

TWED

SEPTEMBER | 2016



Cowboy CHRONICLE



Inside...

**THE LONESOME DOVE
REUNION HONORING
THE ICONIC MINISERIES**
By The Jersey Kid

**DISPATCHES FROM
CAMP BAYLOR
TRYING OUT THE LATEST
IN WILD BUNCH RIGS**
By Capt. George Baylor

**STEAMPUNK
ADD A LITTLE SCI FI TO
YOUR COWBOY OUTFIT**
By Texas Flower

Sara McReynolds, Administrator of the Fort Parker State Park near Groesbeck Texas, dressed up as Cynthia Ann Parker to commemorate the 2016 SASS® Texas State Championship, The Fall of the Fort, which was held at the historic site. Miss Parker was captured and raised by the Commanche under the name "Na'ura" and was the mother of Quanah Parker.



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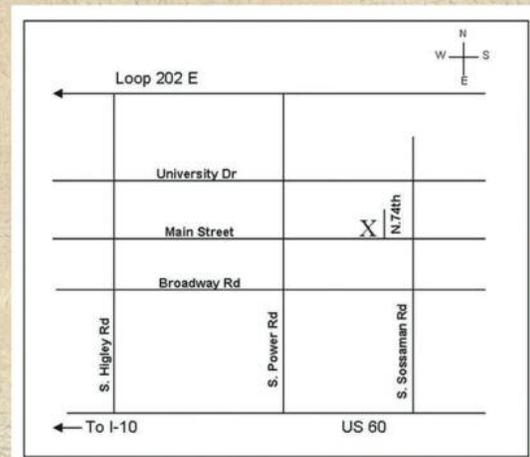
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Skippy and Tex try to out-mug each other at 2016 SASS Texas State Championship Banquet (Tex always wins).

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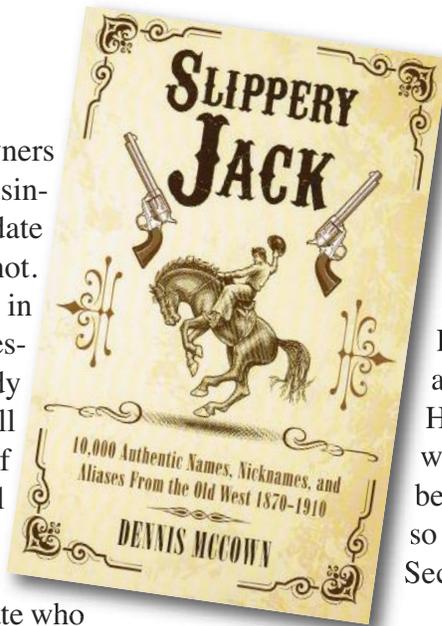
From The Editor

SKINNY'S SOAPBOX

By Skinny, SASS #7361

Election 2016

Whether we like it or not, for gun owners the 2016 elections come down to a single issue focus—whether a given candidate will support the Second Amendment or not. And nowhere is that more important than in our consideration of the candidates for President of the United States. As I've already commented, this Presidential election will not determine who is Commander-in-Chief for the next four (or eight) years. It will determine the composition of the Supreme Court for the next fifty years. So it's very important we support the candidate who



Skinny, SASS #7361

is most likely to appoint pro-Second Amendment Supreme Court Justices, and whether you care for him or not, Donald Trump is much more likely to appoint Justices of that type than Hillary Clinton. Keep that in mind when you vote. I would prefer to have better choices for President, but I don't, so I plan to vote for Trump as the better Second Amendment choice. I will not
(Continued on page 6)

Guest Editorial By Col. Richard Dodge, SASS #1750

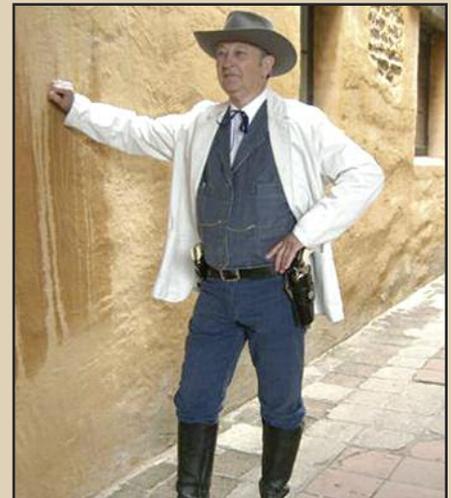
When Will We Learn?

Last issue I challenged our membership with opinions and beliefs different from Col. Dan's to send in commentary of their own. Long time SASS member and Catwag Chronicle contributor Col. Richard Dodge has obliged us with his position on Donald Trump. —Skinny

The past decades have had their share of conservative Republican defeats in California and across the country. The common denominator in many of them is a tendency toward tunnel vision without a concern for the larger picture. Here are some prime examples.

Back when Senator Robert Dole was the Republican nominee, he came across as doddering, out of touch, and woefully anchored in the ancient past. When the results began to come in,

Dole was quickly in the lead and Republicans were so excited. "I think we're going to do it!" was heard. Of course, it didn't last. Those early returns were from districts with small populations and their results were tabulated more quickly. As results began to come in from more populous districts, Dole quickly faded to a very distant loss. His support came only from the sparsely populated district he represented in Congress. Why couldn't Republicans see that coming?

Col. Richard Dodge,
SASS #1750

Back when Schwarzenegger ran for Governor of California, he was opposed by Tom McClintock, who was the most conservative, right wing politician in the state. Conservatives flocked to him, failing to notice McClintock never drew more than ten or twelve percent of the vote statewide. His
(Continued on page 7)

Skinny's Soapbox . . .

(Continued from page 5)

vote for an independent—that would be a vote for Clinton. And I will not abstain from voting—that too would be a vote for Clinton. I will, albeit reluctantly, vote for Trump. If you value your right to own firearms, I urge you to follow my example.

Candidate Evaluations

An excellent resource for determining whether a given candidate—President right down to local level—is more or less pro-Second Amendment is the NRA's website, www.nrapvf.org/grades. This site will alert you to upcoming elections in your area and what level of ranking each candidate has received from the NRA with regard to his or her support for the Second Amendment. The alerts cover upcoming events for just the immediate future, so you should bookmark the site and check back regularly.

Alias Resource

Speaking of useful resources, Dennis McCown (Seven Ladders, SASS #75152) has published a handy reference guide, *Slippery Jack—10,000 Authentic Names, Nicknames, and Aliases From the Old West*

1870-1910. The book is structured such that you can look up common surnames, common first names, common aliases and nicknames, and common slang terms from that era, so it takes a lot of the labor out of coming up with a unique SASS® alias for yourself or for others. It can be found at www.Amazon.com and elsewhere and it's available from Amazon as a Kindle Edition.

Comic Book Corner

This issue features an adventure of Fargo Kid from the comic book of the same name—another late 1940s periodical from Prize Publishing. Fargo Kid is interesting in that it features early artwork by two illustrators who would go on to become legends in their field, Al Williamson and John Severin. Williamson went on to work on Flash Gordon and Secret Agent X-9 (Secret Agent Corrigan) and Severin, along with his sister Marie, became a regular at Marvel Comics. As always, material for Comic Book Corner comes to us through Comic Book Plus. Visit their website at www.comicbookplus.com to enjoy more vintage Western and other genre comic books.

—Skinny 🐾

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Guest Editorial • When Will We Learn?

(Continued from page 5)

support came only from a sparsely populated district he represented in the Legislature. Arnold waltzed into the Governor's office owing us nothing and proceeded to sign the "firearm microstamping" bill that has become one of the worst gun-control bills ever conceived. Arnold was at that time married to Maria Schreiber; guess what kind of influence she had. Why didn't Republicans see that coming?

A very few years back we had a sheriff's race here in Orange County, California. Our best choice was Bill Hunt, a former lieutenant in the Sheriff's Office with superb administrative experience, tremendous energy, strong support from the department's rank and file, and a strong Second Amendment supporter. He was opposed by a retired captain from the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, liberal in the extreme. Well, the local Minutemen hijacked Bill's campaign without his knowledge or consent and broadcast their anti-immigrant message across the county, waving Arizona flags while wearing "Bill Hunt for Sheriff" T-shirts, frequently in front of large Hispanic gatherings. Guess who won the election? We lost a man who would have been an outstanding sheriff and our friend. Why didn't Republicans see that coming?

Now we have Donald Trump, an obvious loser who is actively snatching defeat from the jaws of victory and who will most likely meet the same fate as Barry Goldwater did in 1964. How did he get to be the Republican nominee in the first place? Because non-thinking voters thought he was a fresh new voice in politics without seeing what Trump really is. The Democrats have the vote of huge blocks of the electorate—women, minorities, labor, and more—and Trump is losing support even where it should be the strongest, his own Republican Party. I fear we will be faced with Hillary Clinton whether we like it or not. And the Republican Party will become, for the foreseeable future, irrelevant and powerless, on the outside looking in.

When will we learn? In order to take office and make policy, you have to get elected first. 🇺🇸

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Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245

May 19-22 2016 commemorated the 180th anniversary of the massacre at Fort Parker in Texas. The Texas State Championship honored Daniel Parker and his followers who built the fort that was overrun by Comanche Indians. Hopefully everyone left with a greater understanding of American history and their scalps! The Indian theme ran through the scenarios, decorations and, awards. Each posse selected a cowhand for the “Spearit” of the Game award and the overall Spirit of the Game went to Bent Barrel Betty, commemorating her work before and during the match. Hats off to Bent Barrel Betty! Thank you for all you contributed to a great shoot.

A band of other “Indians” con-

THE FALL OF THE FORT

SASS Texas State Championship 2016



By Tennessee Tall, SASS #49245

tributed greatly as well. If Bent Barrel Betty was the Lone Ranger, Kow Katcher, the Match Director, was Tonto. Lonesome Lefty, Bunchquitter, Buffalo Brewster and Weezee Anna built stages, ran matches, built props and provided awards. Calico Calie and Denton

Dancer were valuable assets who provided score keeping and registration services. Angels and Moore made a beautiful commemorative quilt that was won by Dealin Lead. Texas Irish Princess—a founding member of the Old Fort Parker Patriots—made a leather rug/wall



Long Range was shot from the Fort Block House.

The Fall Of The Fort . . .

hanging for the raffle, which Three Finger Jack proudly carried home. Mar-Lynn won the Mystery Box, which Bent Barrel Betty constructed from 100-year old cedar trees blown down in the cemetery at the Fort. Found inside the Mystery Box was a Dillon 550 tricked-out reloader and a 100-dollar gift certificate for Cowboy Shooter Supply, which were donated by Kow Katcher.

Thank you also to Hot Tamale, Fort Director Sarah McReynolds; Bent Barrel Betty for her Almost World Famous-Chicken Spaghetti and all those who contributed to the Thursday night potluck for the workers. Cowtown Jack, Bent Barrel Betty and I had to listen to an incredible rendition of Happy Birthday for us sung by the attendees. (Painful, at best!) Oh, well, the food was good!

Special Thank you to Lazarus Longshot's widow, Lorelei Longshot who donated items from

(Continued on page 10)

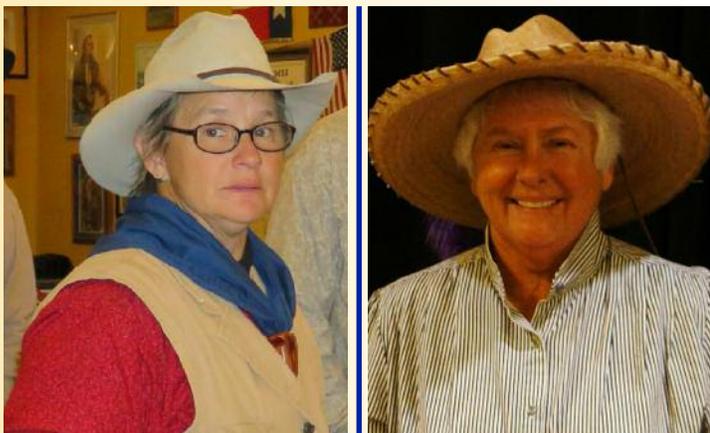


Cat Ballou and Tex are ready to shoot.



The Fall Of The Fort . . .

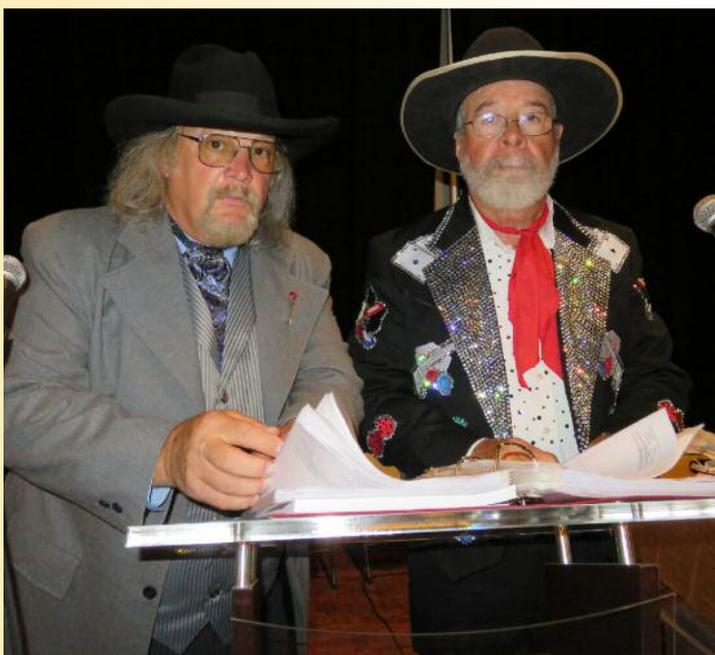
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Match officials Bent Barrel Betty and Kow Katcher.

