming Labor Day weekend, September 2-4. Please join us as we honor our service men and women. Please visit www.wolverinerangers.org/RW.html for information and for complete match results for Range War 2015. 🤠



 A person wearing a cowboy hat, sunglasses, and a yellow vest is pointing towards the right. They are standing in front of a wooden fence.




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Annual Reports



Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245
and Rio Drifter, SASS #49424

A Dark Day on the Santa Fe SASS Southeastern Territorial Black Powder Championship 2016

By Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245 and Rio Drifter, SASS #49424

Photos by Sage Siren Photography

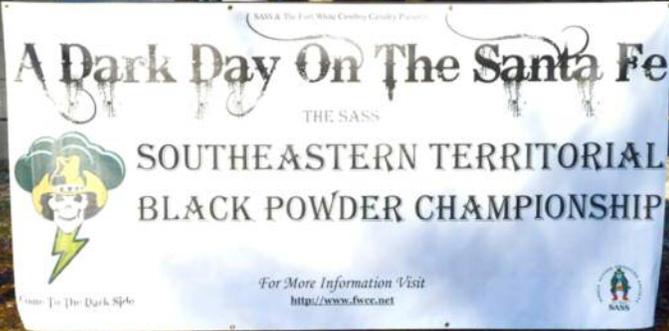
After attending matches in all 48 contiguous states, we were looking forward to planning our annual calendar, and this year we didn't have to look farther than our backyard. The Fort White Gun Club, Fort White Cowboy Calvary, and SASS® hosted the Southeastern

Territorial Black Powder Championship March 5. This year, the theme of the match was the movie,

Maverick. There's a "How to for Dummies" for everything from cooking to shining shoes but con-



Winners of the 2016 Southeastern Territorial Black Powder Championship.
Congratulations to all.



tact Confederate Colt and his crew from Fort White, Florida if you want to know “How to Conduct an Outstanding Black Powder Match.”

The 2016 Southeastern Territorial Black Powder Championship drew shooters from Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, New Hampshire, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, and New Mexico. Cheatin’ Chamber-

lin was responsible for eight straightforward, well-written, fun stages; stages that had two sponsors each. Ennah Tizzy and Purdy Sharp put together beautiful decorations for the range. (Rumor has it Ennah paints anything that isn’t moving.) Yadkin Hawks, in his words, “Gleefully spent big bucks of club money” building stage covers, a fancy bank vault door, gun racks, and loads of other

props and tables.

One of the first ingredients for “How to Conduct an Outstanding Black Powder Match” is to start with a great club to begin with. Fort White, through the years, has boasted a crowd of dedicated Cowboys and Cowgirls who continually work to upgrade their facilities. Yadkin Hawks, Deadwood Blackie, James Wood, Delta Glen, Silver
(Continued on page 16)

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A Dark Day On The Santa Fe . . .

(Continued from page 15)

Buck Chuck, Miss Patty, High Springs Drifter, Rocky Creek Shooter, Purdy Sharp, Deadly Sharpshooter, and Jane Deere were all faithful workers who extended a berm wall between stage 5 and 6, put up a new fence at the gate, cleared brush to make room for more parking, installed a new roof over stage 8, built new spectator benches, made up an awesome shooters handbook and shooters packet, and kept scores.

Silver Buck Chuck brought in his 10-gauge cannon for the big boom grand opening. It not only woke us up, it started the match off with a bang AND LOADS OF SMOKE! Hawk Eye Gin was everywhere with her video camera, Sage Siren Photography and Macinaw took loads of still photos. The posse marshals, Rocky Creek Shooter, Quicksdraw Connie, General Lee Smokey, Kingfish Dave, Bad Hombre, Luna Corizon, Bonfire, Florida Rus-

seller, Greta Dee, Oakley Mouse, Yadkin Hawks, Major Mishap, Ennah Tizzy, and Deadly Sharpshooter were representative of a multitude of local clubs supporting the shoot. There were a total of six clean shooters, with 92 Black Powder shooters and eight smokeless shooters all told. A special thank you to vendors Outlaw Bullets, Curtis Allen Knives, and Hood's Custom Carving.

Following the match a delicious hot lunch from Atkins BBQ was served and Jane Deere had scores ready for the awards ceremony. An amazing feat, all accomplished in a timely manner. Plaques were awarded to all winning shooters and Territorial Championship buckles were presented to each class champion. A complete listing of scores are available on their website www.fwcc.net/black-powder.

All said, a great job folks, and a great shoot! The club has already begun work on the 2017 Southeastern Territorial Black Powder Championship, the theme for next year is *Blazing Saddles*. Load up and come join us. 🤠





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Annual Reports

THE Last Hurrah



SHOOTOUT AT 5 DOGS CREEK

SASS 2015 California State Championship

By Utah Blaine SASS #54601

Photos by Doubleshot SASS #70752

At the outset, let me offer my apology for not getting this into *The Cowboy Chronicle* months ago. It was not too long ago that I woke up one morning with an “oops” realization that nothing had been written about 5 Dogs Creek hosting the 2015 State match.

It was for one last time Cowboys and Cowgirls gathered for the Shootout at 5 Dogs Creek SASS 2015 California State Championship. Folks came to shoot and there was ample opportunity to do so! Thursday featured a variety of speed side matches, long range, plainsman, Wild Bunch,

Running with the Big Dogs, and a black powder night shoot. Those participating in the speed matches, long range and “the Big Dogs” could shoot as many times as their energy and ammunition permitted; however, after the first time through a small contribution was encouraged. The proceeds from these contributions went to help the work of the Shriner Hospitals.

Two hundred and five (205) shooters participated in the



The 5 Dogs Creek Gang.

The Last Hurrah . . .

12-stage main match. The majority of participants were from California, but shooters also came from several other U.S. States and Canada.



~ The Future of SASS ~

Young Gun Deadwood Dalton (SASS #100343),
 Buckaroo Machete Frost (SASS #100861),
 Young Gun Girl Boonie MacFarlane (SASS #92385).



Poison Oakely (SASS #95422) and Ruby Jewel (SASS #96154)
 Square off against Each other at the Top Gun Invitational.

All cowboys know great shooting must be followed by great food. The Kern County Shrine Club served breakfast and lunch throughout the event and dinners on Thursday evening. Proceeds from the food sales directly support the Kern County Shrine Club charities. The food was very reasonably priced and generous cups of coffee provided. Catered dinners were provided both Friday and Saturday evenings.

Shooting and food was not all that was provided. Musical entertainment followed dinner both evenings. Friday
(Continued on page 20)

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The Last Hurrah . . .

(Continued from page 19)

evening we were entertained by the fiddlin' fingers of the Mad Trapper of Rat River and guitarist Brad Cole. A "spit-toon" was strategically placed near the stage to collect contributions for the Shriner Hospitals to support their work treating children with severe conditions.

Music was provided while dinner was served. During the Saturday dinner the top 16 Cowboys and top 16 Cowgirls were asked to the top-gun invitational the following morning. After the catered dinner, Red House Productions provided a variety of country and western music for dancing throughout the rest of the evening. And a "tent" facility was also provided for those cowboys

who had a hankering to play poker.

Sunday morning Cowboy Church services were conducted by Rev. Barry M. Deep, accompanied by a couple of tunes by the Mad Trapper of Rat River. Following church, gunfire once again reverberated off the hillsides and throughout the range as two final shooting events got under way.

First came the couples/pairs shoot, which pitted two randomly assigned "teams" against each other in a test of time and accuracy. This has proven to be a popular shooting event over the past couple of years.

The main spectacle of the morning, for shooters and spectators alike, was the top-gun invitational. For the shooters, the course of fire was designed to be both challenging and fun. For the spectators it is an opportunity to marvel at just how fast these top cowboys and cowgirls are, and to commiserate with those who lose by a split second or who have the occasional, though rare, miss.

Then came the awards ceremony, a model of efficiency, emceed by Mad Dog Draper and Lap Dog, who kept the ceremony moving right along. As has become the practice at 5 Dogs Creek, well-dressed and well-heeled cowboys and cowgirls escorted the awardees to their proper position on the stage.

And then the 2015 Shootout at 5 Dogs Creek was over, our last hurrah! A number of cowboys and cowgirls had some very complementary things to say to us during the match, on the SASS Wire, or on our webpage. Among them: "...once again I had the time of my life:



Great shoot!"; "Great shoot, great food, great company!! All around a fantastic job as always..."; "...[thank] you and the entire club for all the hard work you put in over the last 15 years putting on one of the finest examples of a state championship that I have ever seen."; "I know you all put in 110 percent to bring it all together, and you succeeded beautifully! Thank you again for everything!!"; and "Often when an organization knows they are 'ending an era' and putting on their 'swan song' performance, there can be a tendency to slack off or cut corners, knowing there won't be a next time. This was certainly NOT in evidence at this year's event."

All of us at 5 Dogs Creek want to yell out a heartfelt "thank you" to those who have attended the SASS California State Championship at 5 Dogs Creek over the past 15 years. When it is all said and done, it is the presence of you many Cowboys and Cowgirls that has made the match as successful as it has been! We are sure to see many of you again along the trail! Please visit <http://www.5dogscreek.com/2015/scores-may-2015-calif-state-championships-at-5-dogs-creek/> for complete scores. 🤠

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AUGUST 10-14, 2016

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- Warm up matches
- Cowboy Trap
- Long range
- Black powder night shoot
- ROI and ROII classes
- Wild Bunch
- Top 16 ShootOff
- Team Shoot
- Plainsman
- Costume Contest



ROGER RAPID

- Buckaroo/Buckarette match
- Chorro Valley 4-Star Dinner
- 2 dozen vendors
- Saloon social
- Incredible nearby places to visit
- Awards ceremony
- Camping space for 200 trailers
- Nearby motels
- and much more....

And, we've got a lot in store for you - check out this hefty schedule of events:

Wednesday, Aug 10

11:00 - 2:00: Shooter Check-in
 8:00-12:00: ROI Class
 12:45- 4:30: ROII Class
 1:00- until: Wild Bunch, 3 stages
 1:30- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages*
 2:00- 5:00: Cowboy Trap*
 5:00- 7:00: Shooter Check-in
 7:45- until: Black powder night shoot

Thursday, Aug 11

7:00-11:00: Long range, 100y & 400y*
 8:00- 2:00: Shooter Check-in
 8:00-11:00: Cowboy Trap*
 11:00- 3:00: Speed Matches*
 pistol, rifle, shotgun
 11:00- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages*
 1:00- until: Plainsman*
 2:00- until: Warm up Matches, 3 stages*
 2:00- until: Buckaroo/Buckarette match
 4:00- 6:00: Shooter Check-in
 4:30- until: (Posse leader walkthrough)
 5:30- until: TG meeting
 6:00- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon

Friday, Aug 12

7:00- 8:00: Shooter Check-in
 7:30- 8:00: Mandatory shooter meeting
 8:00- until: Main Match, Poses 1-12
 12:00- 12:30: Mandatory shooter meeting
 12:30- until: Main Match, Poses 13-24
 5:30- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon
 7:00- until: Texas Hold'em Tournament

Saturday, Aug 13

8:00- until: Main Match, Poses 13-24
 12:30- until: Main Match, Poses 1-12
 5:30- until: Social at Last Chance Saloon
 6:30- until: Chorro Valley's Famous 4-Star
 Dinner and music

Sunday, Aug 14

7:15- until: Cowboy Church
 8:30- until: Men's and Ladies's Top-16
 ShootOff
 10:00- until: Team shoot
 12:00- until: Awards Ceremony

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

Exact times of events subject to change prior to event.

Want to learn what others say about our event?

Please watch this 4.5 minute video: <https://youtu.be/FYtSb5Iz00A>

Mark your calendars now!

REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE ON-LINE AT:

www.chorrovalleyregulators.org

Questions or more info?

Shooter or Match questions: Sinful (Match co-director) - michaelgarripee@yahoo.com

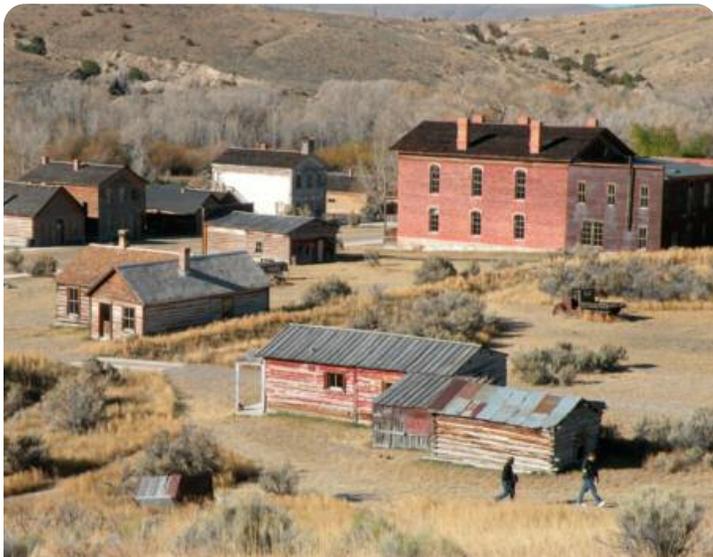
Camping: Miss Lefty O'Neal - floyburkett@yahoo.com

Vendor participation: Roger Rapid - roger@siminoff.net

Club Reports

Shooting Your Way through Montana

By Fire Opal SASS #50730 Life



The first territorial capital of Montana, Bannack, was first established as a mining town in 1862. Today this ghost town is a state park in southwestern Montana.



Badger, also known as "Mr. Clean Match," takes deliberate aim with his rifle at a Rocky Mountain Ranger match.

Big Sky County, Treasure State, and the Last Best Place are all nicknames for Montana. But for many Cowboy Action Shooters™, another name for Montana is home. Cowboy Action Shooting™ and Montana go together like... bacon and eggs, peanut butter and jelly, and even Cat Ballou and Tex. Why is that not surprising? Montana and her unique history have been romanticized in movies, television shows, dime novels, and books since... well, practically since the Lewis and Clark expedition. Many of us grew up hearing the stories of the Wild West, and Montana figured right into that storytelling tradition. Cowboys, Indians, sheriffs, vigilantes, miners, soiled doves, righteous women, mountain men... Montana had them all. So is it any wonder Cowboy Action Shooting™ is a natural fit?

Montana is a vast state with a small population barely exceeding one million people. However, there are at least nine SASS® affiliated clubs and several others that offer monthly and annual matches. Montana also offers some of the most spectacular scenery in our nation with Glacier National Park, Yellowstone National Park, Big Hole National Battlefield, Little

Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, and a host of historical attractions. You can spend weeks, months, and literally years exploring the corners of Montana.

Montana often flies under the radar with many



Blarney Kid rips through stage one at a Gallatin Valley Regulators match.

Shooting Your Way through Montana . . .



Dramatic sunset on the Sun River Range provides evening entertainment for shooters.

SASS shooters, being we are a bit far from the action. But why not consider vacationing in Montana and shooting your way through the state? Cowboy Action Shooting™, that is.

As you plan your Montana shooting vacation, you may want to design your trip based on the shooting schedules of the Montana SASS clubs. Shoot on the weekends, tour during the week... what a great holiday!

The First Weekend

The first Saturday of the month could see you in the Western Montana town of Hamilton, shooting with Montana's newest SASS affiliated club, the Bitterroot Buckaroos. This club is located in the beautiful Bitterroot Valley, forty miles south of Missoula, Montana. As with any location in western Montana, opportunities for fishing and hiking are abundant. Travelers may enjoy exploring many small, unique towns in the area, or attending events in Hamilton, Stevensville, or Missoula.

Monthly matches run from April to October, and start at 9:00 a.m. In the colder months of November through March, shooting is weather dependent and starts at 10:00. The Bitterroot Buckaroos feature an annual match, **Am-bush at Canyon Wells**, and this year (2016) it will take place Labor Day Weekend, September 2-4. The match includes a Saturday/Sunday main match with side matches on Friday afternoon. Although there is no dry camping at the Whittecar Rifle and Pistol Range, there are several RV parks and motels in and around Hamilton. Shooters can contact May B. Shecann by email at johnny.and.may@gmail.com or call (406) 531-4116.

You might choose, instead, to travel to Simms, centrally located in Montana, roughly forty-five miles east of Great Falls, to shoot both the first Saturday and Sunday with the Sun River Rangers (SRR). This club also shoots on the fourth Saturday as well. The Sun River Rangers, established in 1996, has hosted the Montana State Championship for many years through 2014. The club-owned range boasts a town of western fronts as well as a several permanent buildings. Besides the main match "town," SRR has long range shooting facilities as well. Dry camping is available for those traveling to the range.