Lazarus Longshot's collection of western memorabilia. D Bar J; Bond Arms; K&T Guns; Redwing Trading; Cimarron Bullets; Cowboy Shooters Supply; Recollections; Longhunter; Mernicle Leather; Cowtown Jack; Shot Glass; Kow Katcher; Cimarron Arms; and The Gold Lady all contributed door prizes. Hot Tamale donated a .22 pistol for the "EARLY ENTRY" prize, which was won by Bad bob Hardin. Yep, and there was a bunch of other stuff. If you'd been there you would've seen who won it all. Thank you to those I didn't mention also; I didn't leave you out on purpose—I'm just old!

There was some right good shooting that went on with the Overall Lady and Texas State Championship award going to Panhandle Cowgirl; Overall Man



Banquet emcees Hawkshaw Fred and Handlebar Doc.



Justice Lily Kate and Judge Roy Bean.

went to Creek County Kid, with Rusty Remington winning Texas State Championship. The scores for the state match are available on the Old Fort Parker Patriots website at www.oldfortparkerpatriots.com. The Old Fort Parker Patriots sold cards on an Stoner-platform sporting rifle to raise money for the SASS Scholarship. Denton Dancer proudly carried it home.

Our photographers, Daisy Dee and Texas Flower caught smiles and beautiful costumes through out the match. Texas Flower researches and writes costuming articles for *The Cowboy Chronicle*. She helps shooters and non-shooters put together appropriate attire and manages costume contests. How's that for love of the game? Costuming is what sets us apart from other shooting venues. Even if you don't shoot you can still show up looking good!

We were fortunate to have a field full of vendors. Thank you all for being part of our game. Old Scyene, 24-Karat Gold Plating, Cowboy Shooters Supply, DeVine Hats, Goatneck Clem Gunsmithing, Boomstick Arms, D Bar J, Crazy Lady Cafe, The Bulletworks, Angels and Moore, Hatpins by Hawkshaw, Tstarleather, and Major Photography were on hand.

SASS was well represented by Justice Lily Kate,



The Fall Of The Fort . . .

Judge Roy Bean, Cat Ballou, Tex, and Skinny. Thank you to Justice Lily Kate, Judge Roy Bean, Cat Ballou and The One and Only Tex for the many years of work for a game we all love. Nice seeing you.

Judge assured me if he was any better he would be suspicious, he wasn't interested in another opinion. Justice Lily Kate provided a tour of the Mary Rogers house, which is located next door to the vis-

itor center. The Mary Rogers house is available for special events, has central heat and air, is beautifully decorated, and will sleep six to eight people. The renovated German Prisoner of War barracks were moved to Fort Parker eight years ago. The barracks consist of 19 beautiful rooms that share a bath and common area. Campsites at the Fort have water and

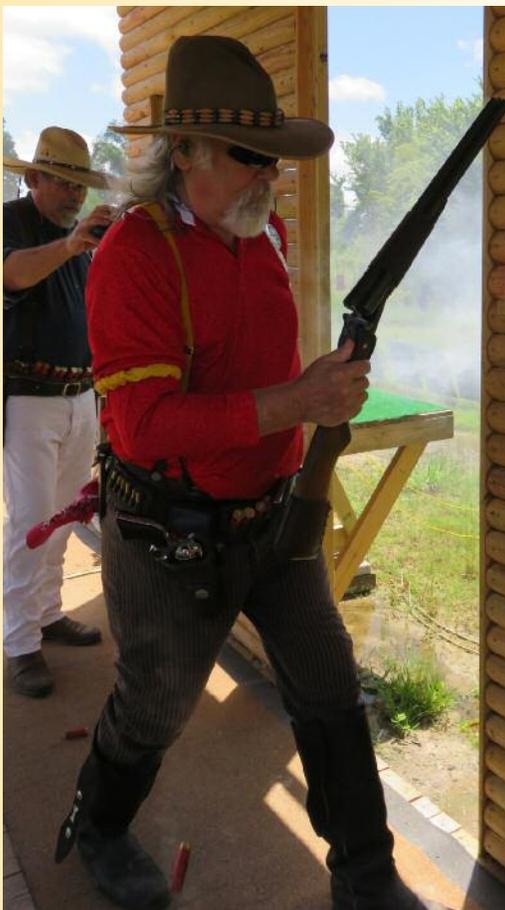
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The Fall Of The Fort . . .

(More HIGHLIGHTS from page 11)



Costumes Reign at the 2016 SASS Texas State Championship!

By Texas Flower, SASS Life/Regulator #43753

Pictures by Texas Flower and Daisy Dee

Yes, the Fort did fall to the Comanche and yes, the rain did fall from the sky on side match day, but thank goodness no one fell in the mud on the range! It did not seem to matter what fell, best dressed costumes “reigned” at the “Fall of the Fort,” the SASS Texas State Championship held May 19-22, 2016 near Groesbeck, Texas.

We were honored to have Cat Ballou, SASS #55, and Tex, SASS #4, attend the match. I was delighted to have our First Lady of Costuming, Cat Ballou, agree to help Cowtown Scout, SASS #53540, and me in judging costumes. My thanks go to both of these expert judges for their help. Because of all the wonderful costumes, it was not an easy task to select only three winners in each category!



*Costume Contest Judges
Cat Ballou, Cowtown Scout,
and Texas Flower*

The costume contests began on Friday, the first day of the match. Best Shooting Costume Man and Lady were the categories and costumes were judged on the range while shooters were shooting. Judges roamed up and down the line looking for the best shooting costumes. These folks not only looked good, but they were pretty good at hitting the targets. After taking pictures of candidates throughout the day, judges met to look at the pictures and select three winners in each category. Winners would be announced at the awards banquet.

Saturday evening brought out the best-dressed participants. Before the awards banquet held at the Groesbeck Civic Center, contestants came to the judges to show off their fabulous costumes. Best Dressed categories were Lady,

(Continued on page 14)



*Texas Flower, SASS
Life/Regulator #43753*



Best Dressed Gentlemen



Best Dressed Ladies



Best Dressed B-Western

Costumes Reign at the 2016 SASS Texas State Championship! . . .

(Continued from page 13)

Gentleman, Couple, B-Western/Silver Screen Man and Lady, Soiled Dove/Parlor House Madam, Junior Dove/Parlor House Madam, Junior Boy and Girl, and Military. Once again, selecting only three winners in each category became a difficult task! The ladies were gorgeous and the gentlemen so dashing. Many of the costumes for both women and men had been special made and the accessories contestants used with their costumes were amazing. Judges were shown everything from a mustache comb to original Roy Rogers Boots!

Once scores were tallied and winners recorded, it was time to enjoy the banquet dinner and present some costume awards.



Best Dressed Lady B-Western

The costumes were fabulous and I would like to thank everyone who entered the. Your participation made the costume contests an important part of the SASS Texas State Championship! 🤠



Bart Bittertrigger Finger

THE FALL OF THE FORT SASS TEXAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY 19 – 22, 2016

COSTUME COSTEST WINNERS

SHOOTING COSTUME – MAN

- Bart Bittertrigger Finger, SASS #99730
- Chickahominy Charlie, SASS #90613
- Doc O'Bay, SASS #63631

SHOOTING COSTUME – LADY

- Sly Puppy, SASS #78115
- Complicated Lady, SASS #61220
- Lil McGill, SASS #85754

COUPLE

- Dusty Dee, SASS #86597 and Rusty Rider SASS #86596
- Cat Caerula, SASS #92981 and Doc O'Bay
- Complicated Lady and Omaha John SASS #48577

GENTLEMAN

- Mad Dog McCoy, SASS #17292
- Hawkshaw Fred, SASS #36811
- Yuma Jack, SASS #11261

LADY

- Kiamichi Queen, SASS #26033
- Shooting Iron Miller, SASS #85140
- Sasparilla Susie, SASS #95921

B-WESTERN/SILVER SCREEN MAN

- Texas Slim, SASS #43510
- Skinny, SASS #7361
- Alamo Andy, SASS #101775

B-WESTERN/SILVER SCREEN LADY

- Lil McGill, SASS #85754
- Comin N' Hot, SASS #102594

SOILED DOVE/PARLOR HOUSE MADAM

- Annie D. Vine, SASS #103798
- Daisy Dee, SASS #94034
- Shell Belle, SASS #79406

JUNIOR GIRL

- Darlin Diamondback, SASS #103899

JUNIOR BOY

- Sharp Shootin Leroy, SASS #100410



Sly Puppy

Costumes Reign at the 2016 SASS Texas State Championship! . . .



Best Dressed Couples



*Best Dressed Soiled Doves/
Parlor House Madams*



The Fall Of The Fort . . .

(Continued from page 11)

electric and there are four shower houses on site. Rio Drifter and I paid extra for waterfront camping. Reservations can be made for the rooms, the house, or campsites by calling 254-729-5253.

Just before press time, we learned long time Fort Parker resident and employee, Charles Deaton, aged 92, passed away June 2. Charles had been a part of the Fort and the shooters there for years and will be sadly missed.



News

The Lord's Posse

By Buckaroo Bubba, SASS #66861

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

—Matthew 28:19-20



**Buckaroo Bubba,
SASS #66861**



The Lord's Posse Founders

I have found it refreshing to see athletes in various sports display their love for God. For example, when he played in the NFL Tim Tebow was known for praying on the field. Even though it was an unpopular thing to do in the eyes of many, that never deterred Tebow. He continued to show his faith praying before games, after scoring touchdowns, and writing scripture on his eye black. Another, Stephen Curry

of the Golden State Warriors writes Bible Verses on his shoes. He even passed up on a lucrative shoe contract because the shoe company didn't want him doing so. He also represents the Christian group, "In Jesus Name I Play." These athletes use their celebrity status and sport as a platform to represent their passion for Jesus Christ. They honor God, and praise him for their abilities. I have always felt this was a great way to

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THE LORD'S POSSE

'Serving Christ the Cowboy Way'

spread the Good word and to make a connection with a fan that might be watching the game, hopefully bringing someone to Christ.

A group of Single Action Shooting Society® Members in Ohio have felt the urge to do the same. Using our platform of Cowboy Action Shooting™ to show and share our love for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In Matthew 28: 19-20, Jesus tells us to spread the word and make disciples. That is exactly what we want to do with our new Ministry, The Lord's Posse.

The creation of The Lord's Posse started within the Tusco Long Riders, a SASS affiliated Cowboy Action Shooting™ club based in Midvale, Ohio. In 2015, numerous prayer requests were made for fellow shooters and their families to what we called at the time the "Prayer Posse," a group of fellow shooters who believe in the power of prayer. The year 2015 also brought in a new tradition for the Tusco Long Riders, that being Cowboy Church held at the Annual three-day match, High Noon at Tusco.

The Founders of "The Lord's Posse" are SASS Members, One-Shot Al (SASS #71574), Needle Eye Annie (SASS #71575), Buckaroo Bubba, and Crowbar (SASS #65905). After seeing how the Prayer Posse and Cowboy Church brought people together, we were guided to create a Ministry within our Cowboy Action Shooting™ world. Our goal is to spread the word about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, letting him guide us to do his work, to use the power of prayer to aid in healing, to help others in difficult times, and to give thanks and recognition to the Lord. We want to serve our Lord and put God first as we enjoy our beloved sport.

The sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™ brings together people from all walks of life. One of the things Cowboy Action Shooters™ have in common is religion and we of The Lord's Posse are proud to call ourselves Christians. Members of the sport often refer to their peers as their Cowboy family. When one of the family is sick or in need of prayers, a lot of us rally around and use the power of prayer to uplift each other.

After we were guided to create The Lord's Posse

it seemed fitting to have a Logo. Something with which people could identify. Buckaroo Bubba created the basic design and One Shot Al and Needle Eye Annie added the meaningful colors. There is a meaning behind everything in the logo.

Obviously, first and foremost the Cross. It symbolizes Jesus Christ. How God's one and only Son was crucified, died, was buried, and then rose again into Heaven.

When competing in Cowboy Action Shooting we shoot on a "Posse," a group of shooters who stay together throughout a match. On our Posse we enjoy the fellowship amongst each other. One of the definitions of a Posse is, "a group of people who have a common characteristic, occupation, or purpose."

Matthew 18:20 reads, "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

(Continued on page 18)

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The Lord's Posse . . .

(Continued from page 17)

We wanted the name to represent whose Posse we belonged to, The Lord's Posse. At the creation of the Lord's Posse our goal was to have people pray. To pray for our friends who were sick or that had passed away. That moved us to include the verse on the logo from *Philippians 4:6*, which reads, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

This is our way of asking people to pray for the healing powers of the Lord's hands, to uplift those who are down and out, and to continuously seek God for direction in our lives.

The colors also have a meaning. One Shot Al and Needle Eye Annie were guided toward the "Wordless Book." The Red in the logo represents Jesus. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus, His only son, to pay for our sin. The color Red reminds us of when Jesus suffered, and bled, and died on a cross for you and me. Jesus then rose from the dead, proving that He has won the battle over sin and death. The White around the cross is for "New Life." White makes us think of things that are clean. The Bible says we can be clean in God's sight by admitting we are sinful, turning to God, and putting our trust in Jesus. When we do that, He makes us ready for Heaven, and gives us a brand new life to live for Him.

The Black background stands for Sin. Because God can see everything we do, He knows us very well. The Bible says when God looks at us, He sees that everyone has done bad things. The color Black reminds us of these bad things, which God calls sin. Because God is

holy, our sin must be judged and paid for. The Gold Outline reminds us of Heaven. It also makes us think about God, who lives in Heaven. The Bible teaches us that God made everything, including you and me. What does God see when He looks at you? Does He see somebody who makes Him happy? The Green text of *Philippians 4:6* is for Growth. Living things grow, and that's what Green reminds us. God wants us to grow in our new life. One very important way we grow is by reading the Bible. Another is speaking with God in prayer. God also wants us to grow by helping each other and gathering with other Christians. *(The Description of the colors is copied from the Wordless Book Tract.)*

Our Mission for the Lord's Posse is simple. We want to bring our Lord Jesus Christ all the glory and thanks for our wonderful sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™ and the fellowship we all share while enjoying our game. We want to show everyone we put God first, and who we stand for, THE LORD'S POSSE! All believers are welcome to be a part of our Non-Denominational group and be a part of our journey.

Ask yourself these questions, for whom do you play the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting™? Do you play it for yourself? Do you play it for the awards? How about God? Come be a part of our journey in *Serving Christ the Cowboy Way!*

For more information about The Lord's Posse please "Like and Share" our Facebook page www.facebook.com/TheLordsPosse or contact Buckaroo Bubba at pittfandwr@aol.com; One Shot Al at hutch2@firewireinternet.com.



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News

LONESOME DOVE REUNION AND TRAIL

By *The Jersey Kid*, SASS #287 Life Regulator

Photos by Stephanie Schulz, courtesy of Texas State University



The Jersey Kid,
SASS #287 Life Regulator



River Ranch event.

I was fortunate to have attended The Lonesome Dove Reunion and Trail this past March in Fort Worth, Texas, that paid tribute to *Lonesome Dove*, the Emmy and Golden Globe winning mini-series based on Larry McMurtry's

Pulitzer Prize winning novel. The film focuses on the lives of Captains Woodrow Call and Augustus McCrae, two retired Texas Rangers, as they lead the Hat Creek Outfit on a larger-than-life cattle drive from Texas to Mon-

tana. Aside from being a must see for any SASS® member, the film is revered in Texas and Robert Duvall made a point of emphasizing this during the opening night's panel discussion when he said, "I was having dinner with Texas Ranger Hank Whitman and this woman came up to me and said her family watches *Lonesome Dove* once a year; she wouldn't let her daughter's fiancé marry into the family until he watched it." Danny Glover, who played Deets, added, "If I come within 1,000 miles of Texas, someone says something to me about *Lonesome Dove*—it's like their National Anthem."

The activities began Monday, March 28 with a free outdoor screening of *Lonesome Dove* in Sundance Square in downtown Fort Worth and culminated Thursday evening with a celebration at River Ranch in the Stockyards. The events also featured free director's chair chats with the cast and crew and ongoing exhibits

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Attendees Lorena, *The Jersey Kid*, and July Johnson.

Lonesome Dove Reunion and Trail

around Fort Worth including a great exhibit of costumes and props beautifully displayed at the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame. The dinner was spectacular and was a who's who of cowboys and cowgirls of Texas and the west, including *Lonesome Dove* veterans Robert Duvall, Danny Glover, Diane Lane, Chris Cooper, Ricky Schroder, Margo Martin-

dale, Glenna Headly, D.B. Sweeney, Barry Tubb, David Carpenter, William Sanderson, and Bradley Gregg. Also in attendance was co-executive producer Suzanne de Passe, director Simon Wincer, producer Dyson Lovell, and screenwriter and co-executive producer Bill Wittliff. Author Larry McMurtry was not at the event, although his son and grandson were present. Yet even more bizarre is the fact Bill Wittliff told me—Larry McMurtry has still never seen the miniseries based on his novel!

During one discussion, Suzanne de Passe told the story of how she optioned McMurtry's novel. She was vacationing at a spa in Tucson, Arizona where she bumped into Gloria Steinem. Steinem invited de Passe out for dinner with McMurtry; de Passe and McMurtry connected and later de Passe, who worked for Berry Gordy, founder of Motown Records, had lunch with McMurtry. She asked him if he had anything in process that he might like to see developed. "I've got a book coming out but you wouldn't like it because it's a western." It turned out de Passe was a horsewoman and the next day she received the eighteen hundred page typewritten manuscript. As she read it, she became captivated

(Continued on page 22)

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Lonesome Dove Reunion and Trail

(Continued from page 21)

and brokered a deal for an eighteen-month option for \$50,000. She was certain she had scored a great deal until she found out every studio and network had already passed on the book. But of course, everything worked out in the end.

Barry Tubb, the actor who played Jasper, was the emcee of the Thursday evening dinner event and the opening prayer was read by six time World All-Around Rodeo Champion Larry Mahan. Bill Wittliff then delivered a moving toast to Larry McMurtry, followed by Larry's son James and his grandson Curtis McMurtry who performed "Goodbye, Old Paint, I'm a-Leavin. Cheyenne," a song popularized by Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. After that, Danny Glover, Diane Lane, and Ricky Schroder read excerpts from *Lonesome Dove*. Robert Duvall then spoke, relating the story of how he became Gus. "My ex-wife (to be) is a very literary person," Duvall said. "She said, Bobby, I've read a novel and it's better than Dostoyevsky. They will come to you and offer you the part of Call, but you have to take the role of Augustus



Suzanne de Passe, Robert Duvall, and Ricky Schroder at the panel Discussion.



Attendees Ellsworth T. Kincaid, Red Steagall, and The Jersey Kid.

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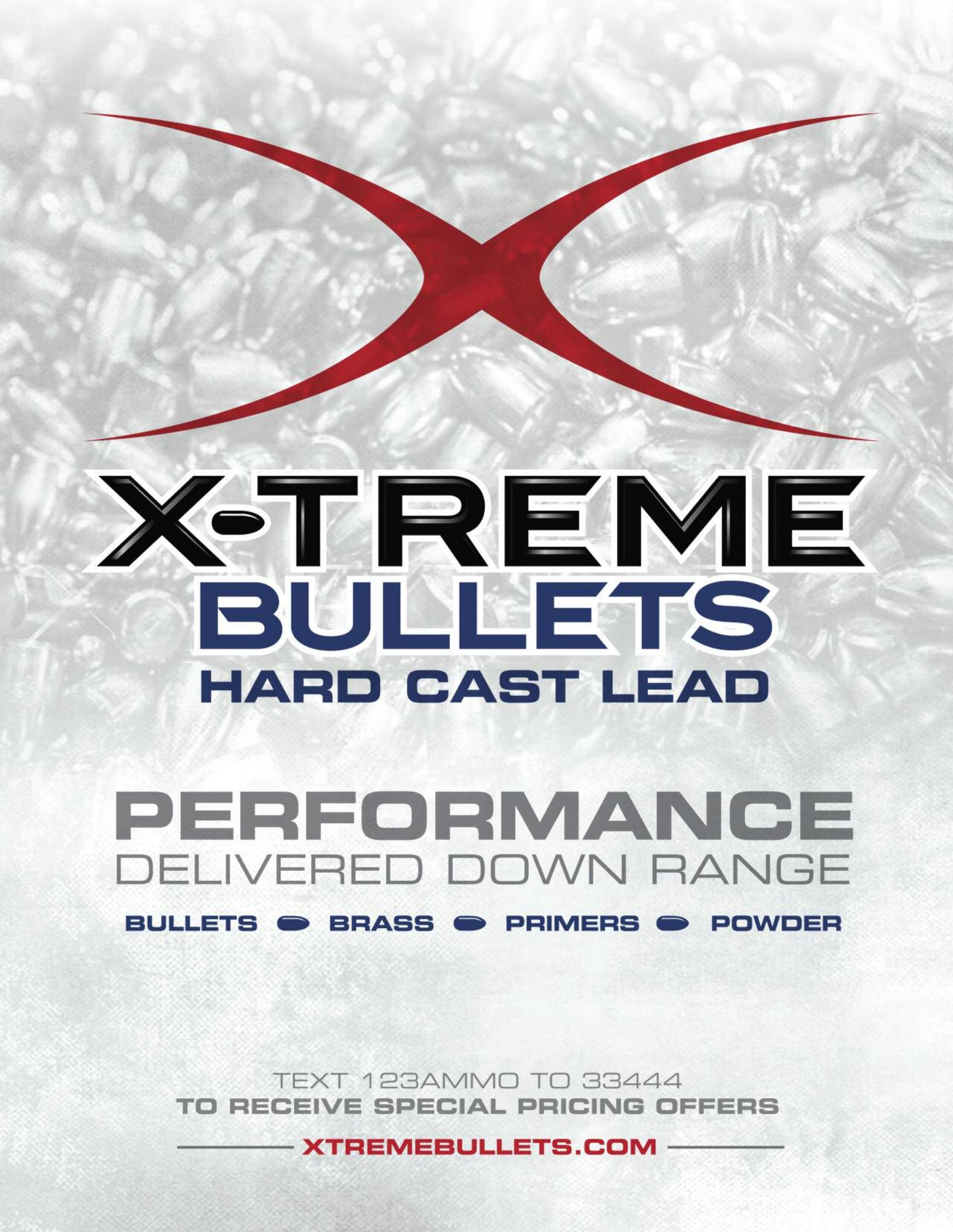
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McCrae." Duvall was indeed subsequently offered the role of Call but said he would only appear in the movie if given the role of Gus. James Garner, who was originally slated to play Gus, pulled out as his back could not handle the grueling sixteen-week filming schedule and Duvall got the role. "I'll always thank my ex," he said. Duvall added he was privileged to be in three of the greatest epics of all time—*Lonesome Dove* and *The Godfather Parts 1 and 2*, and he's best known for his role in the former.

After the speeches, a live auction took place that included among other things the two wild rags worn by Call and Gus, which sold for \$31,000, and a copy of the script of *Lonesome Dove* signed by seventy-six cast members, which sold for an astonishing \$70,000. Jerry Jeff Walker then closed out the night as a surprise musical guest (but surprisingly not performing Mr. Bojangles). In my opinion, as well as the others with whom I attended, this was an amazing tribute to an amazing movie. Thank you to all who participated. 🤞



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News

TOYS FOR TOTS

The Cowboy Way

By *Jeb Stuart Foley, SASS #89144*



The Panhandle Cowboys and Marine contingent, gathered for presentation of the donation.

The Panhandle Cowboys of Pensacola, Florida, held their fifth annual Christmas Party/Charity Fund Raiser on December 12, 2015. It was another great party, with 48 posse members and guests enjoying an evening of socializing, BBQ, and our annual charity raffle.

The party has become a tradition that has raised more than \$11,000 over the past five years for the Marine Corp Reserve's "Toys for Tots" program. Our contributions have increased each year, with a donation of \$550 the first year and a donation of \$4000 this year. Unfortunately, Grundy, one of our longtime Cowboys, passed away this year. Grundy's widow, Mrs. Ginger Robinson donated a gun cart, a Hornady Reloading Press and a large variety of ammunition and reloading components. Her donations were sold at a silent auction conducted at one of our monthly matches and raised almost \$1500.

The tradition started when Jeb Stuart Foley said

to Dal Sackett (SASS #89158), "I think we should have a Christmas Party." Dal responded, "I think that's a great idea." Soon afterward, Cassidy Jane (SASS #89156) donated a quilt to be raffled off to raise money for the party. Eventually, we decided to donate the proceeds of the raffle to charity. Other Cowboys came up with items that could be raffled off and Dal Sackett had the idea to solicit prize donations.

The annual charity raffle blossomed from there. The Marine Corps Reserve's "Toys for Tots" program was selected as our charity after careful consideration. We liked the idea of making kids smile and the fact the Marine Corps Reserves would send out a representative to receive our donation. Even though our first donations were small, they were still important to them. We considered switching to other charities in subsequent years, but have elected to stay with "Toys for Tots." Our club has informally adopted a motto that guides our charity drive – "It's all about the kids."



The 2016 quilt donated for the raffle by Cassidy Jane.

Toys for Tots • The Cowboy Way . . .

Solicitation of raffle prizes is the key to making the event successful. Dal Sackett has been the prize coordinator since the beginning. He and Sammy Jo (SASS #89159) have done an exceptional job at bringing in items that will generate interest during the raffle. The prizes come from vendors of Cowboy Action Shooting™ merchandise and local businesses, members of the Panhandle Cowboys, and other Cowboy Action Shooting™ Clubs.

The Panhandle Cowboys and the Panhandle Cattle Company each donated a year's free shoots. The Panhandle Cowboys also annually donate the proceeds for the December match to the cause and will typically donate additional moneys to round the donation up to the next milestone. Free entries to The Ambush at Cavern Cove (North Alabama Regulators), Showdown in Purgatory (Mississippi Peacemakers), and Dark Day on the Santa Fe (Florida State Black Powder Championship) were also donated. The Escambia River Gun Club (our home range) donated a year's membership.