The annual event, **Shoot Out on the Sun River**, will be held July 8, 9, and 10, featuring a main match, Wild Bunch match, side matches, and the long range shoot. This event is held the weekend before the Montana State Match, which is held nearby in Great Falls. Glacier National Park is located nearby along with numerous rivers, lakes, and reservoirs. Great Falls is the home of the Charlie Russell Museum and the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, as well as Malmstrom Air Force Base Museum. You can learn more about the Sun River Rangers from Picture Takn' Gal at (406) 590-7192, email address picturetakengirl@yahoo.com.

In the south central part of Montana, the Honorable Road Agents of Ennis also shoot on the first Saturday of the month April through September. This club was founded in 1993 with the initial range located near the historic mining town and second territorial capital, Virginia City. Currently the club maintains a range just south of Ennis, Montana.

Although the club does not have an annual shoot, it hosts two potluck lunches at the range; the first being

(Continued on page 24)



After shooting, cowboys and cowgirls relax and prepare to watch an amazing sunset at the Sun River Range near Simms.

Shooting Your Way through Montana . . .

(Continued from page 23)



Gooch Hill Drifter (left) presents Roughrider45 the trophy for the Shoot and Toot Chili Cook-off at Logan.

in July and the second in September with the club providing the meat and drinks while the participants supply the side dishes. Ennis offers a unique western small town environment and is close to Virginia City, Nevada City, and Yellowstone National Park. Premium fishing opportunities abound in every direction. For more information, contact Leo Christensen by phone at (406) 685-3618 or email him at chrisconst@3rivers.net.

The Second Weekend

The second weekend of the month could find you at the Rocky Mountain Rangers' range located in Noxon, the westernmost SASS club in the state. This club shoots on the second full weekend on both Saturday and Sunday every month from April through October. Noxon, located in the spectacular Clark Fork River Valley, is accessed by a quaint one-lane bridge. The area is noted for hunting, fishing, huckleberry picking (in season), and hiking, among other outdoor pursuits. Fifty miles west of Noxon is Sandpoint, Idaho, located on Lake Pend Oreille. This picturesque town boasts outdoor activities such as boating and skiing all year round as well as the famous Festival at

Sandpoint, an internationally renowned summer concert series from August 4-16, 2016.

The Rangers do not have an annual event, however every month shooters have the opportunity to shoot two days. Dry camping is available, and many come to camp in the meadow, sit around a campfire under the stars, and trade shooting stories, some of which are true! The range features a town comprised of fronts and a newly built pavilion. The safety meeting is at 9:30, and shooting commences shortly after. In order to learn more about the Rocky Mountain Rangers, you can email Jocko at jw@blackfoot.net or call (406) 847-0745.

The Gallatin Valley Regulators of Logan (south central Montana) shoot on the second Saturday at 9:30 from April to September and December. This club, established in 2007, is affiliated with their parent club, the Manhattan Wildlife Association. The Bozeman area club has a large shooting complex near Logan and is located just off Interstate 90.

The Regulators have mobile stage fronts designed in an old western town style that can be positioned either for individual stages or as a complete town. Winter shoots are accommodated with a building complete with a wood stove allowing the competitors to stay comfortable.

In September the annual **Shoot and Toot** is a one-day competition with a chili cook-off contest. Although no side matches are shot that day, those attending have lots of fun trying to decide who has created the winning chili. Dry camping is available at the range with six spaces featuring power hook-ups. Campers also have access to the clubhouse, which has restrooms and showers.

The Gallatin Valley offers some great places to visit for vacationers along with many other attractions within a couple-hour drive, including Yellowstone National Park, Nevada and Virginia City, and the Lewis and Clark Caverns, to name a few. Bozeman, home of Montana State University, also boasts the Museum of the

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Shooting Your Way through Montana . . .



Buckaroo Poco Calebra shoots it up at the Rocky Mountain Ranger range in Noxon, Montana.

Rockies, which exhibits dinosaurs found in Montana. The contact person for the Gallatin Valley Regulators is Gooch Hill Drifter, and he can be reached at (406) 539-9400 by phone or ardebern@gmail.com by email.

The Third Weekend

On the third Saturday of the month from April through October you might want to shoot with the Last Chance Handgunners, located between Helena and Butte (central Montana). Founded in 1986, the Last Chance Handgunners was the first SASS affiliated Cowboy Action Shooting™ club in Western Montana. The High Ore Shooting Range was established in 1989 on BLM land. The range now consists of seven pistol/rifle bays and 50- 100- and 400-yard rifle ranges. This active club offers a new shooters clinic in April as well as two annual benefit matches for veterans.

In August, the Last Chance Handgunners will hold their twenty-first **Montana Territorial Shoot**, a two-day event with ten main match stages, side matches, costume awards, and a Wild Bunch shoot (if requested). The range can support onsite campers, but is also directly across from the Galena Gulch Campground. More information can be obtained from Vinny Da Kid at Vinnydakid@bresnan.net or (406) 431-3288.

The Black Horse Shootists, home of the 2015 and upcoming 2016 **Montana State Championship**, is relatively new, but proving to be a powerhouse in Mon-

tana's Cowboy Action Shooting™ scene. The Black Horse Shootists were established in October of 2012 and are affiliated with the Great Falls Shooting Sports Complex (central Montana). Since the spring of 2014, the club has built nine bays and a very large parking lot that can accommodate dry camping. Access is available to other ranges on the complex, which extend from fifty feet to one thousand feet. Future plans include a full western town. Grants from the NRA Foundation and Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks have allowed the BHS club to develop quickly. Their monthly match runs from April through October on the weekend of the third Sunday. The SASS Montana State Championship will be held at this club July 15-17, 2016 with a twelve-stage main match, a three-stage warm-up match, a three-stage Wild Bunch match, side matches, and long range matches. Contact J.E.B. Stuart Montana for more information. Phone (406) 727-7625 or email dlfjaf@charter.net.

The Fourth Weekend

You might travel to Billings (eastern Montana) during the last week of the month to shoot with the Montana Peacemakers. This SASS club shoots the fourth Saturday from April to September at the *(Continued on page 26)*

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Shooting Your Way through Montana . . .

(Continued from page 25)

Billings Rod and Gun Club. The Montana Peacemakers have begun a target replacement program to update their targets. They also have acquired or built a number of buildings they are able to use for their matches. The goal of this club is to make their matches as enjoyable as possible with an emphasis on fun as opposed to winning. Although they don't currently have a scheduled annual match, they are exploring the possibility of being a part of the Big Sky Games. For more information, contact Latigo at wackin-quackers@bhwi.net or call (406) 850-3186.

Shooters may want to look into some of the currently unaffiliated clubs throughout the state as well, including the Bigfork Buscaderos, near Bigfork (western Montana). This club shoots on the third Saturday and features an array of specialty targets. The Lincoln County Regulators in Eureka (northwest Montana) is only minutes from the Canadian border. This club shoots on the fourth Saturday. The Hellgate Vigilantes in Missoula shoot on the first Saturday. The eastern part of this vast state includes The Custer County Stranglers from Miles City and they shoot on the third



Koocanusa Kid doesn't let anything stop him from doing what he loves as seen here at the 2015 Montana State Match.



Criterion Hall flourished in Nevada City, Montana during the 1860s as a dance hall, then later became a livery in the 1870s.

Saturday. Also from the east are the Makoshika Gunslingers who shoot on the second Saturday near Glendive.

Montana epitomizes the values of SASS with a rich history of western traditions. Big Sky Country is not only a beautiful place, it is an authentic experience for Cowboy Action Shooters™. All the clubs mentioned in this article would love to host visitors to our state. So why not consider a Montana shooting experience for your next vacation?

Explore Montana's comprehensive travel website at www.mt.gov/visitors.

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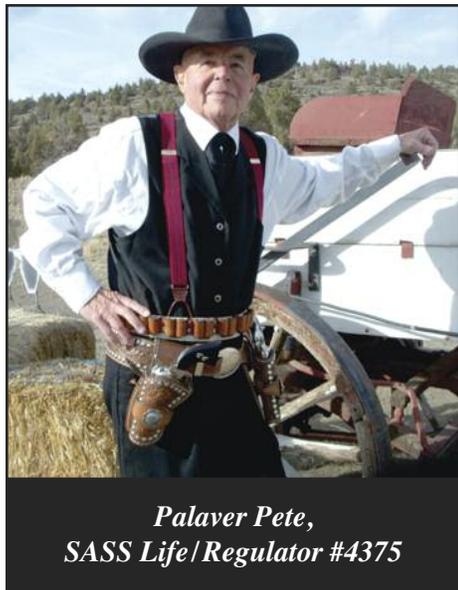
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| <input type="checkbox"/> YOUNG GUN BOY (14-16) | <input type="checkbox"/> CLASSIC COWBOY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> YOUNG GUN GIRL (14-16) | <input type="checkbox"/> CLASSIC COWGIRL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COWBOY (17+) | <input type="checkbox"/> DUELIST |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COWGIRL (17+) | <input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR DUELIST (60+) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WRANGLER (36+) | <input type="checkbox"/> LADIES DUELIST |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LADIES WRANGLER (36+) | <input type="checkbox"/> GUNFIGHTER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FORTY-NINER (49+) | <input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR GUNFIGHTER (60+) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LADIES 49'R (49+) | <input type="checkbox"/> LADIES GUNFIGHTER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR (60+) | <input type="checkbox"/> FRONTIER CARTRIDGE |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> ELDER STATESMAN (70+) | <input type="checkbox"/> FRONTIER CARTRIDGE GUNFIGHTER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GRAND DAME (70+) | <input type="checkbox"/> LADIES FRONTIER CARTRIDGE GUNFIGHTER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CATTLE BARON (75+) | <input type="checkbox"/> FRONTIERSMAN |
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Club Reports



*Palaver Pete,
SASS Life/Regulator #4375*

**Bend, Oregon: Latitude 44° 03'
North—121° 18' West**

Bend is located in Central Oregon between the Columbia River and Crater Lake National Park. The western part of the state (often called the Portland side of the state) is heavily liberal, while the central and eastern parts of the state are very conservative. Cowboys of today, from these same geographical areas seem to carry the same political bent—they are only united when it comes to fighting with Californians and Washingtonians—unless, of course, the aforementioned visitors are paying for something, then they are most welcome and the fighting is minimal.

There are currently two Cowboy Action Shooting™ clubs in Central Oregon, the Horse Ridge Pistoleros (SASS Club of the year, 2009) and the Pine Mountain Posse. A third action club is in the making, called the Old 97 Railroad Rangers, named in honor of the highway and railroad running close by their home range located in Redmond. The fourth club is a

CENTRAL OREGON

Three SASS Clubs Going Strong ANOTHER ON THE WAY

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375



Teaching the young'uns how to start from the bottom and work their way up. In this case Dirt Digger Bert's two boys get their first introduction to Cowboy Action Shooting™.

mounted club known as the Lone Pine Rangers and they are located in Prineville. Now you know all there is to know about SASS affiliated clubs in Central Oregon. However, if you add up the clubs in all of Oregon the total will be 14 and growing—big round of applause please!

HORSE RIDGE PISTOLEROS APRIL SHOOT

April Showers brought more than flowers! Sun! Yes, finally Sun! Seventeen shooters awoke on Sunday April 3 to a mystifying

bright light in the sky. Once recognized as the Sun, these same shooters slipped into their western outfits, grabbed their guns and headed straight to the Central Oregon Shooting Sports Association Range (COSSA) for some Cowboy and Wild Bunch fun. Once they arrived at the range, they were not disappointed—five stages were all set-up for both venues and after the Pledge of Allegiance—and a few words about safety by Big Casino and Cactus John—the shooting fun began.

VISIT US AT SASSNET.COM

Central Oregon • Three SASS Clubs Going Strong . . .



Wildcat Annie smiles as she stages her firearms for stage 2.

Sunrise Bill was smokin' hot and took first place in the WB Traditional Category, while Evan Williams walked away with the Modern Category. Although both shooters were impressive, club members noted how smooth Evan Williams transitioned from his 1911 to his long guns. His improvement was obvious—nice shooting EW! On the Cowboy side, Big Casino nosed out Hoss Reese by 1.75 seconds, and Captain Call claimed third place overall by moving past Palaver Pete, who garnered fourth place.

Poke came out on top in the Silver Senior Category, just ahead of the Major and Bent Barrel, while Tequila Rosie claimed first place in the Grand Dame Category. Copper Dave was top Duelist, followed closely by Cactus John who won the Elder Statesman Category. Our Chief Cook for the day, the Dodge City Kid, aka Pinky, was top Senior, and came in just ahead of Ms. Sunrise Bravo, who won the Classic Cowgirl Category.

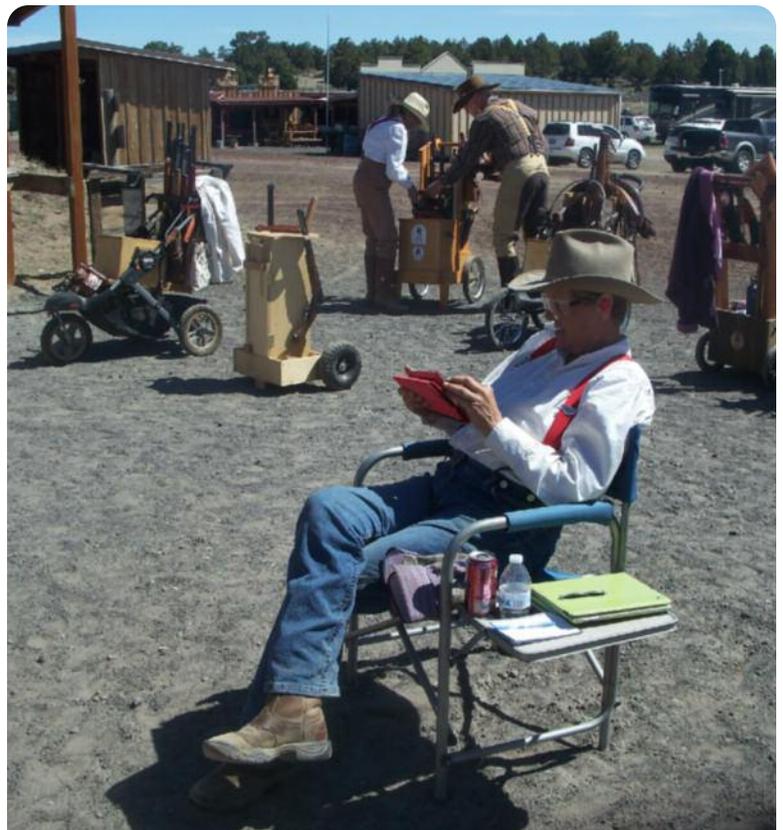
Mumbles, a new member of the club, who has a few matches under his belt, was most impressive as he walked-away with top honors in the Wrangler Category, just ahead of Wildcat Annie, who took top honors in the Lady Wrangler Category. Last, but not least, Dirt Digger Bert came in second in the Duelist Category behind Copper Dave. After the match, and after all targets were safely stored, the hungry shooters headed to the clubhouse for a delicious cowboy lunch of bean stew and hot dogs, provided by the

Dodge City Kid. Our special thanks go to not only Pinky, but also Tequila Rosie who does most of the score keeping and definitely all the record keeping—thanks Rosie! For overall scores by time and category, and for other Northwest Cowboy and Wild Bunch information be sure to visit the HRP Website at <http://www.hrp-sass.com>.

THE PINE MOUNTAIN POSSE FOLLOWS SUIT

No April Fools here. April 10 bloomed as beautiful as the previous week, bringing out Cowboys from both clubs. Enthusiasm was high and shooters found it difficult to wait for the 10:00 a.m. start time. Five stages with freshly painted targets awaited them and soon the shooting fun would begin. Once again, shooters were offered the opportunity to compete in either Cowboy or Wild Bunch. (Wild Bunch shooters are provided additional incentive to shoot since the cowboys are there to help pickup brass—hey, they are not stupid!)

Whisperin' Wade and Hoss Reese trade off winning weekends and this week it was Wade's turn to win, but not by much. To see exactly how much, check [*\(Continued on page 30\)*](#)



Score Keeper and all-around hard worker GDub relaxes while jotting down hits and misses.

Central Oregon • Three SASS Clubs Going Strong . . .

(Continued from page 29)



August July stands up to engage the pistol targets from inside the hay wagon.



out our website at www.pinemountainposse.com/ then click on scores. Visiting Canadian shooter, Slim Delgado came in third, nosing-out Palaver Pete by 7.45 seconds. Slim's beautiful Wife, Helena Handbasket (love that handle) was top Lady 49'er, while Sunrise Bill, The Legend, and Gdub won their respective categories.

Again the Shevlin Kid was top Elder Statesman and Arctic Annie was *numero uno* Lady Gunfighter.