We presented a check for \$4,000 to representatives from the Marine Corp Reserves "Toys for Tots" program at our match on December 13, 2015. Word has gotten around that this event is about cowboys and shooting guns, so there is not a shortage of marines willing to come out on a Sunday morning to pick up the check. Six marines, three lieutenants, a sergeant, and two corporals, active duty and reserve, attended in full dress blues. After the presentation

of the check, the marines changed clothes and stayed to shoot the match with us. Several of the Panhandle Cowboys volunteered to sponsor a marine and provided guns, ammo and mentoring throughout the match. One of our Panhandle Cowboys (Eight Finger) came out and volunteered to sponsor a marine, even though his health no longer allows him to shoot. WEAR TV (ABC) filmed the presentation of the check and interviewed our president Jeb Stuart Foley and the first four shooters on Posse 1. The video aired on the 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. news on December 13, 2015.

We believe it is important to give back to the community and events like this can help build lasting and positive relationships. In our case, it also helps to build relationships with nearby military bases, which are a potential source of new shooters. We think that this is quite an accomplishment for a small club like ours, and hope we may have inspired other clubs to consider what they might accomplish in addition to being a Cowboy Action Shooting™ Club. 🤠

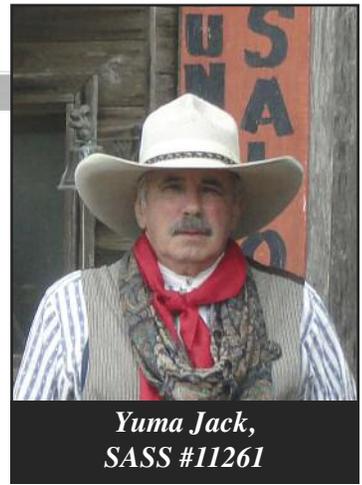


Kid Whiskey (SASS #101498) and Alabama Shootist (SASS # 19768, inset) demonstrate Cowboy Action Shooting™ for WEAR TV audiences.

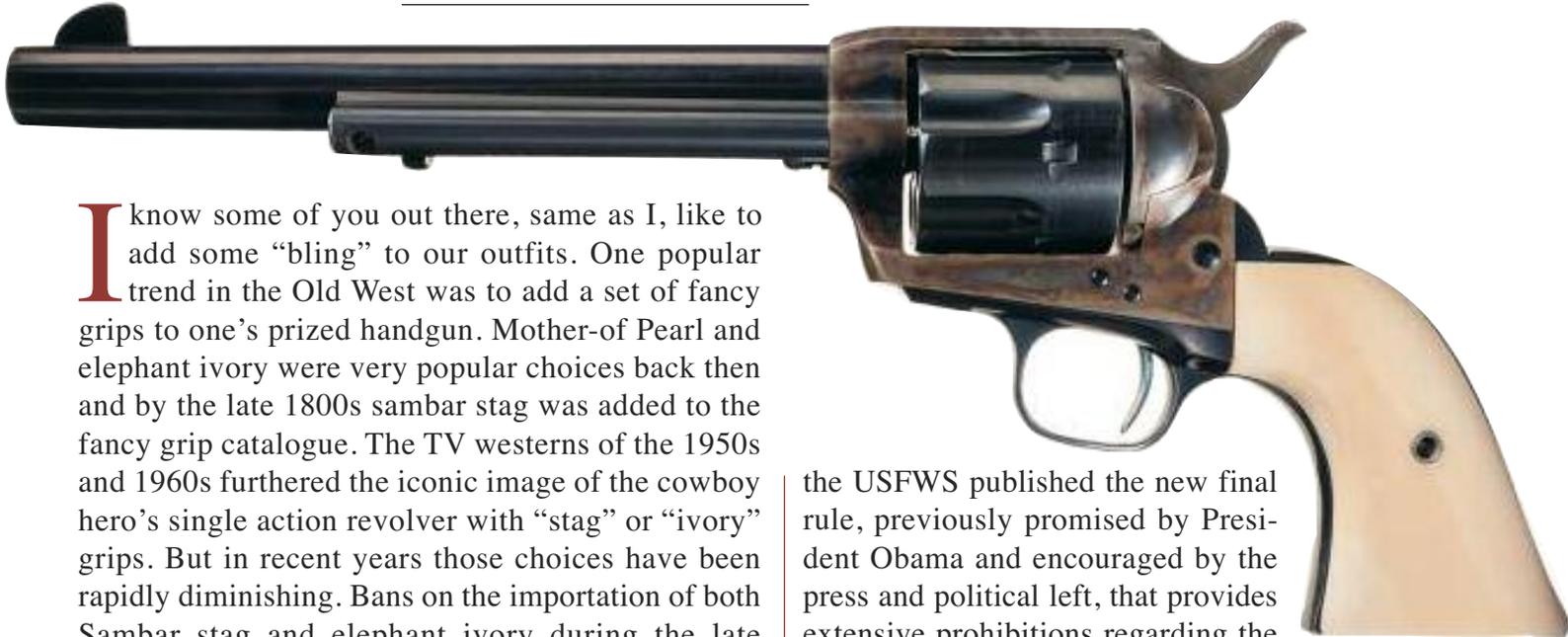
News

THE BANNING OF AN ICON

By Yuma Jack, SASS #11261



Yuma Jack,
SASS #11261



I know some of you out there, same as I, like to add some “bling” to our outfits. One popular trend in the Old West was to add a set of fancy grips to one’s prized handgun. Mother-of Pearl and elephant ivory were very popular choices back then and by the late 1800s sambar stag was added to the fancy grip catalogue. The TV westerns of the 1950s and 1960s furthered the iconic image of the cowboy hero’s single action revolver with “stag” or “ivory” grips. But in recent years those choices have been rapidly diminishing. Bans on the importation of both Sambar stag and elephant ivory during the late 1900s have driven up the costs for fitting such adornments to our hardware. But this year the actions of the US Government have taken a new but not surprisingly sweeping turn.

Historically, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) held that most ivory in the United States has been legally imported and its sale in the US did not materially contribute to the illegal ivory trade. But others have argued the legal market in ivory just provides cover for the illegal trade since it is virtually impossible to distinguish between legally and illegally imported ivory once it is in the country. So recently

the USFWS published the new final rule, previously promised by President Obama and encouraged by the press and political left, that provides extensive prohibitions regarding the commerce of African elephant ivory in the US. Basically the rule completes a near-total elephant ivory ban intended to cut off opportunities for traffickers.

Effective July 6, 2016, this final rule prohibits most commerce in ivory but makes specific, limited exceptions for certain pre-existing manufactured items such as musical instruments, furniture pieces, and firearms that meet specific criteria. Ivory can be sold out of state only if it’s more than a hundred years old or is a small part of manufactured products such as an ivory-handled gun or part of a musical instrument. What this means is, if you wanted to have real elephant ivory

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The Banning Of An Icon . . .

grips fitted to your favorite handgun it now may be too late. The rule appears to prohibit the interstate sale of any grips unless they meet the definition of an Endangered Species Act (ESA) antique or contain a *de minimus* amount of ivory. Some grip makers are working from an interpretation that they can still make ivory grips for your gun if you are both in the same state. That way they avoid the interstate commerce prohibition. But more information on that point will be provided later. If your favorite grip maker lives in another state you may have to purchase a gun with the grips already installed. Some well-established grip makers have already just backed away from making ivory grips entirely.

But what if you already have a gun with elephant ivory grips? There is no problem with you keeping the ivory grips on the gun as long as the ivory was acquired legally. You can even sell the gun out of state with the grips installed if the grips meet ESA antique criteria or constitute a *de minimus* amount. Meeting the ESA antique criteria starts with the ivory being at least 100 years old and then adds additional detailed criteria. That is probably not a common situation among many gun owners although some may have actual antique firearms with documented antique ivory grips. USFWS has stated they responded to the NRA and gun owners, as well as musicians and musical instrument makers, by adding the *de minimus* exemption, which many reporters tend to over-simplify by indicating it means the item contains less than 200 grams of ivory. A set of grips for almost any handgun will easily fall below the 200-gram limit. But qualifying for the exemption is actually more complicated than that.

To qualify for the *de minimus* exception, manufactured or handcrafted items (*e.g.* the ivory grips) must meet all of the following criteria:

1. If the item is located within the US, the ivory must have been imported prior to January 18, 1990, or was imported under a prior Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) certificate with no limitation on its commercial use.

2. If the item is located outside the United States, the ivory must have been removed from the wild prior to February 26, 1976.

(Continued on page 28)



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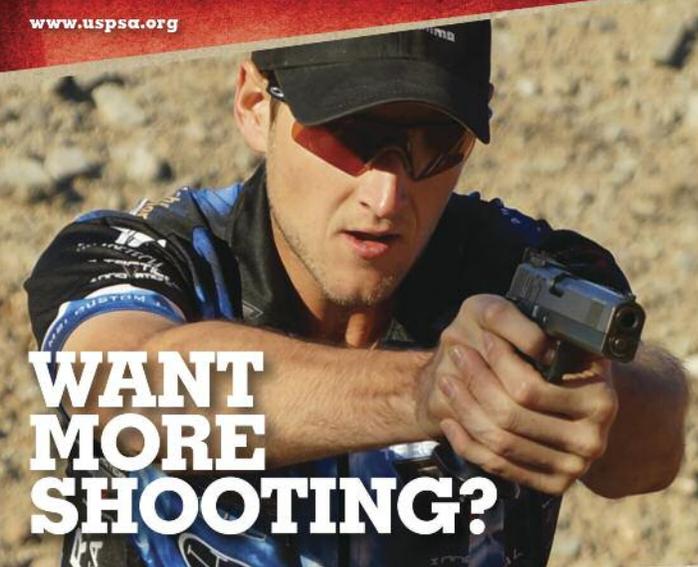
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The Banning Of An Icon . . .

(Continued from page 27)

3. The ivory is a fixed or integral component of a larger item and does not account for more than 50 percent of the value of the item.

4. The ivory is not raw.

5. The item is not made wholly or primarily of ivory, that is, the ivory components do not account for more than 50 percent of the item by volume.

6. The total weight of the ivory component is less than 200 grams.

7. The item was manufactured or handcrafted before the effective date of this rule.

The parts of this exemption that drive record keeping are probably the criteria numbered 1, 3 and 7. Number 2 is probably not a concern of yours at this point and the grips are obviously not “raw” (#4) since they have been made already. Criteria numbers 5 and 6 are easily met by visual and physical measurements at any time. So keeping a record of the purchase price and date for the grips and the value of the gun becomes vitally important. And, if you can obtain documentation from the grip maker that the ivory was imported before 1990, it would also be beneficial.

But why keep these records? Well at this point, if you want to resell your ivory grips to someone outside of the state where they are now, you will need to meet the antiques or *de minimus* exemptions. In the latter case it means you will need to sell them on the gun and the value of grips cannot exceed 50 percent of the selling price. If you purchased the grips from a grip maker in your home state after July 6, 2016 you will not be able to meet the *de minimus* exemption and will be prohibited from selling them here. You as the seller are responsible for proving all the exemption criteria are met. Only grips meeting the ESA antiques criteria

can be sold to someone outside the US.

What if your neighbor or shooting buddy in your home state wants to buy the ivory grips? Well for now it appears that could be legal—but only if you don’t live in one of the zealous states that have enacted legislation totally banning the within state sale of all ivory, including teeth and tusk: California, New Jersey, New York, and recently Hawaii. The new USFWS ban only applies to African elephant ivory, but the state bans include elephant, walrus, and fossil mammoth ivory. New Jersey adds elk ivory as well. A Washington state ban covers only elephant and walrus ivory. Nine other states have draft ivory ban bills under review but ivory ban bills have been stopped in 14 states this year.

If you don’t want to or are legally unable to sell your grips you can still donate or give them to someone, even in another state, providing the ivory was acquired legally. Note that the burden of proof of legal acquisition rests with you. The new rules do, however, restrict non-commercial exports (*i.e.* out of country donations) to antiques, legally acquired pre-1976 musical instruments, or inherited ivory items that meet certain requirements.

These new rules do complicate and severely restrict the ivory market. Whether they will serve to save a single elephant is still the subject of much debate. But as more states respond to the lobbying efforts of every animal rights group in the country by enacting state legislation banning ivory sales within states, those grip makers in your home state eventually may not be able to serve you either. So those ivory grips you legally purchased to “enhance” your favorite six-gun may, in the future, actually devalue your gun. They may even make it impossible to sell if left on. You will then find yourself in the unfortunate position of possessing a once prized object—purchased legally—that had value but has been stripped of that value with the stroke of the bureaucratic pen through another governmental fiat. At that point, only China and the black market will benefit from the prior value of ivory.

—Originally published in the July 2016 edition of The Texas Star, Newsletter for the Texican Rangers. Used with permission. 



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SEPTEMBER 27 - 29, 2014

Steam Punkers

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The 2014 Hell Fire Annual Match had a Steampunk theme.

After the publication of my Steampunk article in the May 2016 edition of *The Cowboy Chronicle*, I received some positive feedback from shooters who are enjoying Steampunk costumes. Steampunk has a tremendous diversity of appeal. It is a great way to wear the clothes of the Victorian era and enjoy Steampunk's unique approach to technology. Whatever the appeal may be for you, it allows for plenty of imagination with no "rules" for putting together a costume.

My article in May discussed the history of Steampunk, where it comes from, and what it is and is not. As stated in the article, Steampunk is basically Vic-

torian science fiction and fantasy based on a period of time rather than a culture. Steampunk imagines what it would be like if the Victorians had used steam power and clockwork to make gadgets like we have today and how Victorians envisioned themselves based on their perspective of fashion and culture.

So, let's move forward to modern day Steampunk. Many of you remember the 1999 movie *The Wild Wild West*, starring Will Smith. It was a Steampunk "western" movie. You might remember seeing all the mechanical and steam-powered gadgets in the movie. Welcome to today's Steampunk popularity. Every year the interest in Steampunk seems to grow. Steam-

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STEAMPUNK costuming

for Cowboy Action Shooting™



Amber Ale, Texas Flower, and Nellie Blue.



Cat Ballou with Texas Flower at EOT 2016.



punk events and conventions are held all over the world, with many in the United States. An Internet search can provide information on events and conventions.

As you can see in the accompanying pictures, there were some great Steampunk costumes at END of TRAIL 2016. Recently on the SASS Wire, I saw a picture of a unique Steampunk gun built by a SASS cowboy. A few Cowboy Action Shooting™ clubs have held Steampunk themed matches. At the one I attended, any shooter could dress Steampunk, but to shoot in the “Steampunk Category” the shooter was *required* to

be dressed in Steampunk attire.

I understand Steampunk does not appeal to everyone and some of you shoot in categories that require specific dress, but for those who like a variety of costumes, Steampunk is another option and costumes are a lot of fun to design and wear. Imagination and creativity is all you need. To get costume ideas, do a search on the Internet for “images of Steampunk costumes.” If you sew or have someone to sew for you, there are many Steampunk patterns in the costume section of the pattern books. For ready-made costumes for both men and women,

(Continued on page 32)



Texas Mac's Steampunk top hat.

STEAMPUNK costuming for Cowboy Action Shooting™



(Continued from page 31)

a website like www.steampunkemporium.com sells costumes and accessories.

After you look at pictures of Steampunk costumes and decide what you like, look through your cowboy closet for clothes and hats that can be used for your costume. The basic rule is to start with clothing of the Victorian era then add as many accessories as you feel comfortable using. That might be a special hat, a cane, or a decorated corset. Yes ladies, decorate those corsets and wear them on the outside! You can use gears, fly-wheels, chains, or anything mechanical to decorate your costume. Hobby stores, costume stores, and even hardware stores are good places to look for items to use. Any boots or shoes are acceptable and you can decorate them as well with chains or straps made from



Steampunk corset you can find on Ebay.

old belts. Of course, goggles are an important part of the Steampunk theme. They are not mandatory, but they often complete the look. Ebay.com has everything from clothes and hats to any accessory you might need. **Gentlemen**, Steampunk is **not** just for the ladies. Those top hats look great decorated. A pocket watch is the perfect accessory.

Your Steampunk costume can be as simple or as elaborate as you choose to make it. But, once again, it is all about the fun and enjoyment of the costuming associated with our sport! 🤠

(See more COSTUMES on next page)

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Dirty Nerdy in Steampunk shooting outfit at EOT 2016.

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Dragon Hill Dave at EOT 2016.



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Squawty Bawdy at EOT 2016.

Annual Reports

SHOOTOUT AT HARD TIMES SASS OHIO STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

May 27 - 29, 2016

HONORING THE AMERICAN FARMER

By Fletch O Dubois, SASS #14224

How can you build on perfection? Like a bunch of shooters, I'd been anticipating this unique event for quite some time. To say last year's Memorial Day State Championship was a hum-dinger

would be an understatement... so, how was Mean Gun Mark, Boaz, and Buckshot Jones going to surpass that? Well, to start with, the Miami Valley Cowboys developed each and every detail of this year's



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Shootout at Hard Times . . .

competition based on in-depth analysis of last year's thirteenth holiday event.

The fourteenth annual Ohio State Championship has continued a long succession of events in SASS. The Piqua Fish & Game Protective Association club offered the ideal shooting venue for this historic event, particularly for those who love to shoot fun and challenging courses of fire. The Miami Valley Cowboys had everything under control. The campground located next to the shooting venue was ready for an influx of motor homes, trailers, and tent campers. The cowboys also provided a Friday evening steak dinner at their clubhouse after all the side matches had been shot.

To show you how they have not only grown locally but in national flavor, 190-plus cowboys and cowgirls from not only Ohio and Indiana but several other adjoining states were competing as well. I was fortunate to shoot with posse leader Wilbur Rexroat, his bride Rose Louise Reasoner, and several of our brothers and sisters from the Midwest. And to a person, they all

agreed it was the hospitality of Mean Gun Mark and the stage designs that made this a very memorable event. They plan to spread the word to have even more of our friends and neighbors come next year.

Day one broke cool and clear and the weather girl's promise of the rains holding off held for the weekend. Shooters assembled in front of the gallows for opening ceremonies. First, Mean Gun Mark set the tone by welcoming all shooters; Boaz gave the safety briefing and last minute range instructions; Wild Wyatt Wolf led us in prayer; we did the Pledge of Allegiance; and we were off. "Honor The Hard Working American Farmer" was the theme for this year's event and Blue Hair did an outstanding job in researching and developing the shooters' handbook for the twelve-stage event to pay tribute to REAL people.

Each stage was designed for maximum shooter scenario interface... and fun! For example, at stage six (the "Big Oz's Barnyard), you began with two pistols holstered and the rifle staged on a table at the far end of the barnyard, the shooter started with shot-

(Continued on page 36)

Shootout at Hard Times

(Continued from page 35)

gun in hand near the entryway to the barnyard. The call to action was, "Get your gun, they're stealin' the cattle." Shooters had to maneuver through the barnyard and engage a series of six knock down shotgun targets that were simulated to be in little pens while traversing to the table where the rifle was staged. Once there, they retrieved the rifle and had to make two sweeps on the windmill in a hi-low, hi-low, center pattern, (or low-high, low-high center) once this was completed they were able to shoot their sixguns in the same order as the rifle. It was quick, fun, and gave the shooter options on how they preferred to complete the stage. The stages were quick. Missouri Lefty (more on him later) managed to scramble through this maze in 23.05 seconds!

What impressed me the most was the number of younger shooters who were out for their first time ever shooting major state match. After two fun-filled and action-packed days of competition, the winners emerged. The low score of 210.3 was posted by



Young Gun Missouri Lefty, and hot on his heels Sage Chick, who shot the match in 226.93 in the Cowgirl Category and won Top lady. This year I shot B-Western on Wilbur's posse with my 1901 vintage Model '97, a pair of Colt New Frontiers, and my trusty Marlin. I'd like to report I hit all the targets, but I didn't. However, one of my posse mates, and of note, a Young Gun shooter named

Thomas Quigley, was able to shoot the match clean!

Let me say one more thing about our younger shooters... this year in particular, we need to bring as many younger shooters into our sport as possible while they can still enjoy all the camaraderie we have to offer. Our Overall Champion serves as a role model for others to follow. His scores are impressive. I'd like to highlight one stage in particular... stage eight, the Blacksmith Shop. Rifle 10 rounds, pistol 10 rounds, and shotgun 2+; all AGAP. (For those not in the know--AGAP is as gamey as possible.) You could shoot the guns in any order but couldn't end with the rifle. You had to do two separate 2-1-2 sweeps with the rifle. The pistols were the same as the rifle and the shotgun was two knockdowns on either side of the area. The shooter could start with guns in hand, shot shells could be in hand but not touching the gun. From what I un-

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Everyone had a blast at EOT!

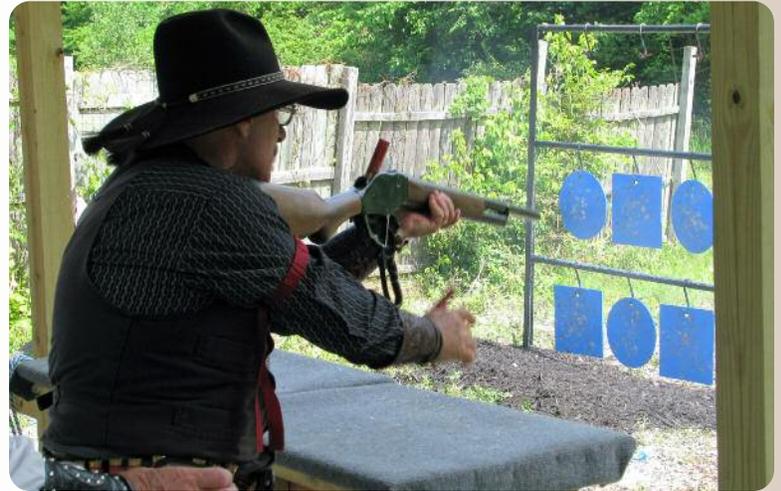


Shootout at Hard Times

derstand, it was a blur, Missouri Lefty fired all 10 rifle, 10 pistol, and both shotgun rounds in 8.10 seconds! Holy Cow!

The Saturday night banquet catered by the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Covington was a tasty treat. Fried chicken, fried fish, beans, taters, rolls, and cupcakes—what more could a hungry cowboy want. Door prizes followed later and someone won a .22 single action pistol and another won a Hornady Lock & Load reloading press! Yee Ha!

Congratulations to all those who took part in the side matches as well. Smokin' Iron and Honey B. Quick did a fantastic job as side match directors. I had a chance to participate in the Wild Bunch side match and it was not only fun, but a hoot to watch as smoke billowed from the ends of those old 1911's. Complete match results are posted at the Miami Valley Cowboys web site (<http://www.miamivalleycowboys.org>) as well as the SASS web site.



The Piqua Fish & Game Protective Association is so easy to get to from anywhere in the country. The club is just a short jaunt north of Dayton. And speaking of Dayton, there are two more big events in Ohio this year. The first just took place near Middletown, half way between Dayton and Cincinnati. Their wonderful shooting complex was again be the location of The Guns of August (Guns of August is conducted the second week of August) which continues to be such a popular event because of its reputation for fun, friendliness, beautiful setting, and central location. It is easy to get to, having two major airports in the vicinity. Also another great event and place to go within an half hour's drive of Dayton will be the Ohio State Wild Bunch Championship sponsored by the Greene County Cowboys on the grounds of the Greene county Fish & Game on the weekend of September.

For further information on The Guns of August—or the host sponsors, The Big Irons—contact Deadwood Stan at 513-422-5112 or Lassiter at 937-687-1039. Of course, for the Wild Bunch Match it's best to check out Ruger Ray at the Greene County Cowboys (dirmccoy@gcfng.com) or their Face Book page. And of course, you can always visit the Sass website (www.sassnet.com) for up to the minute information.

– Fletch 



Wild Bunch

Muster at Fort Misery 2016

New York State Wild Bunch Championship

*By Roy Cassidy, SASS #23458, and Violet Cassidy, SASS #23459
Photos by Scout Wrangler, SASS #98068*



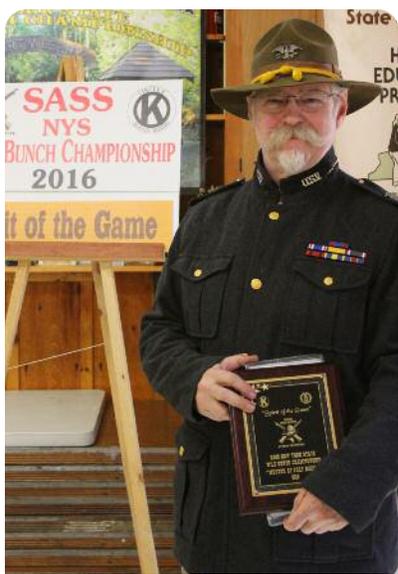
The third annual Muster at Fort Misery New York State Wild Bunch Championship (presented by the Circle K Rough Riders, Ballston Spa, NY) was held April 23 and 24. Saturday dawned cool but with the sun peeking out. Mother Nature smiled upon the shooters and held off the rain. Sunday was sunnier and warmer. Boy Scouts from Troop No. 54, Ballston Spa presented the col-

ors and Tom Payne (SASS #13115) gave a beautiful rendition of the Star Spangled Banner on his harmonica. Trail Boss Smokehouse Dan (SASS# 12524) then gave the safety meeting and it was time for the 48 Shooters to try and master 10 awesome and challenging (but fun) stages designed by Range Master, The Dude Bandit (SASS #20930). Rukus Flats Aerodrome, Stage 7, was the most





Modern Category Winners



Best Costume
Doc McCoy

talked about stage. It featured a one-quarter scale WWI biplane and working wind sock, built by our own Jess Lucky (SASS #74128). You can see how challenging the stages were, as we had no clean shooters—although they had a great time trying. The most talked about targets were our rabbit throwers and our double bird poppers. Other stages included moving targets, knock-down plate racks, knock

up targets, and dueling trees for each individual firearm. We were very happy to have Legendary Lawman (SASS #73160) and Serenity (SASS #64982), Wild Bunch Ambassadors from Canada, shoot with us. Also, Ron Soodalter from American Cowboy Magazine attended the match. He is doing an article on WBAS and our NYS Wild Bunch Championship for a future issue of the magazine. KF&GC members Dona and Eric Rutland provided breakfast (best egg sandwich in the east) and lunch for the shooters. Dona and Eric again did our Sat-

urday night dinner with 32 people in attendance. As always it was delicious and no one went away hungry.

(Continued on page 40)

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*Yukon Mike, Renegade Roper, Hawkeye Harry—
 New York State Wild Bunch Modern, Lady Modern, and Traditional Champions*

Muster at Fort Misery 2016 . . .

(Continued from page 39)

Thanks for the apple brownies, Dona. Serenity and Legendary Lawman also graciously gave us some SASS hats and T-Shirts to give away at the dinner. The Boy Scouts from Troop 54 were again on hand to pick brass.