Posse Leader Side Kick Rick was top B-Western shooter, just ahead of Rifleman Dan, who took second place senior behind category winner Deadwood Pete. Second place duelist, Dirt Digger Bert finished just ahead of Sierra Sage Sue, who edged by Tetherow Tex LaRue by 3.46 seconds. The Posse welcomed back August July who took third place in the Senior Category. Close behind him was Ammo Granny, second place finisher in the Lady Senior Category. Classic Cowgirl, Ms. Sun-

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Mumbles, top Wrangler for the day, rapidly loads two in his side by side. Yes, the targets went down!

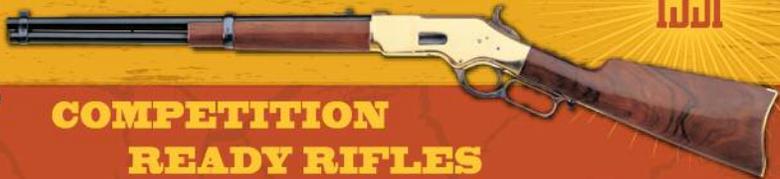
LONE PINE RANGERS

The Lone Pine Rangers will be hosting **Thunder in the Ochocos** June 17-19 at their home arena located in Prineville. For more details and information concerning the club, and mounted shooting, please visit their website at <http://www.lonepinerangers.com>. You're a Daisy if ya do. 🐶



rise Bravo continues to impress us with her weekly improvement, which is only matched by that of Mumbles, who won the Wrangler Category (two weeks in a row). The Ladies, headed by Diamond Willow, again set the table, kept score, and in general maintained a decorum that set the example of which we should all be mindful—an example that is sometimes hard to follow.

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Wild Bunch

APRIL WILD BUNCH

A Prelude To Canada's Busy Summer Season

*By Miss Mary Spencer, SASS #55147, Life Regulator
Photos by Doc Richards, SASS #101125 and Grey Fox, SASS #223*



Miss Mary Spencer, SASS #55147, Life Regulator



Wild Bunch posse.

On Vancouver's Island in beautiful British Columbia we shoot year round, as we enjoy a Mediterranean climate. The most intense part of the competition season spans April to October.

The second weekend in April saw competitors gather for two spirited events, Wild Bunch on Saturday and Cowboy on Sunday. The weekend was dubbed "Circle your wagons" by Saturday's match director Doc Richards. Black Ashley (SASS

#89886) assisted Doc. The stage copy for Saturday's Wild Bunch was a product of the fevered imagination of Grey Fox.

The Wild Bunch posse kicked off the weekend with four main stages based on the movie of the same name. Sunday saw the six-stage Cowboy Action Shooting™ match directed by Neut Reno (SASS #51654). The cowboys and cowgirls attending were primed for some spirited action. There were stellar



*Hurricane Hayley—
Up and coming Young Gun.*



*Wild Horse Jack (SASS #64334),
the Good, the Bad, and the Silly.*

A blockbuster will top the summer season—10 days of three back-to-back-to-back matches. The last weekend in August the Victoria Frontier Shootists in Victoria, British Columbia will host their 25th edition of Headquarters, the oldest SASS[®] affiliated match in Canada (August 26-28—three days of non-stop action). After that, the Valley Regulators in Courtenay, BC will host the SASS Canadian Championships, “Bust up at Boomtown” September 1-5. The event will include Wild Bunch and other thrilling side matches.

U.S. competitors are most welcome. For registration and permit information contact the Victoria Frontier Shootists (www.VFGPA.org) or the Valley Regulators (www.valleyregulators.com).



*Sgt. Blaney (SASS #97508)
defending the Fort.*

April Wild Bunch . . .

performances by aging pistoleros who were hotly pursued by the young guns. Second overall was Wistlin’ Will who turned 15 on the Tuesday following the match. Wills fastest stage was 21.90.



Prairie Buck and Neut Reno.



Victoria Diamond and Neut Reno.

WINNERS

Wild Bunch Match

- Top Traditional – Black Ashley
- Second Traditional – Killshot Kenny SASS #91136
- Top Modern – Prairie Buck SASS #52033
- Second Modern – Single Action Sheriff SASS #84449
- Top Lady – Hurricane Hayley SASS #94450
- Second Lady – Miss BeaDazzled SASS #72424

Cowboy Match

- Top Gun – Haweater Hal SASS #55287
- Second overall – Wistlin’ Will SASS #88382
- Top Lady – Victoria Diamond SASS #60952
- Second Lady – Montana May SASS #95820
- Top Young Gun – Wistlin’ Will
- Second Young Gun – Hurricane Hayley SASS #94450



Posse Up! Posse #1, Cowboy match.



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

Guns & Gear

DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR

How Cowboy Shooters Supply Changed the Face of Cowboy Action Shooting™

By Captain George Baylor, SASS #24287 Patron Life Regulator

Think of people who have changed the face of SASS®. Before they came along, things were significantly different from today, and we can point to them for why. Who comes to mind?

My list includes [Cowboy Shooters Supply](#) (The Brisco Kid and Kiamichi Queen—Joe and Martha Brisco), SASS Wooly Award winners for best vendor, 2013. 580-873-2663 Fax: 580-873-2675, E-mail address: mbrisco@aol.com. How did they change SASS? Before they started working with Rugged Gear, gun carts were nearly all made of wood. You still see them. Some worked well and are still being produced or copied. A lot didn't. I used to make carts. I believe the last one cost about \$10,000 because I kept buying more woodworking machines. One day I destroyed \$200 of exotic wood when a dovetail joint jig slipped. Suddenly \$400 for a Rugged Gear four-gun cart didn't sound expensive.

Now it's rare when a posse



The Deluxe four-gun model tops the latest line of Rugged Gear gun carts. This one has the optional large gear bag and Bag Boy umbrella stand.

doesn't have some Rugged Gear carts. Constantly improved and de-bugged, their current carts are high quality, lightweight, and extremely functional. The Brisco Kid was involved in many of the improvements along the way.

Cowboy Shooters Supply sells them by the pallet load—literally. They sell about a hundred a year and Joe fixes them when they break at no charge, whether you

bought it from him or not. If you need replacement parts from the factory, they'll charge reasonable prices and shipping. If you call Cowboy Shooters Supply, they'll only charge shipping. If they're at the match, parts and installation are free. The folks at Rugged Gear would rather send Cowboy Shooters Supply parts in bulk at no charge than deal with sending them to customers one or two

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Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .



The cart loaded up for a Wild Bunch match.

parts at a time. At the 2014 END of TRAIL I took a picture of Cowboy Shooters Supply's display model sitting on two wheels after Joe cannibalized it for a desperate customer. Joe had run out of spare wheels, so he took one from his display cart.

The factory sells considerably more direct, a lot going to shotgun sports, where they started, the rest to cowboys and three gun shooters. I bought a cart from them in 2010, dutifully described in the

September 2011 [Cowboy Chronicle on page 32, Life With A Purple Gun Cart](#). Over the years it worked very well. I used it a lot, 80 or more match days a year plus practicing. (Yes, I practice. If you think I shoot badly, think how bad I would be without practice.) If it had an odometer it probably would need a lot of digits. I got a collection of spare parts and that prevented some failures, no doubt. Murphy's 45th corollary is "Only parts for which there are no spares break." The corollary to that for SASS is, "The part will only break at a major match."

I noticed replacement parts were often upgraded. The upgraded parts didn't break. A lot fewer parts would have broken if I hadn't dropped the partly loaded cart out of the Jeep onto rocks—twice. Eventually I gave my back a break



Things hung on the back: a crying towel, a nameplate (to help find it in a sea of Rugged Gear carts—this one was made by Pinto Annie), a Bag Boy umbrella stand for the Margaritaville flag, a trash bag, and a cleaning gear bag, with extra cleaning gear for shooting Frontiersman.



New front end, welded onto frame. The old one was easily removable for storage, but not as sturdy.

and took all the ammo out before putting the cart in the Jeep and then repacked it when I took it out. I also noticed the replacement wheels were considerably improved over the originals.

Then before Winter Range this year The Redhead and I were visiting with Joe and Martha at the RV Park at Ben Avery Shooting Center and they were anticipating the delivery of a pallet load of carts. I expressed an interest in a deluxe cart. The Redhead told me to buy it. That's my story, and I'm sticking to it. (She well may be an enabler in this Cowboy Action Shooting™ addiction.) So I traded in the purple cart after getting it detailed and the 10,000-match service done.

The new cart is the top of the line Deluxe four-gun cart. Rugged Gear calls it taupe. I would call it tan. If it's used in a three-gun match it's probably called "Tactical Taupe." It features real leather trim. This is where you say,

(Continued on page 36)

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

(Continued from page 35)



Drain holes in the bottom so the cart won't fill up with water in the rain.



Large gear bag, an option, is stabilized in front by Velcro to the frame.

“Leather? You don’t *need* leather!” What’s your point? You don’t *need* leather in your King Ranch Crew Cab pickup or your Lazy Boy recliner, but you have it, right? If you don’t want leather, don’t get the deluxe cart. The leather is not *functionally* better, it is just

leather. The standard four-gun cart is less than \$400. Other features include: swivel front wheel with lock forward lever (lock for loose, uneven terrain, unlock otherwise for smooth, easy steering), dual parking brakes (three and four wheel carts need brakes or they will roll down hill unattended—trust me on this—two wheel carts don’t, but they’re hard to push because you have to tilt them up to push them), one-inch diameter steel frame tubing, US-made gun holders with soft neoprene rubber, hand towel, two drink holders, chrome-plated steel wheels, six pockets in rear, flat free tires, ammo reloading tray, adjustable height handlebar, protective cover (raincoat), gear bag, and six-can cooler. The Deluxe cart also has two pairs of fine gun hook covers, leather trim, and embroidered logo. I also got the large gear bag, which offers even more space than the standard bag. It is improved from the 2010 version, being held in place by four thumbscrews on the bottom and industrial strength Velcro® attaches it to the nose. If you shoot Frontiersman you need space. I note when I shoot a smokeless category there is leftover space in the gear bag and the rig weighs 50 pounds less. My first usage was Winter Range for nine days of shooting, counting warm-ups and preliminaries. I loaded it pretty heavily, four long guns (spares), a spare revolver, the usual gear and ammo, a Coleman cooler, a stool, and a cylinder-loading table for Frontiersman. I left the anvil in the shop.

Colors

The cloth used is military grade 1000 Denier Cordura. It is up to the task. To get a color they have to order a lot of fabric. This limits color choices. So the standard model comes in green or blue. Limited Edition models currently available are Olive/Taupe,

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Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .



Two D-rings, useful for—among other things—hanging squib or cleaning rods.

Black/Smoke, Burgundy/Smoke, or Blue/Smoke. The deluxe model is Taupe/leather. If you live in the west and haven't hosed your cart down in the last 30 minutes, it probably looks tan/taupe/sand anyway.

Four-Gun Carts

Cowboy Shooters Supply stocks only the four-gun carts. They originally sold the three-gun carts as well. Rugged Gear makes two- and three-gun carts designed for muzzle down carry but adaptable to muzzle up, and a three-gun muzzle up cart. They noticed too many were being traded in after a year or less. Most cowboy shooters need the four-gun cart for its gear carrying capacity, but the three-gun was cheaper, so a lot of people bought it to save money. It didn't in the long run because several owners traded theirs in soon after purchase. In addition to hold-

ing four guns, the four-gun cart has more storage room.

Improvements

Since I bought the purple cart, the wheels, front end, folding mechanism, and balance have been improved, among other things. Folding takes seconds instead of minutes. The front end has been completely redesigned. The new one is stronger and simpler, but it doesn't come off easily like the old one. I consider this a good thing having had the old one break a (first generation) screw and come off at a match. The wheelbase is longer, and it's no longer possible to over-balance the cart to the rear if the rear is full and the front is empty. The bad news is it no longer fits crossways in the back of a Jeep Wrangler with both wheels attached. The rear wheels pop off and pop back on, so it's not a deal breaker. The cart pushes and folds and unfolds so much easier than the old one, I'll put up with that. It also needs less vertical space for storage so fits in more



Raincoat for the cart. I practice fitting it in the air-conditioned shop instead of in a driving rainstorm on the range.

If you think it might rain, practice putting it on.

Trust me.

trunks and small SUVs.

To solve the problem of finding the cart in a sea of Rugged Gear carts, my cure was to put a flagpole in the (optional) Bag Boy *(Continued on page 38)*



Ammo pouches fit shotshell boxes best, so I use them for cartridges, too. In this case, Heathen Smokeless.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

(Continued from page 37)



Brake in the locked position.

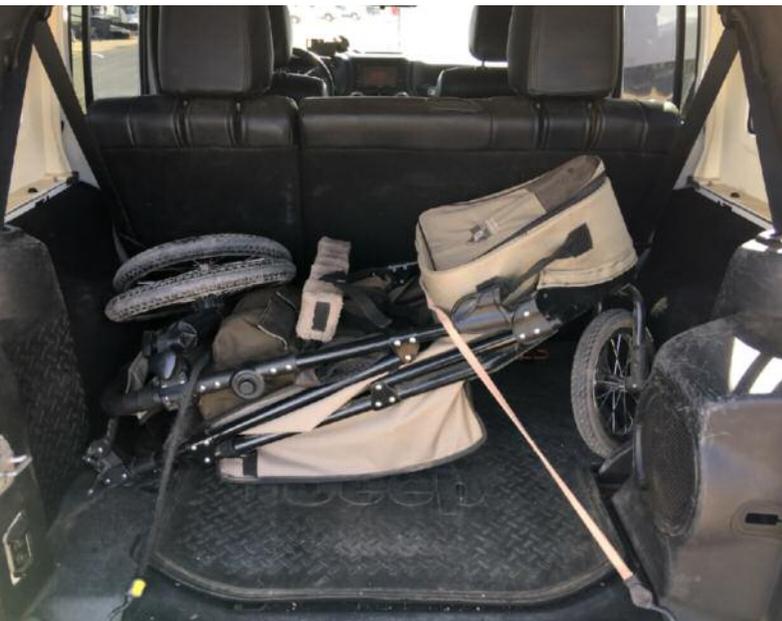
If you forget it's locked and push off, you can bend/break the axle sprocket or the rear axle to frame connector.

Finally, after some years of replacing these parts annually, I came up with a system to avoid this. When you stop, ALWAYS lock both brakes. Then, pretty soon, you will get in the habit of ALWAYS unlocking both brakes before pushing off.

umbrella holder Cowboy Shooters Supply sells and fly the Margaritaville Flag. The flag enables me to find the cart in a crowded posse, and it gives me wind direction, which is important when shooting black powder.

Rain Cover

The carts come with rain covers, and they are very useful. Despite my efforts to live and shoot in the desert, rain happens, but only on major match days.



The cart stored in the Jeep.

Rear wheels pop off easily if you do it all the time. (Push on the spring clip, don't pull!)

Not Cowboy?

These gun carts are either loved or hated. Buyers usually love them. Others, not so much. I have been cursed at for having one and several tirades were directed at my cart. At END of TRAIL in 2014 at the awards ceremony Cat Ballou blamed the low entry in the Best Gun cart contest on these carts. Indeed, they do not look like they belong on the set of a western movie, but practicality rules.



Stored in the Jeep with a Frontiersman cylinder loading table on top. Dry boxes stored underneath.

Let's face it. An authentic, period correct gun cart was called a horse. Two-wheel carts and wagons don't look cowboy, either. If you're interested in "authentic" carts that look like buckboards or chuck wagons, I wrote about several in [Dispatches From Camp Baylor, August 2014, page 40](#).

No other cart available has all of the features and benefits of the four-gun Rugged Gear cart. Without Cowboy Shooters Supply's work on making the carts suitable for CAS, and Joe's efforts to keep customers happy by fixing them for free when they break, they wouldn't be as successful as they are, and the face of SASS would not have changed. 🐾



At END of TRAIL 2014 a customer broke something on his cart, and Cowboy Shooters Supply had no spares left, and no new carts left, so The Brisco Kid took parts off their show model for the customer.