Everyone was generous as they raised \$600 for their Troop. The Circle K Rough Riders would like to thank the many people who help to make this a successful and great shoot, and also to Sturm Ruger for



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Serenity, Renegade Roper, Annabelle Bransford—Lady Modern Winners

Muster at Fort Misery 2016 . . .

being our Main Match Sponsor, donating an SR 1911 Lightweight Commander, which won by the

Dude Bandit. The proceeds raised from this pistol (\$1200) was donated to the Milton EMTs who spent Saturday and Sunday with us. Thanks also to Brenda (Kay T Ryder) Kopp for doing our scoring; Margaret (Scout Wrangler) McDowell for volunteering her time to take all the photos you see here and on our Web Site, www.circlekregulators.com; our chronograph team, Homer Suggs (SASS #29505), Maurice “Mo” Lassas (SASS #65309), Feany Valentine (SASS #35024), and Stickman Tom (SASS #95720—not only

(Continued on page 42)



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Muster at Fort Misery 2016 . . .

(Continued from page 41)

did Tom help with the chronograph, but was our right hand man. Whatever needed doing Tom was there to do it. Thanks again Tom for showing us the “Cowboy Way”); and Kathleen (Cook County Kate, SASS #65310) Nadler for manning our “Infurmation Booth” and, with Mo Lasses, for decorating the club house for the dinner. It was a great match with many of the shooters saying they couldn’t wait till next year. Come join us next year to find out what all the talk and Wild Bunch is about. Check our Web Site www.circlekregulators.com for information and for a complete list of scores. *🐾*



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Serenity and James Samuel Pike



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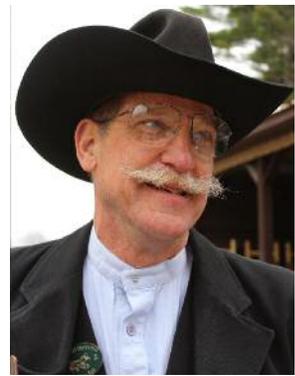
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Guns & Gear

DISPATCHES FROM CAMP BAYLOR

New Evil Roy Wild Bunch rig from Ted Blocker Holsters

By Captain George Baylor, SASS #24287 Patron Life Regulator



Captain George Baylor,
SASS Life / Rugulator #24287

Ted and Jean Blocker founded Ted Blocker Holsters in 1972. Don and Shelly Brown (Coho Kid, SASS #16095, and Brassy Shell, SASS #16096) bought Ted Blocker Holsters in 1999. Don had started his career in the holster making business in the early 1980s working for the George Lawrence Company. Don created a beautiful flower-carved Western Buscadero Rig that was presented to President



Mag Pouches are unique.



New Evil Roy Wild Bunch holster
from Ted Blocker Holsters.

Ronald Reagan. When the Lawrence Company stopped production in Portland, and not willing to leave Oregon, Don continued to produce holsters as DB Leather. Now Ted Blocker Holsters operates in a 4500-square-foot manufacturing facility and showroom located in Tigard, Oregon. Don created holsters for several television productions, including *Saving Grace*, *Southland*, *Private Practice*, *Sons of Anarchy*, and for Agent Seeley Booth of *Bones*. Recent movies include *Black Mass*, *Terminator 2*, *The Changelings*, *Public Enemies*, *Cowboys & Aliens*, and

Gangster Squad.

Long before all this, Don served in the US Army in the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam. The hat he wears while shooting is an 11th Armored Cav campaign hat, not a replica.

Last year Evil Roy started working with Don on new signature rigs both for Cowboy Action Shooting™ and for Wild Bunch Action Shooting. It took a while to get the rigs on the market because Evil Roy is very particular about his leather gear.

Don and Shelly were vendors at END of TRAIL, getting one of the

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3



Mag Pouches, top view.

A spring inside holds magazine in place, allowing it to “snap” out when pulled, and preventing the first round from catching on the leather and stripping out.

5



Holster is low cut in front, allowing forward motion as soon as the pistol clears.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

coveted spots in the big air-conditioned tent this year. They have been vending at major matches for some time. Don shoots Cowboy Action™ and Wild Bunch.

Shortly after END of TRAIL I received a Wild Bunch rig for testing. It consists of a left-hand holster, a shotgun/rifle ammo slide, and
(Continued on page 46)

4



Belt is suede lined so it “sticks” in place when worn.

The holster features the new patent pending ABL (adjustable belt loop), which will allow a shooter to use his Wild Bunch holster on a smaller belt for carry at the waist level with modern pants with belt loops.

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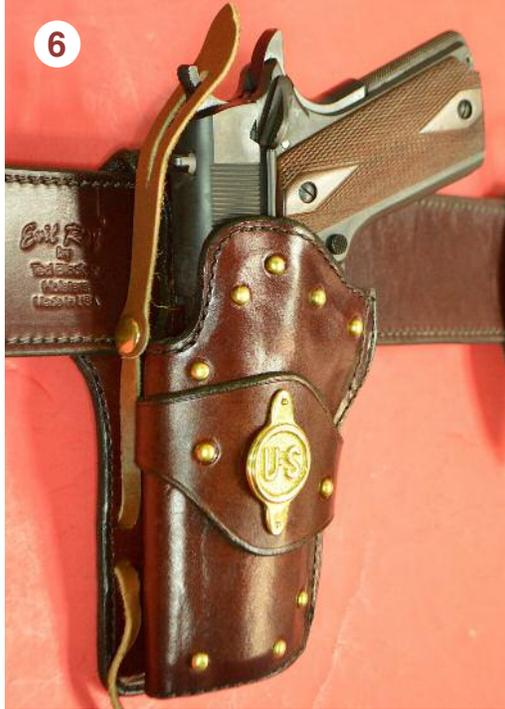
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Safety strap hooks over the hammer to hold pistol in place, but pulls off easily. I never felt I needed to use it.



Slide for spare shotgun/rifle ammunition snaps on or slides on the 2 1/2" belt.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

(Continued from page 45)

three double-mag pouches.

First, the quality of the leatherwork cannot be overstated. The top-grain vegetable tanned leather is beautifully finished. All edges are sanded, beveled, buffed and finished with an edge coat.

The holster is fully steel-lined with a pronounced sight channel.



Holster fits close to the body but allows a quick, consistent draw.

Evil Roy specified a straight drop holster, saying it is faster than a muzzle forward holster. It is neatly brass trimmed with a "US" badge. The overall impression is of a holster that wouldn't look out of place in a 1913 setting, but it has modern speed and security. It's a beautiful rig and passes close inspection.

It has a wide backing with an unusual cutout in the middle of the belt area. This is the new patent pending ABL (adjustable belt loop), which will allow a shooter to use his Wild Bunch holster on a smaller belt for carry at the waist level with modern pants with belt loops.

The mag pouches are am-

bidextrous, being rectangular in shape and not molded around the magazine. The magazines are held in by a curved spring that pushes the magazine against the outside of the pouch. At first fitting, the magazines were very tight so I left them in overnight. They popped out quickly when I tried them the next day. The tight fit ensures security but does not affect speed. The mags never hung up nor had a round stripped or pulled out of location, even in competition.

Buy four double mag pouches

I'll note that I normally carry four double pouches, 35-pistol-round stages are common, and I have encountered 45 rounds. Four double pouches are as far around as I can reach.

Barney Fife

I mount the last magazine in the rear "backwards" and with only one round in it. I don't remember who gave me the idea. Needless to say this magazine has received the name Barney Fife. Wild Bunch matches revolve around strings that are multiples of five. The magazines are limited to five rounds each. So if you have a bad round you have to eject, you're out of sync. If you insert a full magazine after losing a round, when you complete the string the magazine won't be empty and the slide will be forward. Then, when you need to move, even if you drop the magazine, you have a round in the chamber



9

Behind the holster (not part of the Ted Blocker rig) is a Redwing 1911 Screwdriver, which is a Screwknife with a 1911 barrel bushing wrench on the hilt. The purpose of the Screwknife is to clear a malfunction in a '66 or '73 rifle. (See The Cowboy Chronicle, December 2011, page 38.)



10

The last mag, which is "backwards" is the Barney Fife (a magazine with one round in it) for times when you eject a bad round.

Dispatches From Camp Baylor . . .

that has to be ejected and the slide locked back before you can move without receiving a stage DQ. So you insert the Barney Fife and fire the round and you're in sync. The gun is empty, and the slide is locked back. Now you can load the next mag or move to the next shooting position or restage the pistol and go to the next gun as needed.

Shooting

I took the rig to Founders Ranch for a practice session. The rig didn't need any break-in. Draws were consistent. I was averaging—oops, almost put down my times. That would have been counterproductive. Some of you would think I was exaggerating. Others would think I'm abysmally slow. Let's just say the draws were quick and consistent, with no impediments from the holster. The mag pouches worked very well with no bobbles. When I didn't bobble, the shot-to-shot times for mag changes were—let's just say quick for me. Shooting

Traditional category means shooting with one hand. It also means the fast way to do mag changes is, as soon as you insert the magazine, while the strong hand is shooting the pistol, the weak hand draws a magazine and brings it close to the gun so it can be inserted as soon as the empty magazine clears the mag well. It takes practice. I'm not there yet.

Then I shot a local match using the rig. The rig was comfortable, and everything went well, at least with the rig. My brain and trigger finger had problems, but we're not testing them for this column (thank goodness!)

Sbotshell/rifle ammo slide

The shotgun/rifle slide can be on your strong side on the mag belt or the weak side on the pistol belt. I wore this one on the weak side on the pistol belt this time. It

keeps me from having to reach all the way across my body to reach the rounds. We had a rifle reload, and it went pretty quickly. Having encountered several 10-round shotgun stages at major matches, I normally carry one four-round shotgun slide on each belt. Carrying only four guarantees I'll drop a round. Matches usually allow you to stage shotgun ammunition, but that's slower. It just means you need to buy two shotgun slides along with the four double-mag pouches for high pistol count stages. It's only money. If you're skinny you'll have to figure out where everything fits. No, that's not an excuse for gaining weight.

([Ted Blocker Holsters](#), 9438 SW Tigard Street, Tigard, OR 97223, 800-650-9742 toll free, 503-670-7972 phone, 503-670-9692 fax).

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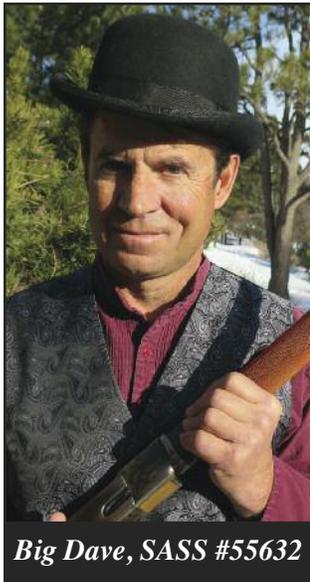


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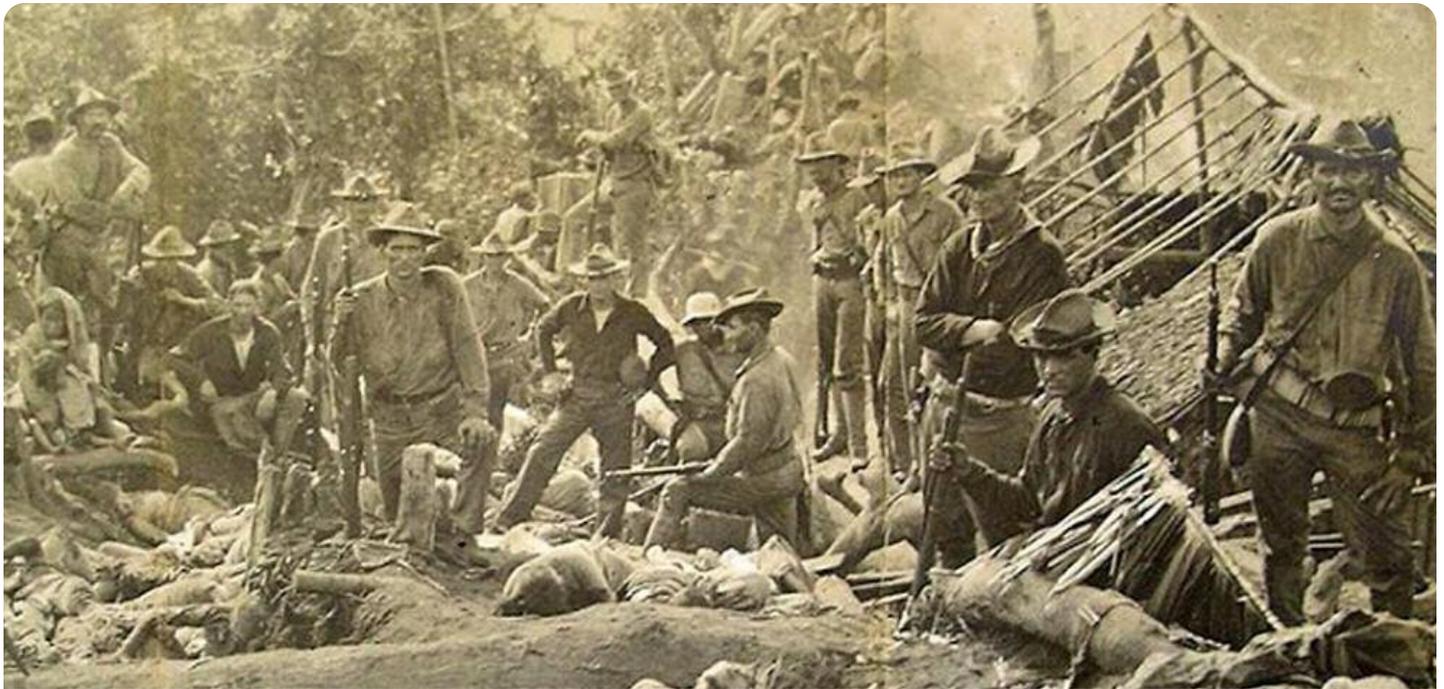
Big Dave, SASS #55632

History

THE MORO CONFLICT

Civilizing America's Asian Frontier

By Big Dave, SASS #55632



Aftermath of the First Battle of Bud Dajo—it is eerily reminiscent of images from My Lai.