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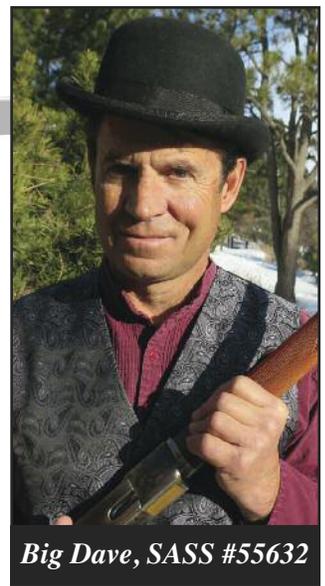
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History

THE LEGACY OF JOHN BROWN



By Big Dave, SASS #55632



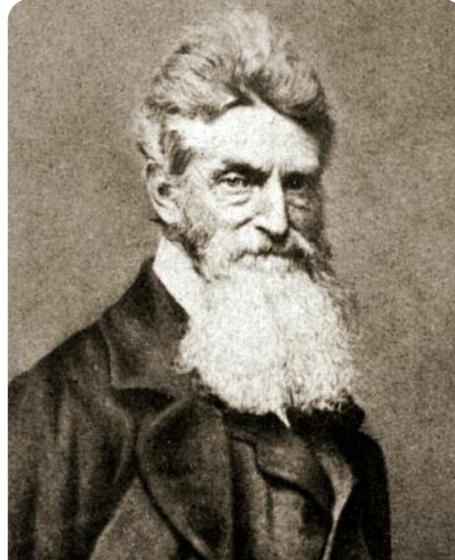
Big Dave, SASS #55632



John Brown was a volatile mix of religious fervor and violence.



As a young man, Brown dedicated his life to the destruction of slavery.



Brown as he appeared in 1859. He resembled a demented version of Saint Nick.

John Brown is one of the most enigmatic figures in the history of this country. On one hand, he was a dangerous radical willing to commit murder and promote insurrection. At the same time, he was an indisputably courageous man who was willing (even eager) to die for his beliefs. Depending upon how you look at him, he was either a

warped version of everything good in this country or a stark symbol of America's faults. Was he a champion of the downtrodden, a violent fanatic, or a combustible combination of the two? Historians still debate the answer. One thing is

certain—his actions brought this nation closer, perhaps even past the point of no return, to civil war. That war eventually culminated with his goal to destroy once and for all the institution of slavery.

Brown's hatred of slavery began at an early age. His family was opposed to slavery, so he grew up thinking it was one of this country's greatest wrongs. In the 1830s, as the abolition movement became more vocal, he became even more opposed to slavery. After an abolitionist newspaper editor named Elijah P. Lovejoy was murdered by a mob in 1837, Brown, who was living in Ohio at the time, made a public vow to do whatever he could to aid in the destruction of slavery. Brown was intensely religious and felt that slavery's existence was an affront to God. The South's adherence to its "peculiar institution" (a euphemism for slavery) went against the laws of God as well as humanity.

At that time, abolitionists were considered to be part of a fringe element in American society. They were detested in the South, but weren't exactly popular in the North, either. (Lovejoy, whose murder had left such an impression on Brown, was killed in Illinois.) Though the movement became larger and more vocal over the next

The Legacy of John Brown . . .

Brown had excellent taste in rifles. He was armed with a Sharps captured at Harper's Ferry.

two decades, it was never representative of the majority of northerners.

Nevertheless, as time went on, the slavery issue became more and more important. It's safe to say that by the 1850s the majority of people living in the North were opposed to the spread of slavery, if not its outright abolition. Southerners became more defensive of it as a result. A series of events made it the most dominant issue in American politics.

During the mid-1850s, the slavery issue came to a violent head in the territory of Kansas. Congress had opened up the area to "popular sovereignty," in which Kansas voters would decide if it were to enter the Union as a free or a slave state. Popular sovereignty, instead of solving the issue, led to a prelude to the Civil War as pro- and anti-slave forces came into armed con-

flict. John Brown was there and played a role in the crisis, which became known as "Bloody Kansas."

Brown had sent five of his sons to Kansas in order to secure land for the family and join the fight against slavery. (Brown had a ready supply of sons—he had fathered 20 children in the course of two marriages.) In 1854, he came to the territory himself with a wagonload of weapons in order to arm the anti-slavery forces. The town of Lawrence, Kansas was an anti-slavery bastion that was burned by pro-slavery forces in 1856. In retaliation, Brown and his sons dragged five pro-slavery settlers out of their cabins in the middle of the night and hacked them to death. The men had not taken part in the Lawrence affair—they were murdered for their beliefs. It didn't really matter to Brown because by now he'd embarked upon his personal *jihād* against slavery.

Not long after the murders, Brown returned to the Northeast. He had become somewhat of a celebrity among abolitionists. While they made speeches and

(Continued on page 42)

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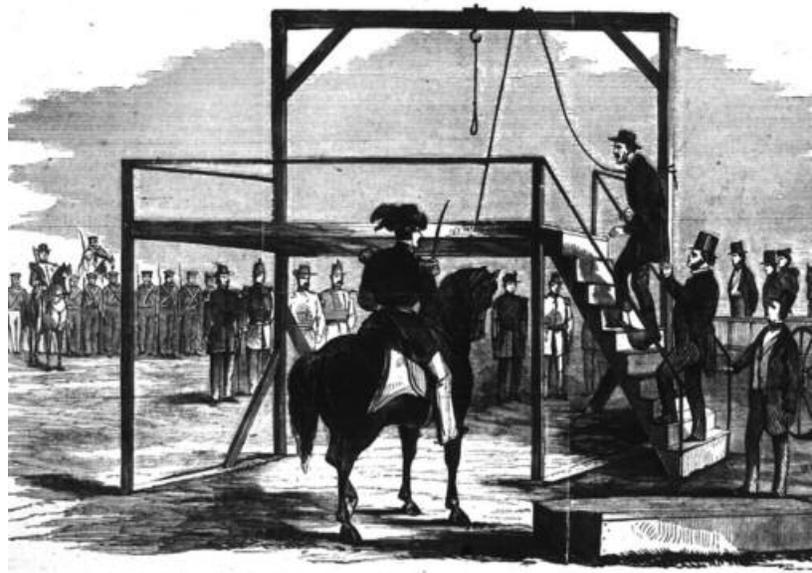
(Continued from page 41)

published newspapers, Brown had actually fought. He was a “man of action.” Not all abolitionists condoned violence, but enough of them did, so Brown was able to secure financial backing for his new scheme to end slavery once and for all. The scheme involved traveling to the South and inciting a slave rebellion there.

On October 16, 1859, Brown and about 20 followers conducted a raid on Harpers Ferry, Virginia. (Harper’s Ferry is now part of West Virginia.) The object of the raid was to capture the federal arsenal located there, seize the weapons, and start a slave uprising that would sweep the South and bring an end to slavery. It didn’t go well—hostages were taken, a few townspeople were killed, and then the whole thing fell apart rapidly. Ironically, the first person to die was a freed slave. Not a single slave joined the uprising. Brown himself was wounded, one of his sons was killed, and by the morning of October 18, Brown and his surviving followers were prisoners.

It took a platoon of U.S. Marines, commanded by Colonel Robert E. Lee, less than three minutes to capture Brown and his followers. On the morning of October 18, Brown and his group were holed up in the arsenal’s fire engine house after a fight with the local militia. Lee sent a young lieutenant named J.E.B. Stuart to deliver a note to Brown that demanded his surrender. Brown refused, the door was battered down and the Marines overwhelmed them after a brief struggle. Lieutenant Israel Greene struck Brown on the head with a saber, but the wound was not fatal. Though injured, John Brown lived to stand trial. It was at his trial that Brown helped to sever the last ties that were left between the North and the South.

Though his raid at Harper’s Ferry was a failure, Brown decided to turn his subsequent trial into an opportunity to speak out against slavery. Showing neither regret nor remorse, Brown calmly explained that slavery was wrong, nothing substantial had been done about it by the politicians, and his plan to start a slave revolt was the only recourse to end it. Moreover, he claimed he was following God’s law in spite of the laws of Virginia. He was polite, well spoken and completely unafraid of the fact that he was almost certainly going to be found guilty and sentenced to hang. Brown’s dignity and courage impressed everyone in the courtroom whether they were part of the defense or prosecution. That says a lot, con-



Brown met his fate with neither a flinch nor a quiver.

sidering the his trial was held in Charles Town (then located in the state of Virginia, now part of West Virginia.) Virginia was particularly sensitive about the topic of slave uprisings because the bloodiest slave uprising in American history had occurred there less than 30 years before. The Nat Turner rebellion had cost more than 60 lives before it was put down.

Brown’s trial was held less than a month after his capture and the jury reached a verdict after 45 minutes of deliberation. He was found guilty of murder, treason, and of trying to incite a slave revolt. He was sentenced to be hanged on December 2, 1859.

In the short amount of time between Brown’s capture and execution, Brown received a huge amount of press coverage in both the North and the South. The overwhelming number of articles in both sections of the country decried the raid and the plan for a slave revolt to be acts of treason, if not insanity. Most abolitionists shied away from violence and shuddered at the thought of a widespread slave uprising. Earlier in the nineteenth century, just such a thing had happened in Haiti, which was then a French colony. This uprising was successful but it was a hideous thing replete with rape, torture, and mutilation. By the time it was over, the French colonists were virtually exterminated. Needless to say, Southerners were rather touchy about the subject.

Despite the fact that a majority of Northerners objected to the raid, there were a few of them who applauded it. This minority included Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson, both of whom were celebrated literary figures. Henry Ward Beecher, father of author Harriet Beecher Stowe, was also a Brown admirer. His daughter, who wrote *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, had a favorable opinion of Brown. Most of the

The Legacy of John Brown . . .

rest were ardent abolitionists who would have supported any action, no matter how extreme, that attacked slavery. (It is important to remember that most Northerners, even if they opposed the spread of slavery, were not abolitionists.) The truly unfortunate thing was this minority of Brown's supporters were incredibly vocal and literate about their approval.

Thoreau described John Brown as "an angel of light." Emerson wrote that Brown's hanging would make, "the gallows glorious like the cross." It must have been enraging for Southerners to hear praise for a person who plotted the white south's extinction. That kind of rhetoric was like lighting matches in a room full of gasoline. By describing Brown in Christ-like terms, Thoreau and Emerson brought the United States closer still to civil war. Neither of them ever carried a musket in the war they helped to create.

John Brown kept his appointment with the gallows on December 2, 1859. There were so many people gathered to watch the hanging, the execution was delayed for nearly an hour. Fifteen hundred Virginia militia were on hand to put down any rescue attempt. Brown was kept waiting in the wagon that also carried his coffin. He never lost his composure. Earlier that morning he had written a final note that read, "I, John Brown, am now quite certain that the crimes of this guilty land will never be purged away but with blood. I had, as I now think, vainly flattered myself that without very much bloodshed it might be done." Once the time came, he walked up the steps as if he were going to a photographer's studio. The noose was put around his neck, the door was sprung, and that part of the story was over. But another part of John Brown's story was just beginning.

Among the crowd of spectators were some notable figures. Edmund Ruffin, an aging southern "fire eater"—this was the nickname for radical secessionists—came to watch the hanging. Ruffin was to be given the honor of firing the first cannon at Ft. Sumter 16 months later. There was also a famous actor in the crowd named John Wilkes Booth. If Ruffin was to fire the first shot of the Civil War, it could be argued that Booth fired the last. Finally, there was a weird Virginia Military Institute professor who commanded an artillery unit that was attached to the guard. The professor, Thomas Jackson, would soon become General Stonewall Jackson in the Confederate Army.

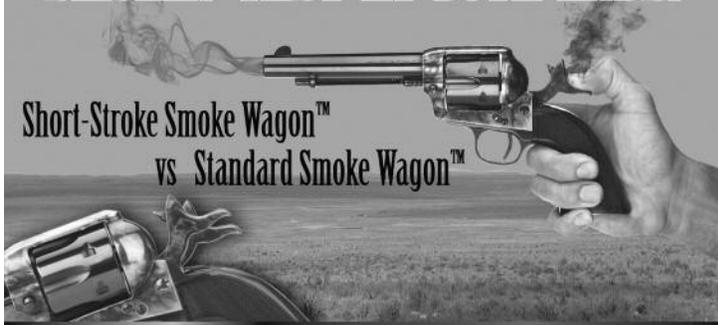
The majority of northern newspapers reacted to the

hanging with statements that expressed a feeling of "good riddance." However, in some places (Boston, for example) church bells rang and clergymen and orators extolled Brown's "martyrdom." To Southerners in general and Virginians in particular this added insult to injury. Robert Dabney, who became the chaplain for the famed "Stonewall Brigade," wrote that the North's praise of Brown "disclosed such a hatred of the South and its institutions, as to lead them to justify the crime." An editorial in the *Richmond Whig* stated, "Thousands of men who, a month ago scoffed at the idea of a dissolution of the union... now hold that its days are numbered."

The days of the union between the North and South were indeed numbered—1860 was an election year and it had gotten to the point that any Northerner who did not expressly guarantee the spread of slavery into the territories would be considered the South's enemy. By November, the Democratic Party was split between Northern and Southern factions. There was a Constitutional Union candidate who was only popular in a couple of Border States, and there was the relatively new Republican Party, whose candidate was popular in the Northeast and Midwest. Of course, this candidate was

(Continued on page 44)

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The Legacy of John Brown . . .

(Continued from page 43)

Abraham Lincoln and he won the election as per the Constitution, based on his majority of electoral votes.

Predictably, South Carolina was first to secede—it did so on December 20, 1860, shortly after Lincoln’s election in November. The states of the Lower South followed in short order. There was considerable debate in Virginia about secession and that state did not secede until April 4, 1861, after Lincoln was inaugurated. Still, the state was divided about the issue. Many Virginians were (and remained) unionists. The western counties eventually seceded from Virginia and became West Virginia, which remained in the Union. It’s pretty safe to say John Brown’s raid was the turning point in favor of Virginia’s secession.

It’s also pretty safe to say the Civil War would have ended a lot sooner if Virginia had stayed in the Union. The Confederacy would not have had Lee, Jackson, J.E.B Stuart, A.P. Hill, and a host of others fighting on its side. (Imagine the Stonewall Brigade fighting for the North!) Brown not only helped to start the conflict that ended slavery, he ensured it would be longer and more costly.

Many people at the time considered Brown to be insane. Though he was an eccentric character to be sure, Brown was more of a zealot than a madman. He was firmly convinced that he was carrying out the will of God. Brown was a violent man, but he lived in a violent age. Men still fought duels. Child rearing was a “hands on” affair—few people thought twice about striking their children if they got out of hand. One of

Brown’s sons recalled a quirk to his personal style of parenting where he would beat his sons with a stick, hand the stick to them and force them to deliver the same amount of blows to his own back. They were horrified at having to beat their own father and this novel approach kept them in line. I guess it was Brown’s way of saying, “This hurts me as much as it hurts you.”

If you think John Brown is merely “moldering in the grave,” he isn’t. He is the source of almost constant debate among historians and in a sense he’ll live forever because of that fact alone. However, in a deeper sense, he’s with us today every time we witness an act of domestic terrorism. In that way, “his truth goes marching on.” You can see Brown’s legacy in Timothy McVeigh or in Robert Dear, who recently shot up a Planned Parenthood in Colorado. Like Brown, they justified their actions based on a “greater good.” Personally, I wish Brown’s “truth” would descend into Brown’s grave and stay there.

Brown is a testament to the fact that that one man’s terrorist is another man’s freedom fighter. He remains a divisive figure. Today, there are a number of people who classify him as a “civil rights activist.” Slavery is, after all, a blot upon our nation’s history and it can be argued that any action taken to destroy it was correct. John Brown’s courage is also admirable. He faced the consequences of his actions without the slightest flinch or quiver. In the end, he also got what he wanted. Slavery was abolished at the end of the conflict he did so much to ignite. However, it wasn’t accomplished “without very much bloodshed.”

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Joe Fasthorse,
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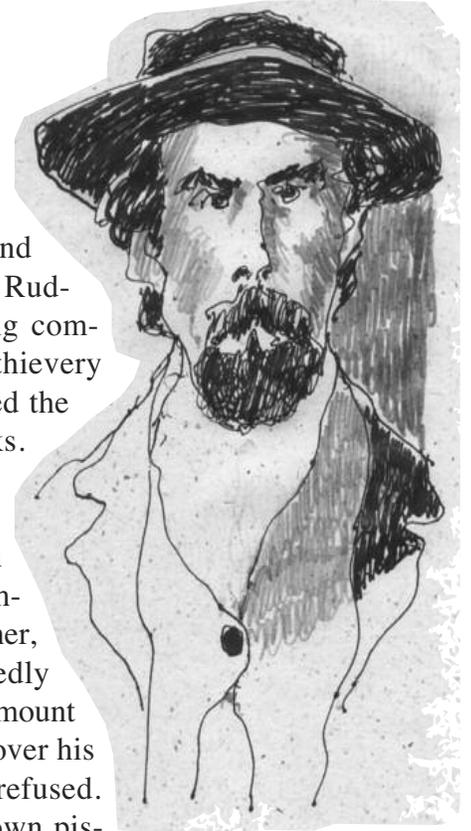
LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE

-Way Out West-

By Joe Fasthorse, SASS #48769

JOHN JOSHUA WEBB was a noted Lawman, gun-fighter and outlaw. Webb was born in 1847 in Keokuk County, Iowa. He was the seventh of twelve children born to Bill Webb and Innocent Blue Brown. The Webb family moved to Nebraska in 1862. In 1871, John drifted to Dodge City, Kansas where he met Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson. When Bat Masterson was appointed sheriff of Ford County, he deputized Webb, along with Kinch Riley and “Prairie Dog” Morrow, to track down “Dirty Dave” Rudabaugh and his band of train robbers. The deputies soon captured the outlaws and Rudabaugh squealed on his *compadres*. His side-kicks went to prison and Dirty Dave went free. In 1878, Webb was picked to serve as an Army scout to help Bill Tilghman fight hostile Cheyenne Indians in Kansas. After they settled the local Indian uprising, Webb was hired by the *Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway* to fight in the Royal Gorge, Colorado Railroad War. He moved on from there to Las Vegas, New Mexico to partner in a saloon with Doc Holliday. One day a gambler named Mike Gordon assaulted one of Doc’s dance hall girls. Doc intervened and Mike stormed out of the saloon. Doc followed him out. Gordon shot at Doc and missed. Before Mike could fire again, Doc shot him dead. In 1880, Webb was appointed town marshal of Las Vegas and became a member of the Dodge City Gang. Justice of the Peace Hoodoo Brown led the Gang, whose members included gunfighter Dave Mather, “Slap Jack Bill” Nicholson, “Bull Shit Jack” Pierce,

“Frank” Cady and Dirty Dave Rudabaugh. The gang committed acts of thievery and Webb covered the outlaws’ tracks. When Webb entered the Goolet & Roberts Saloon and ordered freighter Michael Killiher, who was allegedly carrying a large amount of cash, to hand over his pistols, Killiher refused. Webb drew his own pistol, shot Killiher twice in the head, killing him instantly, and retrieved the cash. Webb was convicted of murder and sentenced to hang. The next week Dirty Dave Rudabaugh burst into the jail in an attempt to free Webb, but the jailbreak was not successful. Rudabaugh was later arrested while riding with Billy the Kid. When Webb’s sentence was appealed and commuted to life in prison, he and Rudabaugh found themselves serving time in the same jail. In 1881, they escaped and fled to Mexico. Rudabaugh was soon killed in Mexico and Webb drifted back to Texas. John Joshua Webb ended up in Arkansas where he died of smallpox in 1882. 🐾



SASS Scholarship Help Educate Our Youth



Product - Reviews

Hat Creek Leather & Wild West Art

By The Jersey Kid, SASS Life #287 Regulator



*The Jersey Kid,
SASS Life #287
Regulator*



Kevin loves making old movie chaps and ones from his library of books. He is making a nice pair of boot chaps for this year from sand colored buffalo with elk trim, antler or claw buttons, and a knife sheath on them.

Kevin Berry has been working with leather for practically his entire life, having learned the basics like hand stitching, how to set rivets, and how to properly clean and shine leather from his grandfather. A construction surveyor by trade, Kevin turned his passion into a full time business named Hat Creek Leather (Lonesome Dove?) in the 1990s. Having spent most of his life in Ohio, Kevin moved to the high desert area of Saint David, Cochise County Arizona, not too far from the famous Empire Ranch which

at one time encompassed more than one million acres! Kevin likes to (and excels at) making good solid ranch or old west saddles but his skills cover every area of leather goods for the working or SASS® cowboy. The amount of thought and design that go into his products is amazing. His mounted shooting rigs, for example, are based on a large amount of research to achieve a holster that retains the gun as necessary and releases it to the draw when appropriate—a sometimes difficult balance. As a mounted shooter I

can vouch for the critical design, having lost a holstered gun at a world championship match. Kevin's newest design for a mounted shooting holster has two layers of leather with Kydex heat-formed plastic sandwiched between leather and then lined with his standard gun-hugging elk suede so there are four layers in total. The same thing with his chaps and chinks—function first then aesthetics and while not necessarily considered “old timey,” chinks are quite comfortable and functional and I have been blown away with the construction, materials and design used by Kevin and his partner in life (and leather) Lynne London. Chinks are a half-length chap that attaches at the waist and ends just below the knee, usually with a very long fringe at the bottom and along the sides that makes them appear much longer. These are cooler to wear and are well suited for the southwestern and active rider.

The saddle trees Kevin uses to build his saddles are handmade in Vernal Utah and while he builds a lot of Wade saddles (including one he built for our friend Buck Taylor which he surprisingly uses to heel!) he loves to build old time saddles and in particular The Hope Saddle, a real Texas classic! Again, Kevin's focus is firstly on

Hat Creek Leather & Wild West Art . . .



*Some of Lynne's hand made hand bags and shawls.
All hand-laced and braided—no machine stitching.
The wool shawl is actually a 1910 Pendleton Tepee-pattern blanket.
It's not cut, just folded in a manner that makes a shawl.*

Lynne wanted to make something special from it but couldn't bring herself to cut it.

the horse and rider, rather than on the look. Kevin's saddles are designed, hand tooled, and built in his shop from the finest quality U.S. hides and materials and they are not just ordinary saddles. Each saddle is handmade by a single craftsman. There is no machine cutting in their saddles, all horn

caps and cantle bindings are stitched by hand and the seats are carefully worked up, all leather, so they are comfortable and fit to each customer; this work cannot be duplicated by machines or inexperienced leather workers. You will never find a metal strainer plate in a Hat Creek custom saddle. Additionally, the saddle skirts are cut full in both the front and the back, the tree bars extend a proper distance beyond the back of the cantle, and the skirts extend a full distance to maintain proper proportion and to help prevent scalding a horse or making him sore above the kidneys. One more step, the skirts are properly plugged to maintain stiffness, keep the weight of the leather constant, and are lined with top grade, pure bark tanned, one-inch wool skins. Kevin also builds bronc saddles for rodeo cowboys and even fancy showy chaps as well.

Lynne London's work in Wild West Art rounds out the complete list of everything the cowgirl or cowboy might need or want. Her designs are well thought out and her execution is flawless. Lynne offers chinks, deerskin shirts, and dresses, clothing, handbags, unique ranch furnishings and many other western related items. Lynne's artistic talents are quite evident in all she does and her beadwork is exceptional, rivaling some of the finer Indian beaded items I have in my collection. Lynne also specializes in buffalo products and some spectacular sterling and turquoise Navajo jewelry

Interestingly, Lynne London's SASS alias is Jo Monaghan. The original Jo rode into Ruby City, Idaho Territory in 1867. Like others there, he was looking for a bonanza at the gold and silver mines to create a new life for himself. Unlike the others, he was too young to grow a beard, slight of stature, and didn't carry firearms. "Little Joe," however, soon earned the respect of even the toughest of men because even though the work was back-breaking, he never faltered. All along, he was known as an outstanding bronc buster as well as horse trainer. He even performed as Cowboy Joe in Whaylen's *Wild West Show: the Greatest Show on Land or Sea*, which later became the first movie filmed west of the Mississippi. In late 1903, Joe took sick and died in January 1904 and the neighboring ranchers came over to prepare him for burial. But he was a SHE! The tough old ranchers had been fooled for more than 30 years. Little Jo Monaghan—miner, bronc buster, and rancher—was a

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Hat Creek Leather Co. Saddle Shop

456 South Flynn Rd.
Saint David, AZ 85630
513-560-4211

hatcreekleather@yahoo.com
www.hatcreekleather.com

Wild West Art

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St. David, AZ 85630
770-490-4635

Wildwestgal@earthlink.net
www.wildwestart.biz



Hat Creek Leather & Wild West Art . . .

(Continued from page 47)

woman. Coincidentally, during her ranching Jo raised fine Buckskin horses, which happen to be Lynne's favorite.

So next time you are in the

market for quality rodeo supplies, custom saddles, chinks, chaps, bronc saddles, décor, jewelry, or products that reflect Lynne's Native American heritage, give the

fine folks at Wild West Art or Hat Creek Leather Company a look or if you are lucky enough to attend END of TRAIL come by their site; you will not be disappointed. 🐾

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Product - Reviews



CIMARRON Eliminator

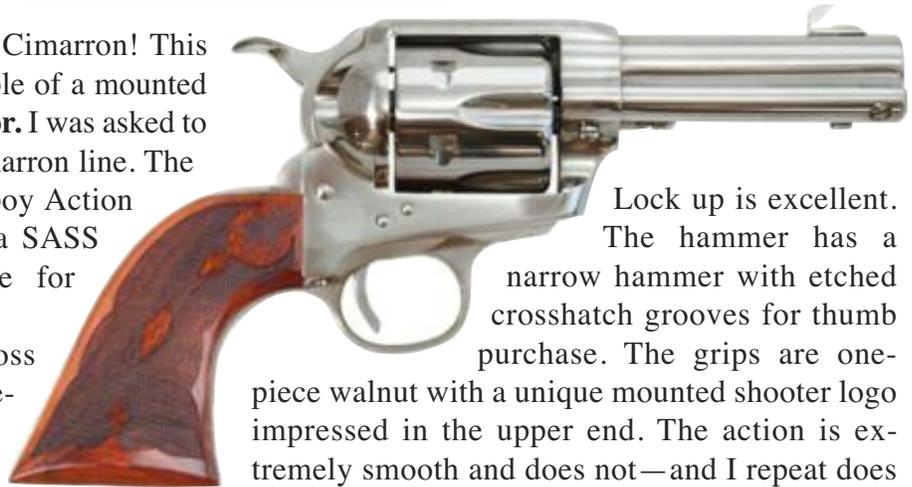
For Cowboy Action Shooting™ and CMSA Mounted Shooting



By Blue, SASS #9262, CMSA #64

Another superb firearm from Cimarron! This time it is an excellent example of a mounted shooting revolver—the **Eliminator**. I was asked to test this latest addition to the Cimarron line. The Eliminator is designed for Cowboy Action Shooting™. I tested it both as a SASS ground shooter's gun and one for mounted shooters.

The trim looking semi-gloss satin-finished stainless steel revolver weighs in at two pounds and one ounce. It has a 3.5-inch barrel with fixed sights. The main hammer spring is leaf, with an hourglass taper and a positive hammer stop. The cylinders have a heavy bevel taper, as does the ejector rod head, just like early cavalry guns, in order to facilitate ease in holstering and un-holstering. The Eliminator is a Colt clone with a fixed hammer so you need to load one, skip one, load four, and then lower the hammer down on an empty chamber. The base pin has a positive safety stop, so the competitor needs to make sure it is in the correct detent. The base pin as well as the cylinder can be removed for cleaning by rotating the ejector rod head and sliding it aft. Unique to this model is a short stroke kit for the hammer. The hammer only comes back half as far as normal to put the round into battery that Cowboy Action Shooters™ are used to doing. The gun has a very comfortable feel in the hand, is very light on the let off, and is very easy to cock, particularly with the short stroke set up.



Lock up is excellent. The hammer has a narrow hammer with etched crosshatch grooves for thumb purchase. The grips are one-piece walnut with a unique mounted shooter logo impressed in the upper end. The action is extremely smooth and does not—and I repeat does *not*—need any aftermarket tune up. It is ready out of the box for competition. I compared it to a revolver that has a Bob Munden action job and again, the Eliminator does not need any gunsmith work at all. It is that smooth out of the box.

I had a dozen novice and experienced mounted shooters try out the Eliminator. We ran more than 200 rounds through it in one setting without any malfunction of any kind. I cleaned it only after all the shooting was done. Wranglers had absolutely no trouble handling the Eliminator. Three SASS® ground shooters tested it as well. One was able to put five rounds in a 1.25-inch group at 10 yards off hand, making the Eliminator an excellent revolver for self-defense.

This is an extremely fast gun. Any competitor will enjoy the edge it will give you in mounted shooting. I can only hope Santa hears my wishes for speed and one of these Eliminators for Christmas. 🐾

Profiles

Scholarship Recipient 2015

Dominator, SASS #62912

Adapted & Edited by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000



*Justice Lily Kate,
SASS #1000*



St. Augustine, Florida. I, Dominic Whitaker (Dominator), recipient of a SASS scholarship for 2015, am the son of Travis Whitaker (Santa Fe River Stan, SASS #36999) and Erin Whitaker (Southpaw Sibby, SASS #62914). My siblings are Olivia Avery Whitaker (Little Livvy, SASS #82544) and Daniel Keith Whitaker (Cracker Dan, SASS #90287). I am

the grandson of Dan Dall (Colonel Dan, SASS #24025) and Mary Dall (Miss Mary Christmas, SASS #62913). The family is affiliated with the Ghost Town Gunslingers, located at Ancient City Shooting Range in St. Augustine.

This year I started my third year as a student at Flagler College, although this time I have taken on a bit more responsibility. As of the start of the 2015/2016 academic year, I have the standing of Resident Advisor. My duties include advising the residents in my building in matters of class scheduling and daily life, keeping the residence halls orderly and well behaved and helping ensure the overall well being of the residence.

As far as academics are concerned, I am trekking along toward graduating in autumn of 2016 with majors in both Graphic Design and Fine Arts. Next semester I will take Fine Arts Portfolio, the senior seminar of that particular degree, thus meeting all the requirements of the major.

Shooting wise, I'm as eager to get out on the range as ever. However, my studies and responsibilities keep me on campus for the majority of weekends. During the breaks though, I still enjoy shooting with my friends and family.

From my father and mother I received unconditional love and examples of a strong work ethic and encouragement to follow my own path. They have been glowing examples of the influence of a supportive and caring family. Miss Mary Christmas helped to instill an appreciation for fine arts and provided early training. Colonel Dan, the family patriarch, has always been a supportive grandfather, helping to form my character by teaching discipline and integrity.

SASS® and Cowboy Action Shooting™ have
(Continued on next page)

Scholarship Recipient 2015 • Dominator, SASS #62912 . . .

(Continued from previous page)

been major contributors to my development. SASS not only teaches safety, discipline, camaraderie and appreciation for firearms, it also stresses the importance and respect for our Second Amendment rights.

I am proud of my family, my association with

SASS, and my academic achievements, but I know on-going education is important for future accomplishments. We all must continue to grow and expand our horizons. I would like to thank SASS again for its continued support the scholarship fund and of me, and its best wishes for my continued success. 🙏

“Firearms are the People’s Liberty’s Teeth”

By Dominator, SASS #62912

Adapted & Edited by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000

The above quote by George Washington embodies the values fought for by our Founding Fathers and the God given rights fought for by subsequent generations of American Patriots. “The right to an organized militia, being necessary to the security of the free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed” is the backbone of the American Bill of Rights. Without it, all other rights in the bill are forfeit and left without protection. Why would a government of, by, and for the people, seek to hinder the effects of the Second Amendment? Because governments, by their very nature and eventual evolutions, seek to grant themselves more and more powers over the people whom they govern.

The Second Amendment was implemented for a very particular reason. It was not for the right of the people to hunt or to shoot for the sake of shooting, though the amendment guarantees these rights as well. The Second Amendment gives the people of the United States the right to defend themselves from the tyranny toward which all governments are inclined. By restricting the right of the people to arm themselves against any and all threats, the government can encroach more and more upon the

rights and liberties of the people with less and less risk of opposition. In this age of massive government expansion and executive privilege, the political move to disarm or make difficult the acquisition of arms helps those bent on tyranny to further their political agendas against the God given rights defended by the Constitution of the United States. “The true objective [of gun control] is ever increasing control of a weakened populace— and a disarmed public is weak indeed” (Colonel Dan).

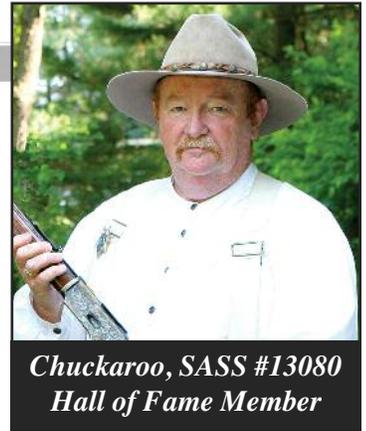
By making firearms more difficult to own and acquire, the government helps themselves to ensure they can execute their political will without a large enough risk of opposition from the people of the United States. However—not just from the Second Amendment but from all of the Amendments to the Constitution of the United States—the essential checks and balances needed to ensure Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, shall not be infringed so long as the people are diligent. I pray there will ever remain enough of us who remain diligent.

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

Articles

The Value and Need For New Cowboy Shooter Clinics

By Chuckaroo, SASS #13080
Hall of Fame Member



The classroom portion of a New Shooters Clinic covers the basics and runs about two-and-a-half hours.