Imagine you are an American soldier posted in the southern islands of the Philippines at the turn of the twentieth century. You hear a commotion and then a crazed tribesman with a sword is running towards you. You pull your .38 Colt revolver and fire five shots into the maniac at close range and if you're lucky he drops before the sword comes down on you. This was not an uncommon experience during America's conflict with the Moros.

When the United States acquired the Philippine Islands, it inherited an ongoing conflict with the Moros. The Moros, who were an Islamic tribal people, had been so difficult to manage that when the Spanish still held the Philippines they tended to

avoid the southern islands where the Moros lived. The crux of the matter was many of the Moros wished to be left to their own way of life, which often included piracy, banditry, slave trading, and kidnapping. They bitterly resented the intrusion of any foreigners. When the Philippines became a US territory in 1898 it was almost inevitable that the Moros and US troops would clash.

At first, it seemed the transition from Spanish territory to American territory would be peaceful. Representatives of the American government made it clear the US would grant a great deal of autonomy to the area and would in no way interfere with religious matters. However, when roads were built into



The Winchester 1897 shotgun proved an effective weapon during the Moro Conflict.

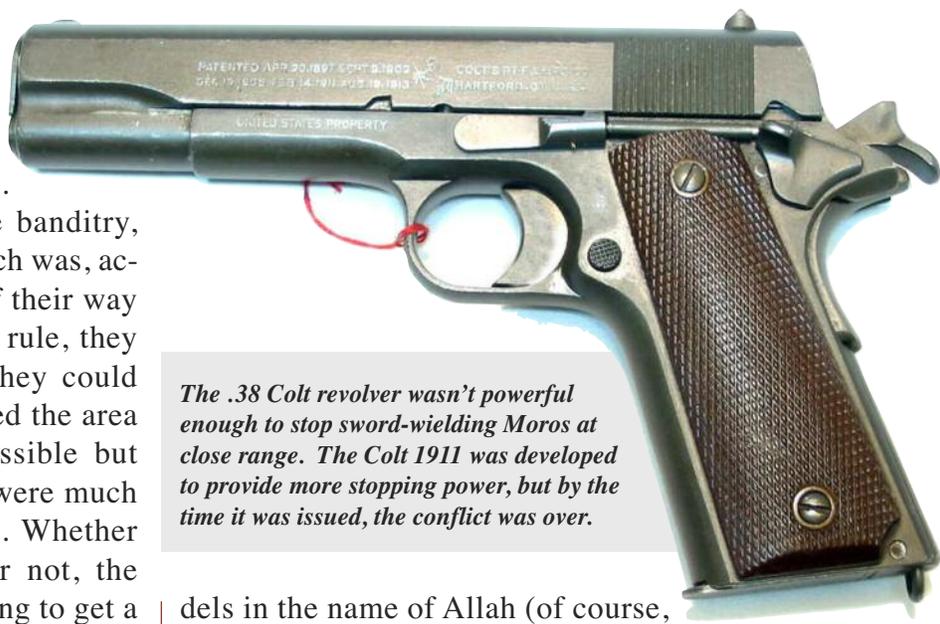
The Moro Conflict . . .

Moro territory, schools were built, a census was taken, and taxes were levied, the Moros began to feel “progress” was something they didn’t necessarily want.

Also, they wished to continue with the banditry, piracy, slave-trading and kidnapping, which was, according to one article, “as much a part of their way of life as their religion.” Under Spanish rule, they could get away with a lot more than they could under American rule. The Spanish ignored the area

as much as possible but the Americans were much more persistent. Whether they liked it or not, the Moros were going to get a dose of progress.

The Moros of the early Twentieth Century were a rather violent people who fought among each other as gleefully as they fought against foreigners and infidels. Moreover, they had quaint customs like running amok (going berserk and chopping up anyone and everyone) or becoming a *juramentado*—a swordsman who swore an oath to kill as many infidels as possible before being killed himself. To be a *juramentado* meant you could slice and dice infi-



The .38 Colt revolver wasn't powerful enough to stop sword-wielding Moros at close range. The Colt 1911 was developed to provide more stopping power, but by the time it was issued, the conflict was over.

dels in the name of Allah (of course, there would be rewards in Paradise). *Juramentados* were greatly respected in the Moro society, but the American territorial government wasn’t going to tolerate this sort of thing, especially when it was American servicemen being sliced and diced.

As the Philippine Insurrection drew to a close in 1902, American forces had increased contact with the Moros. There were a number of incidents in which American soldiers had been attacked by amoks, *juramentados*, or common bandits. When the local chieftains refused to hand over the culprits, punitive expeditions were sent into the area. This touched off a conflict that would take more than a decade to resolve.

Part of the problem had to do with geography. The Philippines consists of more than 1,700 separate islands—the Moro region was in the more remote southern area around the islands of Mindanao and Jolo. Not all Moros wanted to fight the Americans

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The Philippine Islands

The Moro Conflict . . .

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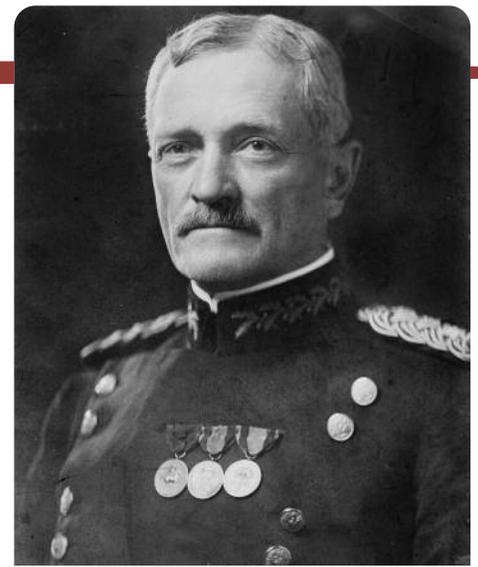
Moros in their traditional dress. They weren't very large people, but they were tough as nails. The women often fought side by side with their menfolk.

and there was confusion as to which tribes were peaceful and which tribes were not. There would be periods of peace followed by renewed fighting. In many ways, the conflict with the Moros resembled the conflict with the Indians of the American West. Some of the Americans sent to fight the Moros were veterans of the Indian Wars and brought with them the attitude that the only good Moro was a dead one.

The way the American soldiers expressed this was to “civilize them with a Krag” (the Krag-Jorgensen was the US Army’s rifle at the time). The euphemism comes from a popular song composed during the Philippine Insurrection called, “Damn the Filipinos.” One of the lines of the song was, “Underneath our starry flag, civilize ‘em with a Krag.” Thousands of Moros were “civilized” during the conflict. Ca-

sualties among the Americans were fairly light—less than 500 in almost 12 years of sporadic fighting. In retrospect it is fortunate C4 explosives hadn’t been invented yet and the Moros had no access to dynamite, since their attacks were often suicidal anyway. At least they didn’t get a chance to rig themselves as human bombs.

There were a few pitched battles between the Americans and the Moros that had predictable results. Although the Moros were incredibly brave and determined, most of them did not have access to modern weapons. From the standpoint of the American soldier, this was a good thing. Another good thing was the Moros didn’t tend to resort to classic guerilla warfare. If they had, the problem of suppressing them would have been even more difficult. Instead of fighting in the jungle, the Moros would make a stand



John J. Pershing

in their fortified villages, where the better armed and supplied Americans had a distinct advantage.

After a series of attacks on American soldiers in Mindanao, a punitive expedition was sent to the fortified village of Prandapatan in May, 1902. Despite a desperate defense, the Americans overran the village and the casualties among the Moros were unusually high—about 300 to 400 as opposed to about 50 American casualties. This led to accusations back in the US that our soldiers had been shooting indiscriminately at anything that moved. They probably were. During a conflict of this type, it wasn’t a bad idea to shoot first and ask questions later, at least if you wanted to come home again.

Some folks back in the States thought this was “bad form.” It was easy for them to say, given the they weren’t the ones forced to make split second decisions. The whole conflict was rather ugly and the Moros wondered why the Americans didn’t wipe out every village they encountered. It seems American troops showed some restraint after all. In fact, the Americans were careful to avoid mistaking “friendlies” for hostiles.



The Moros lived in the southern islands of the Philippine chain, primarily in Mindanao and Jolo.

became *de facto* commander of American operations in Moro territory. Preferring to use diplomacy instead of force, Pershing sought to build as friendly relations as were possible with the Moros and to resort to military solutions only when all other options had been exhausted. Pershing went so far as to learn some of the Moros' language and as a result was highly respected by his opponents. When force was called for, Pershing wielded it effectively. His relative obscurity was about to come to an end. President Theodore Roosevelt was impressed by his handling of the complex situation in Moro territory.

Pershing was eventually sent back to the United States where he received his well-deserved promotions. His successor, General Leonard Wood, created the Moro Constabulary, which was recruited from friendly Moro tribes. The Constabulary was extremely effective. Though Wood hoped to prevail through diplomacy, he came to the conclusion the renegade Moros only respected force. In a way, he

was probably right. Moro culture was based on notions that were more applicable in medieval times than in the twentieth century.

"Peace" in Moroland was sporadic at best—there would be quiet times followed by renewed hostilities and there was always the danger of individual Moros trying to chop up American soldiers in order to gain Paradise. General Wood thought the only way to put an end to this pattern would be to give the Moros "a

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The Moro Conflict . . .

They were much more careful than they had been during the settlement of the West.

A rather famous American commander came to prominence during the conflict with the Moros. This was John J. "Black Jack" Pershing, who was only an intelligence captain at the time. (Pershing was in his early 40s in 1902—which says a lot about the snail's pace of promotion in the US Army of those days.) Though he was still a junior officer, Pershing



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The Moro Conflict . . .

(Continued from page 51)

sound thrashing.” “I have decided,” he wrote, “to go thoroughly over the whole valley, destroying warlike supplies and dispersing and destroying every hostile force, and destroy every [fortified village] where there is resistance. While these measures may appear harsh, it is the kindest thing to do.”

Wood’s policies culminated in the First Battle of Bud Dajo in March, 1906, which was fought on the island of Jolo. It was a lopsided American victory in which a force of 750 Americans and Moro Constabularies defeated a force of more than 1,000 Moros. There were less than 100 American casualties compared to almost 10 times that number of Moros. In other words, the Moro force was almost completely wiped out. There were very few prisoners taken and the First Battle of Bud Dajo is sometimes referred to as the “Bud Dajo Massacre.” Among the dead were many women and children.

Unfortunately, the Moros had a tradition of bringing their families with them when they went to war. To make matters worse, the women often dressed as men and fought beside them. Neither the men nor the women were inclined to surrender. Bud Dajo was fought in a mountaintop crater, which the American and Moro Constabulary force had surrounded. Colt machine guns had been hauled up the mountain and fired into the crowded Moro defenses. In those circumstances, it was hard to avoid “collateral damage.” That having been said, it doesn’t seem anyone tried too hard to avoid it.

The particulars of the battle got into the newspapers under headlines of “Women and Children Killed.” Critics of the Roosevelt Administration and of the Philippine venture in general got stirred up. Joan Baez wrote an anti-war song. (Wait a minute! She hadn’t been born yet.) There was the predictable hand-wringing and General Wood had to come up with an explanation. Wood dissimulated and then fortunately for the military and not so fortunately for the people of San Francisco, a massive earthquake struck that city and diverted the press to a new tragedy which this time involved American women and children.



The Moro Constabulary was extremely effective in the suppression of hostile Moros. Its creation was inspired by the Apache Constabulary.

Leonard Wood was given a promotion and the next military governor of what became known as Moro Province was General Tasker Bliss. There were no major battles during this period but there were sporadic attacks on American soldiers, as well as incidents of banditry and piracy. Bliss had a policy of punishing the wrongdoers while avoiding major military actions. Whenever possible, Bliss employed the Moro Constabulary to confront recalcitrant Moro chieftains. Though he made a lot of progress with those Moros who wanted peace with the Americans, the attacks never completely stopped and it would have probably taken generations to completely pacify Moro Province. Shooting the occasional renegade Moro chieftain or *juramentado* seemed to have little lasting effect on the Moros, who wanted to cling to their more unpleasant traditions. They apparently needed another drubbing.

In November, 1909, John Pershing (now a general) returned to the Philippines to assume the post of military governor when Tasker Bliss’ term had ended. At first, Pershing attempted a non-confrontational policy. However, it was becoming increas-

The Moro Conflict . . .

ingly obvious that diplomacy wasn't working. One fine day in April 1911, Lieutenant Walter Rodney was walking along a road with his four-year-old daughter in a supposedly peaceful area on the island of Jolo. He passed a Moro who reached under his robes, drew a sword and began hacking at the hapless lieutenant in front of his horrified daughter. Lieutenant Rodney was nearly bisected before a sentry shot the Moro. The little girl, who didn't quite understand what had happened, kept screaming for her father to get up.