A lot of energy has been spent discussing the lower attendance at SASS® matches and monthly club shoots and there is a long list of potential causes, actual and perceived. We can easily blame an aging shooter's base, ammunition availability, cost of equipment, loss of interest, gas prices, too many events, and a host of other possibilities.

The fact remains, attendance is down at many local and above Cowboy matches and in other shooting sports as well. Club revenues are down and that can affect a club's ability to continue. We can blame it on the list of potential causes or we can try to fix it.

In our world of Cowboy Action Shooting™, we are surrounded by a group of like-minded folks who share an interest in the firearms and history of the American West. Those of us who have been around awhile tend to get complacent and forget what it was like when we first started shooting this sport. Our first exposure was the large number of TV shows that introduced us to our heroes of the Old West and cemented our love of the game long before we participated. We played Cowboys and Indians as children,

not knowing we would be hooked later in life into playing with real guns and using live ammunition.

Our first exposure as adults may or may not have been the ideal introduction to the sport. For some, it looked intimidating, and those folks never pursued it any further. This is a shame. My first experience was forced on me by two friends who knew me better than I knew myself. Trapdoor Dave (SASS #10112) and Lumberalong (SASS #10101) were friends at my local shooting facility. They had been Cowboy Action Shooting™ for about a year and told me weekly how much fun it was. They were positive I would like it. Some of the things they did at matches sounded silly to me, and it took several months of pestering me before I gave in and went with them to a match.

What a life-changing experience it turned out to be. There I was in shorts and baseball cap, feeling so out of place that I was uncomfortable. As you too have learned, there was no lack of information spewing out of every shooter on how much fun it was. I was hooked and had never fired a shot. Fortunately

The Value and Need for New Cowboy Shooter Clinics . . .



Hands-on training and guidance during the shooting portion is essential.

however, I had guidance from my two friends. Within the next year, I started the Damascus Wildlife Rangers. The year after that, we held the first Maryland State Championship. This will be our nineteenth year and it has been a wild ride.

Which brings me to purpose of this article. Had my friends given up on me years ago, I would have missed out on a lifetime of fun and friendships. For most of you, the results have been similar. We need to focus ourselves on spreading the word, and introduce new people to the sport. The best way to do this is by holding new shooter clinics designed to introduce potential shooters to the sport in an organ-

ized, friendly, and safe manner. A casual spectator visit at a local match may not be enough to reel in a new shooter.

It still surprises me there are shooters out there who still have not heard of Cowboy Action Shooting™. There are others who have seen it on TV or heard about it, but they were intimidated by all of the unknowns.

Holding a new shooter clinic, as an overview and introduction, has many benefits. In a controlled environment, with good instructors, the potential shooter will have the opportunity to learn and ask all of those questions that come up. After completing the

(Continued on page 54)



Visual aids, both physical and electronic, are very beneficial to the clinic.

The Value and Need for New Cowboy Shooter Clinics . . .

(Continued from page 53)

clinic, shooters will have a much better understanding of the sport, the safety, the firearms needed, and all other aspects. If they decide to participate, their first match will be a lot more fun than jumping in and learning everything on the fly. They will be safer, having learned the safety rules and how we handle firearms. If you remember your first match, you can understand how difficult it is for a beginner.

Our New Shooter Clinics are structured using an outline in the two-and-a-half-hour classroom portion. After the classroom, shooters then proceed to the range for the two-hour range portion. We provide everything, including firearms and ammunition. We stage all firearms, including the handguns.

Not all clubs have the luxury of a clubhouse, an overhead projector, and a closed range. The main point is, use what you do have and do the best you can. The message should be the same, the rules are the same, and the fun level should be the same.

Our outline is flexible and can be altered to fit your needs. The outline is just that, an outline, and it is used as a guide for the classroom instructions. The outline also keeps you on track and makes sure you are consistent. It covers the history of SASS, explains the functions of SASS, the Wild Bunch, Territorial Governors, match directors etc. It continues with the safety rules and this can include your local monthly safety speech. It also covers the



Classroom does not end at the shooting range.

Discussion prior to shooting is always a good idea.



Both students and teachers relax after a recent New Shooters Clinic.

The Value and Need for New Cowboy Shooter Clinics . . .

firearms, ammunition, costuming, leather, and the plethora of shooting categories.

We have on display as many of the shotguns, rifles, and handgun types we can get, for when the inevitable question of “what gun should I buy?” comes up. We do not tell anyone what to buy, but what their options are. As we cover the firearms, we give estimated costs and advantages and disadvantages for each style or type. We are fortunate to have an overhead projector and can display photos of stages, timers, posse work assignments, gun carts, or firearm choices not on display.

The classroom also covers how a match is run, how it is scored and the various jobs within the posse. There is a lot more than showing up and shooting. Local clubs in our area generally must tear the match down after it is over and volunteering is encouraged. This lets the shooter know what to expect when they attend a match. In the end, the students will know where to go when they get to the match all the way to the final scoring. There is a lot of information coming at them in a short period of time. They may not remember it all but over time they will be reminded, just like we were, and the memory will function properly!

The next challenge is to find students. We have success by using word of mouth from the regular shooters, our web page, flyers in gun stores, and working a booth at a gun show. We have also been guest speaker for service clubs and organizations. This helps get the word out.

Keep class size to a minimum. Our goal is between 20 and 25 students. We advertise that students must have firearm experience prior to taking the class—it is not the venue for your initial forearm training. We charge \$5:00 and use the money to feed the volunteers.

It is really easy to wander off a topic, so I encourage you to keep to an outline and avoid as many war stories as possible in the classroom. Remember, each new shooter you get will eventually be another potential worker, and we all know how important that commodity is!

Accompanying this article is an abbreviated copy of our outline. A more complete version is available at <http://damascusiwla.org/dwr/clinicoutline.html>

(Continued on page 56)

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New Shooters Clinic Outline

(Continued from page 55)

ORIGIN Of SASS

- It's roots from Yorba Linda California to New Mexico

SASS ORGANIZATION

- Structure of corporate SASS

COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING COMPETITION

- Explain what Cowboy Action Shooting™ is and is not

FIREARMS

- Rifles – Pre 1900 Design or Manufacture – 1873 or older for Classic Cowboy
- Shotguns – Lever/Pump Action that have exposed hammer and must be tubular fed, open or iron sights – Side by Sides, hammered and hammerless
- Pistols – Pre 1900 design or manufacture Single Action only

HOLSTERS

AMMUNITION

- All ammunition must be center fire, all lead – no cop-per jacketed, copper wash, or gas checks allowed

TARGETS

- Typically steel, cardboard, balloons, clay birds, reac-tive targets, tin cans, interactive poppers, clay throwers, and swingers are used

CLOTHING

- Costumes and requirements by category

ACCESSORIES

- Holsters and Belt (required)

EAR AND EYE PROTECTION

MATCH DAY

- What to expect

MATCH DIRECTOR

- Duties

MATCH COMPONENTS

- Monthly usually consists of six stages – State and above usually 10 to 12 stages
- Registration
- Match personnel will build posse's from the shooters present
- Just prior to the match, there will be a safety speech
- Posse members then go to the assigned starting stage

POSSE WORK ASSIGNMENTS

- Loading table
- Unloading Table
- Spotters
- Score keeper
- RO/Timer
- Brass pickers
- Target resetters

SCORING

- Score cards (your local system)
- Time
- Misses
- Procedurals
- Safety Penalties

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END OF TRAIL
35
35th Annual

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(702)740-HATS(4287)

New Shooters Clinic Outline ...

SCORING (cont.)

- Bonus
- Stage DQ
- Match DQ
- Rank Point Scoring – Total Time Scoring
- Score Card Input
- Match Results

CLEAN UP

MATCH TYPES

- Fun Match (usually relaxed rules and no scoring)
- Monthly
- Annual Club
- State Match Championship
- Regional Championship
- National Championship
- World Championship (END of TRAIL)
- Mounted Shooting (uses blanks and live horses)

SAFETY

- Stage DQs
- Match DQs
- SASS RO I Course
- SASS RO II Course

SHOOTING CATEGORIES

- Age based
- Shooting style based
- Costume based
- Black Powder
- Combination categories 🐾

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The Cowboy Chronicle

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&
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and
The West Virginia State Championship

September 23rd, 24th & 25th, 2016

Hosted by:
The CASS membership & The CASS Territorial Rangers
ALL SASS rules apply – Must be a current SASS Member

Official Entry Form (limited to the first 135 shooters / NO WAITING LIST)

ALIAS: _____ SASS # _____
Name: _____ E-Mail: _____
Street: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: _____

MAIN MATCH:

MALE / FEMALE
B/Western Front Cart Duelist
Buckaroo/Buckarett (10-13) Frontiersman
Classic Cowboy/Cowgirl Senior (60+)
Cowboy/Cowgirl Gunfighter
Duelist Senior Duelist (60+)
E. Statesman/Grd Dame (70+) Silver Senior (65+)
Forty-Niner (49+) Wrangler (36+)
Frontier Cartridge Young Gun (14-16)
Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter Cattle Baron/ess (75+)

WILD BUNCH MATCH (4 stages / Fri 9 am)

MALE / FEMALE
Modern Traditional

I need/wish to shoot with: _____ First consideration is to families, and gun/cart sharing.

Shooter fees (includes \$5.00 SASS shooter fee)
(Banquet is included in match fee for shooters)

CASS club member	85.00
Non-CASS club member	105.00
2 nd shooter (same address)	65.00
Jr/Buck.	25.00
Wild Bunch Match (Friday 9 am)	15.00
Late Fee (after Sept. 1 st)	20.00

Additional Banquet \$15.00 ea. X _____ =

TOTAL PAID: \$ _____

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Mail checks to: Trixie Willis, ATTN: CASS Inc., 8324 Patterson Creek Road, Burlington, WV 26710

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Articles



Palaver Pete,
SASS Life/Regulator
#4375

Small Town Texas Sleeps On Sunday

By Palaver Pete, SASS Life/Regulator #4375

Over the years, Palaver Pete has written articles about his travels to and from various Cowboy Action Shooting™ matches. These articles received many favorable comments and the demand for more was inspiring. So, to renew old memories, we will be running Palaver’s articles again—call it “a nostalgic return to yesteryear,” if you will. This is the third installment, and also one of the most popular—WHY NOT? IT’S ABOUT TEXAS! ENJOY!

Nothing happens in small town Texas on Sundays. Improvised Explosive Devices may be going off on Main Street, but Texans in small town Texas are focused on one thing: “the day off!” Tex-

ans have learned generations ago that everything can wait until Monday, because Sundays are devoted to church, family, friends, and eating. And perhaps, if the Preacher is not paying attention, a



We waited until late in the day before driving in to Sonora, hoping by that time someone would be stirring. No such luck!

Small Town Texas Sleeps On Sunday . . .

little hunting might be okay. If you're driving through Texas on State Highways, such as 285 through Pecos, then put the pedal to the metal, because nothing much is going to happen until you hit San Antonio, where the Buckhorn Restaurant is located. There you will find half of Texas getting ready to eat some of the best cowboy chow in the world, but that's another story.

Need some booze and/or meds? If you do, you best get your liquor and medical prescriptions filled on Saturday, because nothing is open on Sunday. Hey, I'm not being critical here. In fact, I think being so laid-back is a rather refreshing change from more "hectic" locations, such as the Mojave Desert (I'm sorry—there I go again, making a joke out of what really is a refreshing change). Okay, let's move on—there's a restaurant on West Broadway Street in Van Horn Texas called Chuy's—Chuy's has been in business since 1959 and I believe the other half of Texas that doesn't go to the Buckhorn goes to Chuy's on Sundays. Chuy's most devoted patron is former Monday Night Football personality John Madden. John's bus stops at Chuy's every time there's a

major league football broadcast to be made in Texas and according to the memorabilia posted on the restaurant walls, he tries to get there as often as possible. He is quoted as saying, "the best Mexican food in the world," and by golly, he may be right. I asked the lady serving us if she wanted my quote to support John's, but she declined, saying Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings asked the same thing and she had to turn them down, so I shouldn't feel so bad about it. Okay, I can take that.

Another small Texas town of which we Cowboys should be aware is Pecos, the historical working place for Judge Roy Bean. Pecos is in dire need of
(Continued on page 60)

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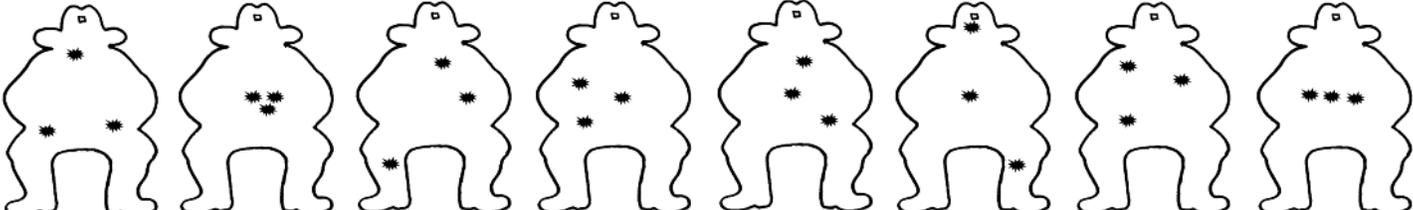
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Small Town Texas Sleeps On Sunday . . .

(Continued from page 59)

state and federal funding. Of the 30 or so buildings we drove and walked by, 20 were collapsing and 10 were abandoned. I could have fired my 12 Gauge in the middle of First Avenue and only the rodents would have taken notice—a sad state of affairs indeed. If ever a project were crying for stimulus money, it's got to be the rejuvenation of Pecos, Texas. I hope my Texas pards take note here and plan a big shoot there—something is drastically needed to get that town back on its feet.

The missus and I waited until late in the day before driving in to Sonora, hoping by that time someone would be stirring. No such luck! Not a soul was in sight (see

accompanying photo). We walked around the Town Plaza in hopes a police officer might ask us what we were up to, but once again, no such luck. One of us was in search of a rest room and in order to fill that need we had to get back to the super Highway numbered 10 to find a filling and emptying station. Relief was at last found, but still no one was in sight. Nowadays you simply put your credit or debit card in the slot and that's that—no living persons are required. Okay, I've said all I need to say on the subject. But if you don't believe me and want to find out for yourself, then take a drive through small town Texas on Sunday. You're a Daisy if ya do. 🐘

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Saskatchewan Association of Wild West Shooters



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Range location for ATT purposes
Saskatoon Muzzle Loading Club -
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One Shot at (306)749-2822 or email
grandmother4@sasktel.net



Mon Aug 2/16
RD 1 course
Wed Aug 3/16
5 stage Wild Bunch
match
Thursday Aug 4/16
Morning
RD 11 course
Ladies Tour & Brunch
Afternoon
Side Matches and
practice stage
Evening
Steak BBQ (tickets
pre-purchased)

Friday Aug 5/16
Morning
Safety Meeting
Group Shooters Picture
Main Match 5 stages
Afternoon
Knife and Hawk trail walk
Swap Meet
Evening
Shady Lady Contest
Supper (tickets Pre-
purchased)
Side Match Awards and
door prizes

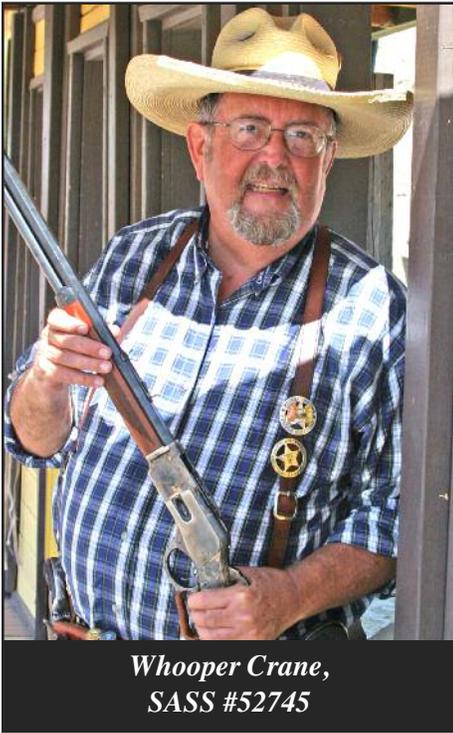
Sat Aug 6/16
Morning
Safety meeting
8:45 am
Main Match 5
stages
5:30 pm
Promenade and
Awards Banquet
(shooter tickets
included extra
tickets are
available for pre-
purchase)

- SASS rules and Shooter categories apply.
- Breakfast and lunch available at the range Thursday, Friday, and Saturday for a nominal fee. Pre-purchase not required.
- Awards Banquet is included in the registration fee.
- Thursday and Friday supper tickets must be pre-purchased.
- Dry camping at the range at no charge. Let us know if you plan to arrive before Wednesday along with your unit size...
- Practice bay will be available at designated times Monday to Wednesday.
- Approximate main match ammo requirements are 100 pistol, 100 rifle 50 shotgun.



Articles

Catching The Next Stage



Whooper Crane,
SASS #52745

A Neat Way To Pep Up Your Club Shoots

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

Stage 5 February 2016

10 Revolver, 10+1 Rifle, 4+ shotgun

FORT SINCLAIR

Position 2L Position 1 Position 2

Start standing at center of position 1, both hands holding 1 rifle round. Revolvers loaded with 5 rounds each and holstered. Open and empty shotgun and rifle loaded with 10 rounds staged anywhere.

To signify ready shooter says: "This round has your name on it."

At buzzer, using rifle and revolvers as necessary engage RP1 through RP3 with 7 rounds each, any order (Round Count) rifle reload may be done anytime after the first shot. Move to position 2 and engage the 4 fallers any order.

Please leave timer and spotting flags...

You may have seen pictures of Fort Sinclair, named in honor of Mike Sinclair (Old Dead Eye) on the SASS Wire. The accompanying illustration depicts what it looked like on the stage instruction sheet.

We liked this stage scenario because it gave every shooter the opportunity to shoot it as they pleased, was ambidextrous, and added a rifle reload, which is always a challenge for us old timers.

Shooting times for this stage were all over the place, from a rapid fire 16.41 seconds by Robyn DaVault (SASS #87350) to an astronomical 94.49 by (oops, better not say). I personally shot it somewhere in the middle, but was proud to shoot it clean.

Now, you don't need a fort to do this stage at your home club, but you'll get a kick out of determining your own way of shooting it, deciding when to reload, and choosing which gun(s) to shoot first.

Show it to your rangemaster and urge him to add it to one of your upcoming matches. I think you and your buddies will enjoy shooting it!

So far in "Catchin' The Next Stage" we've borrowed some "other-than-everyday" shooting stages from both Winter Range and END of TRAIL. Hope you've had a chance to play with them. Today we're lifting a brand new stage from one of our local clubs, the Arizona Cowboy Shooters Association.

This one was designed by our good shootin' buddy and rangemaster Gawd Awful (SASS #88002) and was used at ACSA's February 2016 match at Ben Avery Shooting Facility... the same site where Winter Range is held.

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PRIZE COMICS

WESTERN

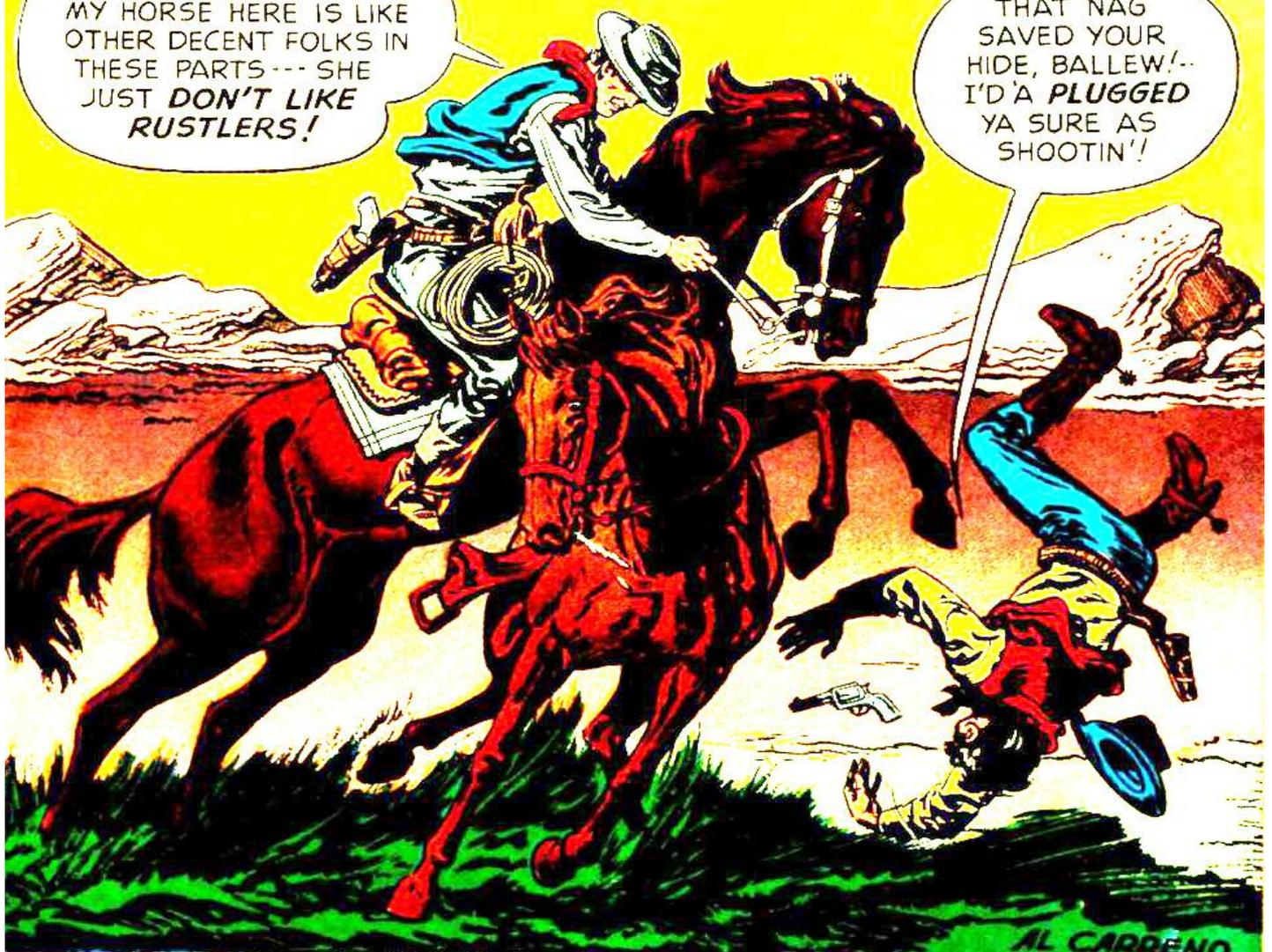


10c

No. 70

IT'S LIKE I WAS TELLIN' YA, BLACKY--- MY HORSE HERE IS LIKE OTHER DECENT FOLKS IN THESE PARTS--- SHE JUST **DON'T LIKE RUSTLERS!**

THAT NAG SAVED YOUR HIDE, BALLEW!-- I'D'A **PLUGGED** YA SURE AS SHOOTIN'!



AL CARRENO

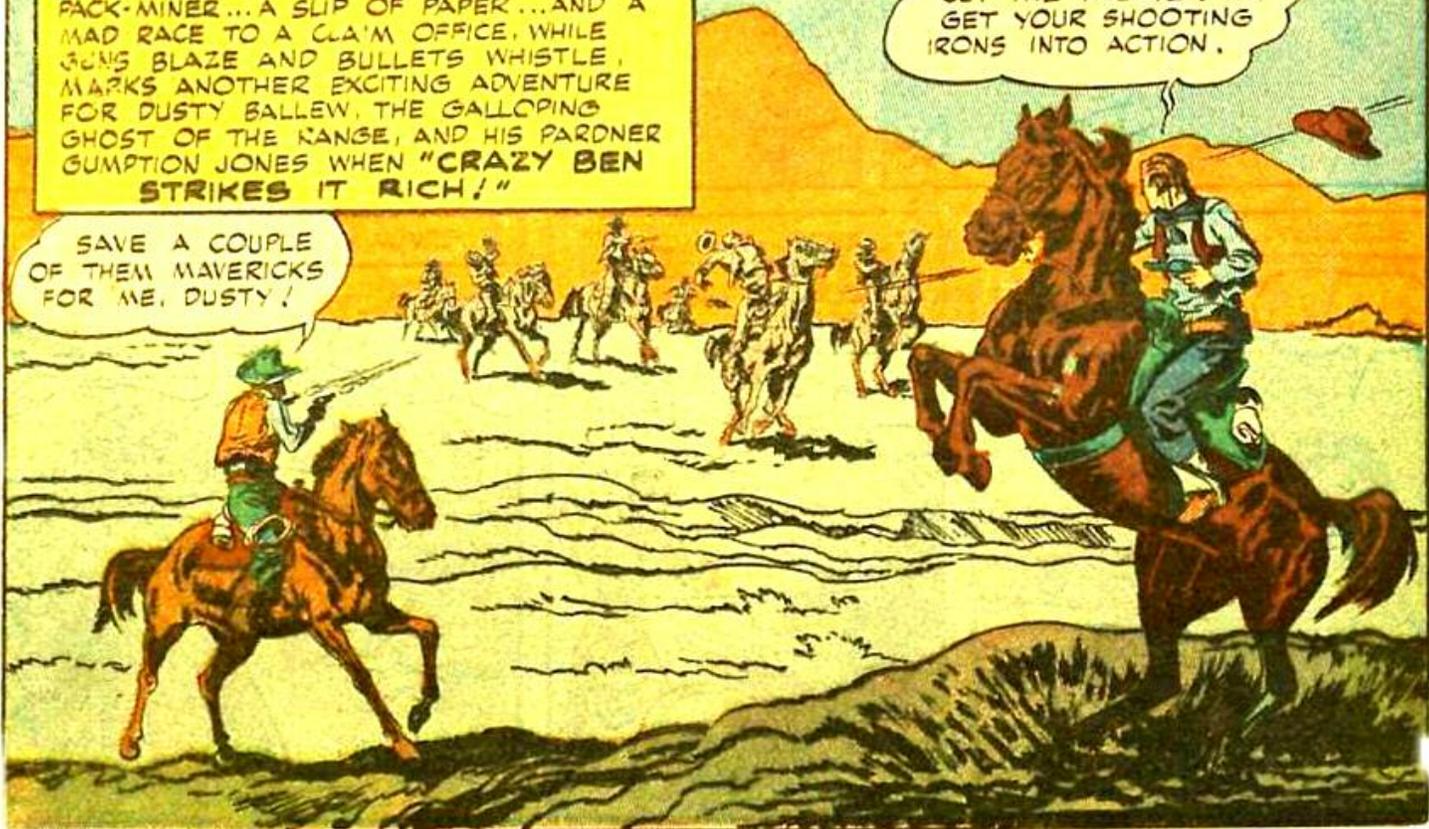
STARRING *THE GALLOPING GHOST OF THE WILD WEST* "DUSTY" BALLEW

"DUSTY" BALLEW and Gumption Jones

A FEW DELIRIOUS WORDS FROM AN OLD PACK-MINER... A SLIP OF PAPER... AND A MAD RACE TO A CLAIM OFFICE, WHILE GUNS BLAZE AND BULLETS WHISTLE, MARKS ANOTHER EXCITING ADVENTURE FOR DUSTY BALLEW, THE GALLOPING GHOST OF THE RANGE, AND HIS PARTNER GUMPTION JONES WHEN "CRAZY BEN STRIKES IT RICH!"

COME ON! COME ON!
CUT THE PALAVER AN'
GET YOUR SHOOTING
IRONS INTO ACTION.

SAVE A COUPLE
OF THEM MAVERICKS
FOR ME, DUSTY!



WHENEVER DUSTY DUSTY BALLEW AND GUMPTION JONES ARE AROUND, ACTION BREAKS FAST

GIT HIM!
MAKE HIM
TALK!

YE'LL NEVER
LARN NOTHIN'
FROM ME,
HANK STARR...

HEY,
GUMPTION
...LOOK AT
THE RUCKUS...

RECKON WE'D
BETTER TAKE
A HAND...
SEEMS A
SHAME TO

LET SIX MEN
TAKE ON ONE.
MEBBE WE
KIN SHORTEN
THE ODDS.



C'MON,
GUMPTION!

YAHOO!
REMEMBER
THE ALAMO!
POWDER RIVER!
LET 'ER BUCK!







WHILE WE'RE WAITIN' FOR HER TO GIT BACK WITH THE SAWBONES, LET'S TAKE A GANDER AT THIS PAPER THAT OLD BEN GAVE ME...

LOOKS LIKE THE LOCATION OF A GOLD STRIKE...



GUMPTION, THE NEAREST CLAIM OFFICE IS IN DODGE CITY, YOU GIT MOVIN' WITH THIS, AN' FILE THE CLAIM FOR OLD BEN.

OKAY, DUSTY... I'LL MOSEY AS SOON AS THE SAWBONES GIT'S HERE... MY HOSS COULD USE THE REST.



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

HERE'S THE DOCTOR, BOYS.

HMM... SO OLD BEN HAD HIMSELF A TIME, HUH? TANGLED WITH STARR, I HEAR, WAAL, THESE OLD PACK-MINERS ARE TOUGH. TAKES MORE THAN A KNOCK ON THE HAID TO KILL 'EM.

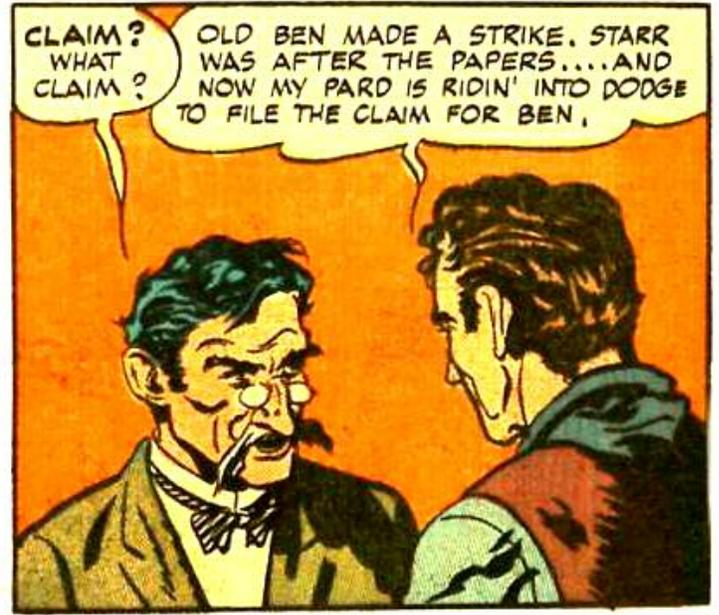


SOON....

THAR... THAT DOES IT. HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT IN A FEW DAYS.

BEN CAN STAY HERE UNTIL HE'S BETTER.

THERE'S THE PAPER, GUMPTION... GIT OVER TO THE CLAIM OFFICE. RIGHT.



CLAIM? WHAT CLAIM?

OLD BEN MADE A STRIKE. STARR WAS AFTER THE PAPERS... AND NOW MY PARD IS RIDIN' INTO DODGE TO FILE THE CLAIM FOR BEN.



WELL, GENTS... AN' MISS DAWSON... RECKON I'LL MOSEY. GOOD LUCK ON FILIN' OLD BEN'S CLAIM. IT'S HIGH TIME HE GOT A BREAK.

THANK YOU, DOCTOR SKINNER...



MEANWHILE...

STARR! STARR!

HUH? OH, IT'S YOU, DOC... WHAT'S UP?



BEN'S NOT GOIN' TO DIE, HANK! HE'S SENT SOMEBODY TO FILE THE CLAIM FOR HIM. YOU CAN STILL CATCH HIM AT THE EDGE OF TOWN.

OKAY, DOC... WE'LL HEAD HIM OFF!



AS GUMPTION GALLOPS ON HIS WAY TO DODGE CITY....

SING A TIYI YIPPEE YIPPEE YAY YIPPEE YAY... SING A TIYI... --YIPPEE--- OH-OH--WONDER WHUT THEM HOMBRES WANT, THEY'RE REININ' IN THEIR HOSSES.



GUMPTION SOON FINDS OUT...

OKAY, STRANGER! YOU GIT HAND OVER BEN'S STRIKE PAPERS... RIGHT TO THE POINT ...DON'T YOU?



FRIEND... YOU'RE GOIN' TO HAVE A BIT OF HUSTLIN' TO DO AFORE YOU GIT THEM PAPERS FROM OLD GUMPTION JONES.

GRAB HIM, BOYS! HE'S LOCO!



IN A FEW MOMENTS, THERE IS A WILD MELEE WITH GUMPTION JONES FIGHTING GAMELY UNTIL....

RECKON THAT'LL HOLD YA!

OHHHH...

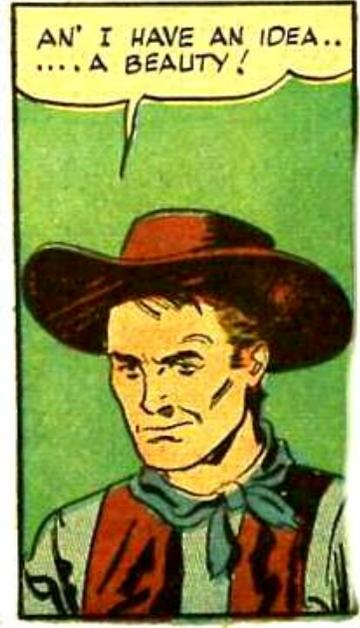
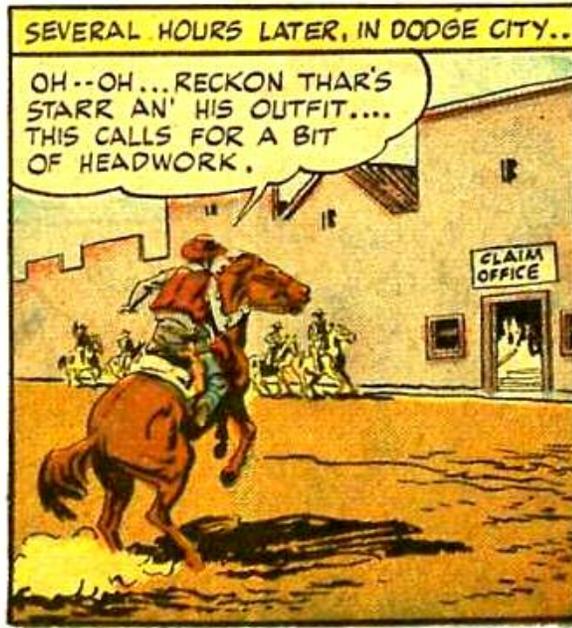
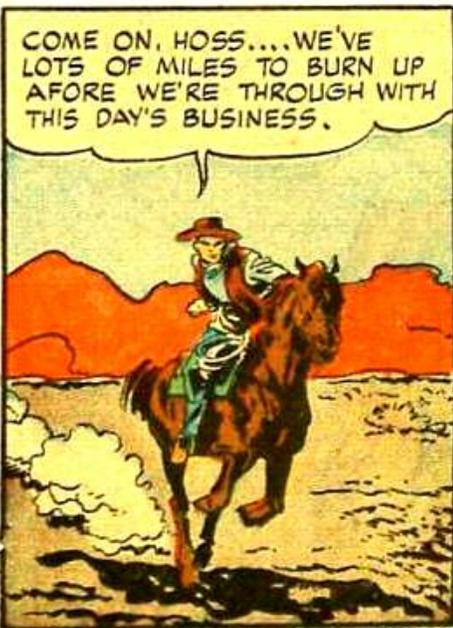
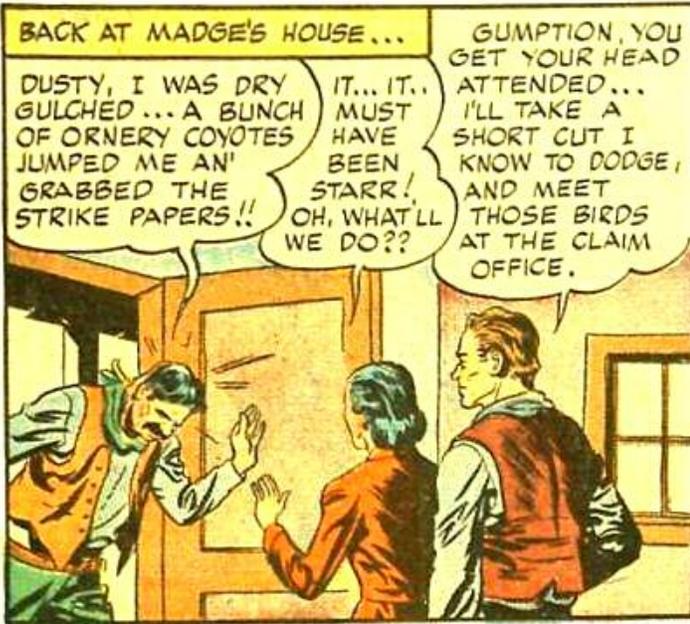


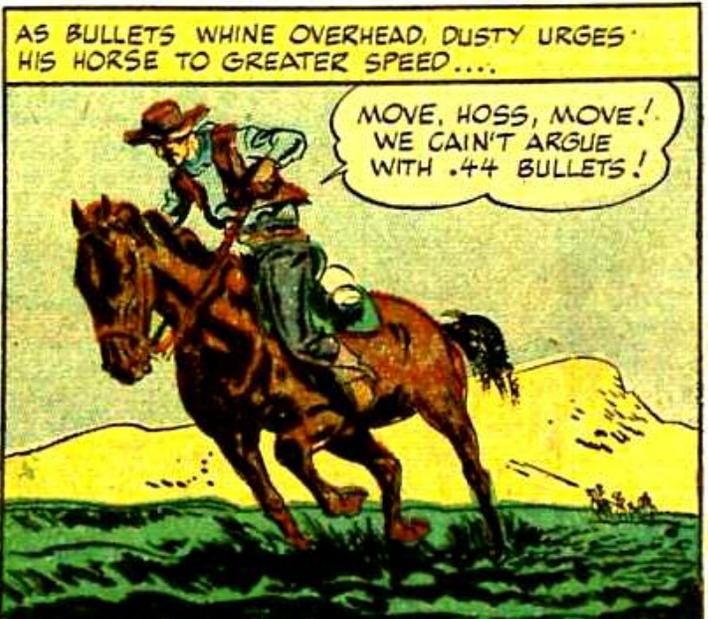
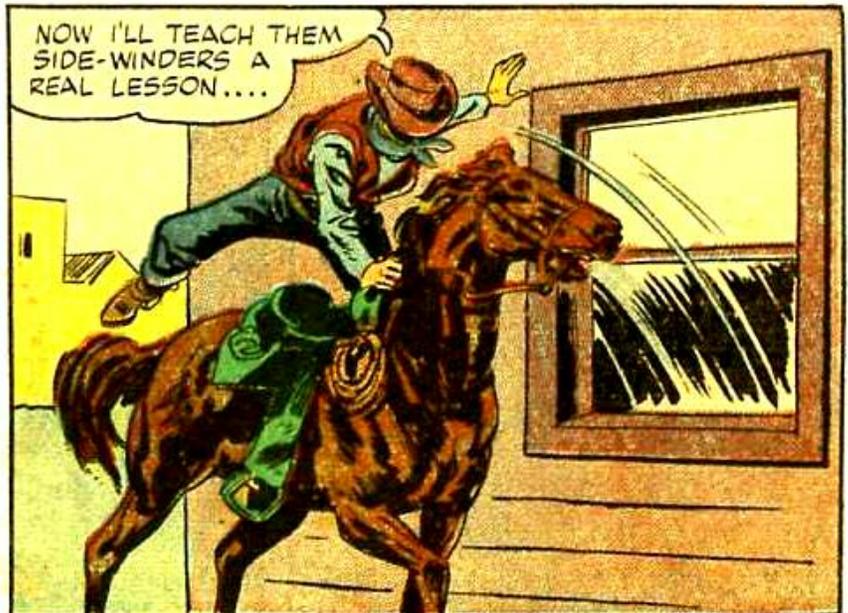
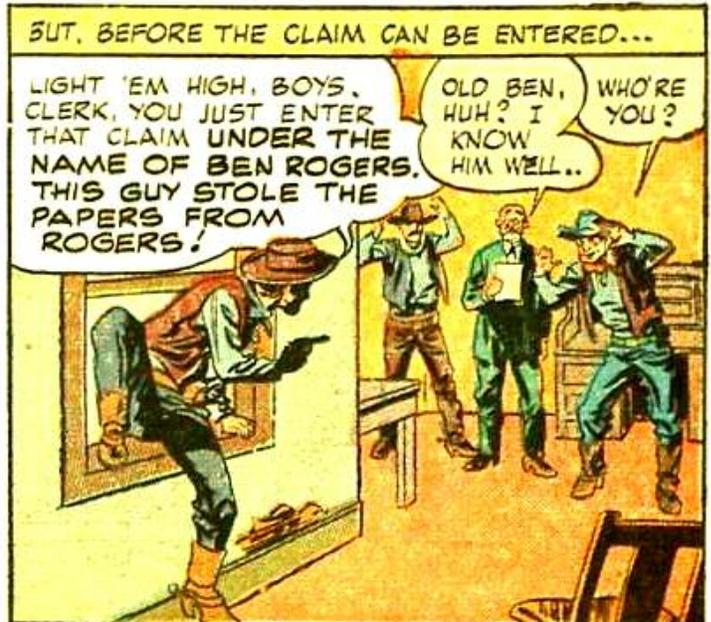
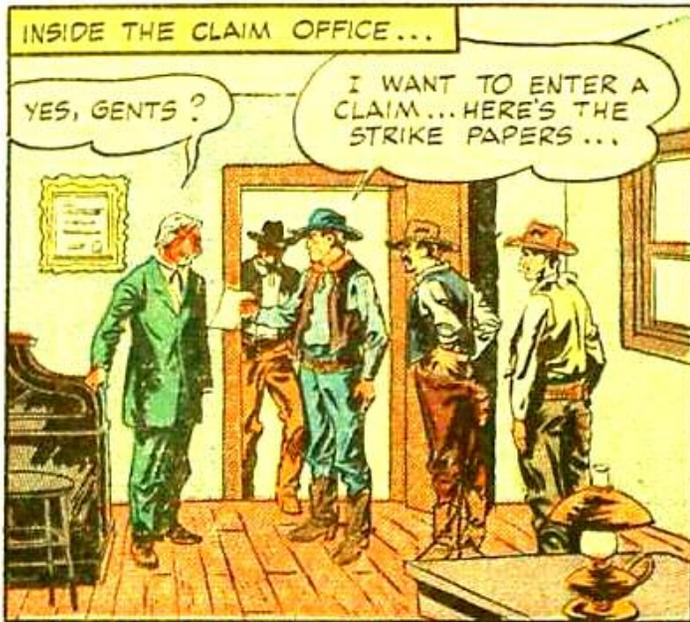
HYAR'S THE PAPERS. HIT THE SADDLE, BOYS....WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO DODGE ...



PAINFULLY, GUMPTION REGAINS HIS FEET IN TIME TO SEE HIS ASSAILANTS GALLOPING AWAY.

THE CONSARNED DRY-GULCHIN' SIDE WINDERS !! I'D BETTER GIT BACK TO DUSTY AFORE IT'S TOO LATE !







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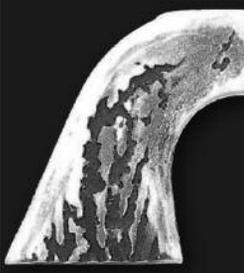


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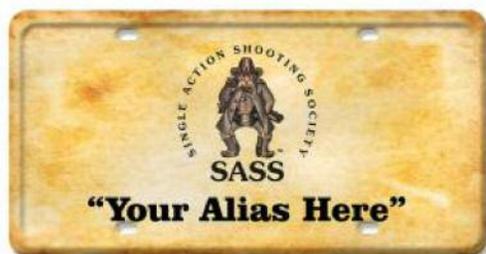
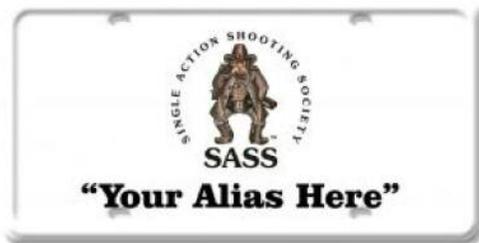
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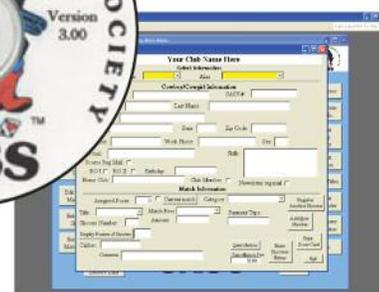
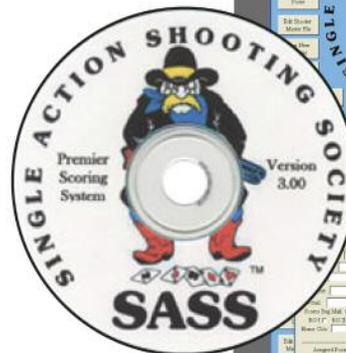
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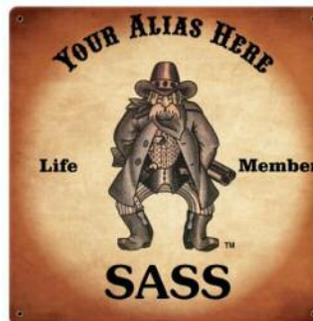


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104,382.....Jaky Nate

AZ

104,328.....Dove Creek Jack
104,329.....Loose Needle
104,420.....Muddy Gap

CA

104,283.....Billy No Toes
104,301.....Monsai
104,349.....Runfer Cover
104,381.....Virginian Jim
104,385.....Dustbowl Debbie
104,386.....Pinebox Filler
104,397.....Vaquero Roy
104,398.....Aribeth
104,408.....Black Hearted Pearl
104,415.....Dodge City DeRoy
104,431.....Snow White
104,435.....Mountian Mike
104,436.....Doc "Cross Draw" Travis

CO

104,277.....Kanorado
104,278.....Lost Prophet
104,288.....One Shot Whiskey
104,294.....Smiling Jack Black
104,369.....Towaco Bill
104,370.....Stella Scarlett
104,416.....Ruben T.

CT

104,411.....Robin Banks

DE

104,419.....Sheriff R. T. Lee

FL

104,270.....Pit Viper
104,275.....Deacon Dave
104,285.....Restless Rider
104,293.....Firehand Frank
104,375.....Sheriff J B Harrah
104,376.....Lady Lee
104,378.....Marshal Goldfinger
104,400.....Daisy Mayhem Teitge

GA

104,325.....Brush Fire
104,326.....104326
104,344.....Centralia Ranger

IA

104,336.....J. Moon
104,425.....Idaho Rivers
104,426.....Big Ruby

ID

104,317.....Bellringer
104,318.....Poison Ivory
104,356.....Jackpot Pat

IL

104,314.....Chilly Winters

IN

104,291.....Dead-Eye Charlie
104,295.....Mad Dog Meyers
104,409.....B'Creek Troser

KS

104,300.....Otto Shootem

KY

104,311.....Shadow Wind
104,327.....Curly Lou Lefors

LA

104,350.....Canebrake Jake

MA

104,358.....Buzz Wire
104,395.....Crazy Cajun Cowboy

MD

104,322.....Silverado Rob
104,377.....Sungila

ME

104,289.....Sand Creek
Revenant 'The'
104,315.....Deacon Bill

MI

104,267.....104267
104,299.....Diamondback Dale
104,348.....Tinker McMessy
104,392.....Gunner Black
104,394.....104394
104,413.....104413

MN

104,298.....Dilly the Kid

MO

104,321.....Valles Mines Johnny
104,405.....Wild Whitty
104,414.....Dr. O. R. Vet

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- 104,367.....Rainbow Bright
- 104,368.....Mosey N. Through

MT

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NC

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- 104,302.....Bear Creek Hangman
- 104,316.....Sea Trail Kid
- 104,354.....Johnny Cairo
- 104,380.....Big Bear Mo

ND

- 104,281.....Henry Colton
- 104,338.....One-Eyed Tess

NE

- 104,357.....Rebel Wesely
- 104,391.....Shalako Jones
- 104,403.....Sugar Annie
- 104,412.....Babbling Brooke

NH

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NJ

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- 104,423.....Preacher "The"
- 104,424.....Pablo Loco

NM

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- 104,272.....104272
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- 104,371.....Spice Guy "The"
- 104,401.....Outlaw Elvis

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- 104,364.....Tahoe Rose

NY

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- 104,428.....Jarhead
- 104,429.....104429

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- 104,379.....Hideout Chaplain

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- 104,320.....Big Hoss Horton
- 104,324.....Buzzard Bayne

WA

- 104,374.....Cariboo Jack

WI

- 104,353.....Ned Ledslinger
- 104,390.....Smokey's Shadow

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AB

- 104,330.....Hayseed John
- 104,331.....Wrangler Ruby
- 104,346.....Belarus Kidd

ACT

- 104,359.....Long Plains Drifter
- 104,383.....Cranky Olphart

FRC

- 104,393.....Yuma Steve

JA

- 104,417.....K. Rooster

MB

- 104,274.....Risk*N*Hope

NS

- 104,355.....104355
- 104,384.....Spaghetti Outlaw

NSW

- 104,360.....Montana Sage

ON

- 104,292.....Marshall Keast
- 104,323.....Vasecho
- 104,372.....Shaky Brooster
- 104,387.....Marshall Staff

QLD

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- 104,363.....Kat Fisher

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