Pershing began to reconsider diplomacy. Although he knew it would lead to bloodshed, he issued an order to disarm the Moros. Except for the chieftains, every Moro who was not part of the constabulary had to turn in their weapons. Requiring a Moro to give up his sword was like requiring an American to give up his gun. Predictably, there was going to be another round of fighting.

The fighting culminated with the Battle of Bud Bagsak in June 1913. It was another lopsided American victory. The Moros who refused to comply with Pershing's order rallied around a rebel chieftain and fortified another mountaintop called Bud Bagsak. The Americans and Moro Constabulary forces overran the place after a massive artillery bombardment. There were 500 casualties on the Moro side compared to about 39 on the American side. The Moros weren't great tacticians and they fought to the end. Fortunately for Pershing, the newspapers didn't publish anything about the women and children. Pershing sent a letter to his wife describing the Moros as "absolutely fearless, and once committed to combat they count death as a mere incident."

"Mere incident" or not, the deaths of so many Moros at Bud Bagsak broke the Moro resistance. It had finally dawned on the remaining hostile Moros that it was useless to fight the Americans unless they wanted to prove that they could die bravely. There were a few more incidents, but nothing that resembled Bud Bagsak. The region was more or less pacified.

From an American standpoint, there were a few positive things that came from the Moro conflict. First of all, a new sidearm was developed for the US Army that had more stopping power than the .38

Colt revolver—the Colt 1911. The pistol wasn't issued until late in 1913 and did not play a role in the fighting, however, many US soldiers carried personal weapons that were chambered for the time-tested .45 Colt cartridge. A long gun familiar to SASS members, the Winchester Model 1897 12-gauge shotgun, did in fact play a role in the fighting against the Moros. For obvious reasons, it became a favorite weapon. The standard rifle was the Krag.

Another positive result of the Moro conflict was it provided a training ground for a generation of future leaders in the US Army. John Pershing, Leonard Wood, and Tasker Bliss would all play large roles in WWI. Pershing would become commander of the American Expeditionary Force at the Western Front in 1917.

Finally, the Moro conflict was America's first experience with a Muslim insurgency and it was successfully dealt with. Much of the success had to do with the fact that it was difficult for the Moros to obtain modern weapons. For all intents and purposes, the

(Continued on page 54)





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The Moro Conflict . . .

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area was under a blockade by American gunships. Also, the Moros were terrible tacticians. When in doubt, they tried the old fashioned massed charge. Armed with swords, the charges resulted in a form of mass suicide instead. It also didn't hurt the American cause that there weren't many journalists in the area. The suppression of the Moros was rather brutal, but with the exception of the Battle of Bud Dajo, the conflict received little publicity.

There is an enduring legend that during the Moro conflict Pershing approved of burying dead *juramentados* with pigs and of using bullets dipped in pigs' blood to discourage further attacks. (Obviously, to a devout Muslim it would be a horror beyond description to have anything to do with a pig, much less be interred with one.) There is no documentation to support this allegation. Furthermore, it is completely out of character with Pershing's personality and conduct. Though it is possible individual soldiers might have employed such methods, there is very little evidence of any use of pigs during this conflict. In the long run, it would have been counterproductive.

Ironically, the Colt 1911 was in fact used by Moros against the Japanese during WWII. During the Japanese occupation, the Moros waged an effective resistance after being supplied with weapons via air drops and US submarines. The .45 ACP wound up in the hands of the very people it was designed to stop in the form of the Colt 1911 and the Thompson sub



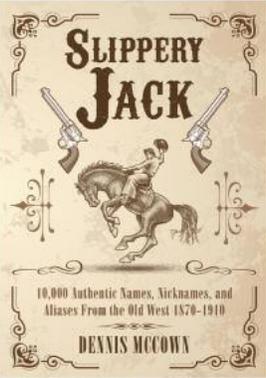
Examples of Moro swords.

machine gun. Of course, many of the Moros continued to dispatch the Japanese with their favorite weapon, the sword.

* * * * *

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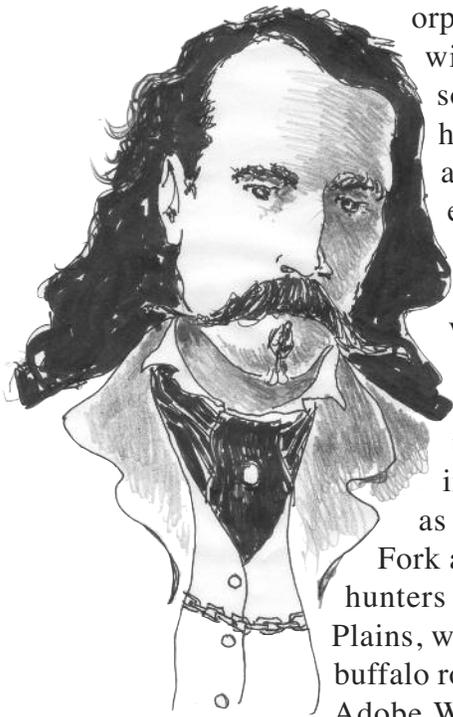
*Joe Fasthorse,
SASS #48769*

LITTLE KNOWN FAMOUS PEOPLE

- Way Out West -

By Joe Fasthorse, SASS #48769

William "Billy" Dixon was born in West Virginia on September 25, 1850, of European and American Indian ancestry. By age 12, Billy was orphaned and went to live with an uncle in Missouri. Two years later, he was an ox driver and a muleskinner at Leavenworth, Kansas. At age 19, he joined a hunting and trapping venture at Fort Hays, Kansas. When the hunting group moved to the Texas Panhandle in 1874, Billy scouted as far south as the Salt Fork and the Red River. The hunters explored the Texas Plains, where immense herds of buffalo roamed, and established Adobe Walls. The outpost was



attacked in June by a band of about 1,000 Comanches. On the third day, Dixon took aim with his Sharps rifle and killed an Indian warrior almost a mile away. It would go down in history as "The Shot of the Century" and effectively end the siege. In August 1874 Billy quit buffalo hunting to become an army scout. In September Dixon, another scout, and four troopers were surrounded by a large band of Kiowas and Comanches in Hemphill County. The detail took cover in a buffalo wallow and held the Indians off. After three days, the warriors broke off the fight. Every man in the detail was wounded and one trooper was killed. For this action, known as

The Battle of Buffalo Wallow, all the survivors were awarded the Medal of Honor. In 1883, Dixon moved to Adobe Walls and was postmaster for 20 years. He was state land commissioner, justice of the peace, and the first sheriff of Hutchinson County, Texas. Billy married Olive King in 1894 and they had seven children. The family moved to Oklahoma in 1906 and Billy died there in 1913. Billy Dixon is buried where he first became famous, at Adobe Walls. [📍](#)

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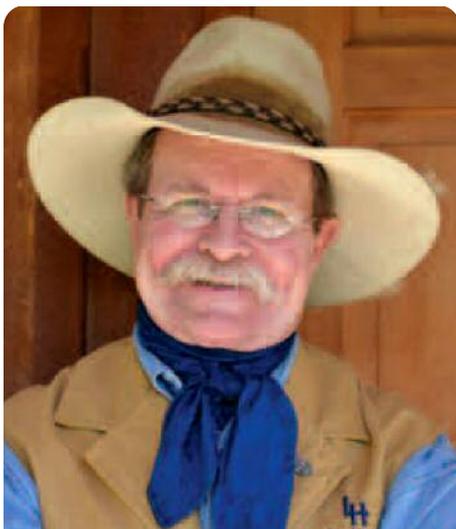
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Reviews - Products

THE TURBULENT TRAIL

Reviewed by Robert O. Wefald



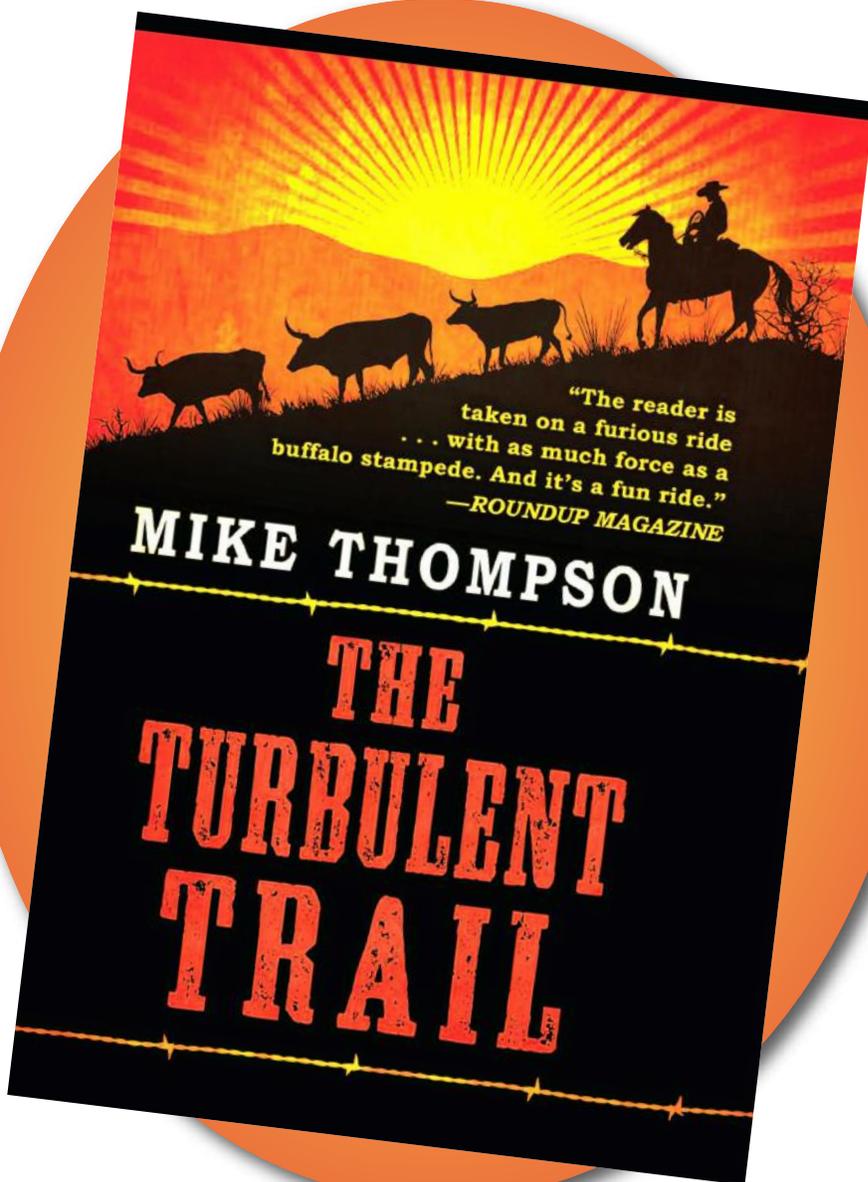
*Buckaroo, SASS #203,
author of The Turbulent Trail*

The Turbulent Trail, written by Mike Thompson (Buckaroo, SASS #203) follows the adventures of Charlie Deegan as a young man of 19 who joined the Army assigned to Fort Yuma in the Arizona Territory. His Army service is cut short by alcohol and a bar fight in which he kills a man, causing him to wind up in the Yuma Territorial Prison. This will not be the last time in the adventures of Charlie Deegan when, knowing he is an alcoholic, he yields to the temptation to have “just one drink.”

At the outset of this tale, despite a few good qualities, it's hard to really like Deegan. His temper, his drinking, and his fighting are not admirable traits. Nevertheless, his fast paced adventures and the situations in which he finds himself—and how he handles him-

self—gradually draws you into liking him as a man and as a character. He will not back down and he will plot his revenge when bad guys seek to hurt him. For instance, when he was in prison before his escape he planned and carried out the unseen killing of a

prison inmate who was a bully to the other prisoners. His escape was almost thwarted, but the great determination he showed in making his way on foot across the desert is a well-written epic adventure. The way Thompson has Deegan cleverly use escape and



The Turbulent Trail . . .

evasion tactics alone is reason to read this book.

This is fiction, and of course a good author can make anything happen, but as a tale of adventure it holds your interest. So finding an abandoned miner's shack, complete with a mummified old miner, supplies, weapons, equipment and a hidden stash of gold nuggets, just makes the tale more intriguing and an enjoyable read. In his continuing journey of escape, he enters a village and is confronted by Mexican *banditos* who have come to steal a silver crucifix from the local church. The priest denies its existence and a gunfight ensues. Deegan kills the *banditos*, the priest reveals the crucifix, and Deegan leaves his stash of gold on the altar. These acts of courage and character build your growing respect for him.

Thompson follows the technique he developed in *The Curse of Al Capone's Gold* and *Wolf Point*, writing short and to the point chapters which quickly move the action along, making you want to keep reading. I read this entertaining tale cover to cover pretty much non-stop as it hooked me and carried me grudgingly toward gaining some respect for Deegan. *A*

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Profiles

Scholarship Recipient 2015

Snowy Creek Angel, SASS #40827

Edited & Adapted by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000



*Justice Lily Kate,
SASS #1000*



It is an odd paradox, most of the world sees guns as a tool that polarizes and divides; however, since I was five years old I have known guns to be the tool that brings people together. My name is Cheyenne Ossen (Snowy Creek Angel), and my Dad, Powder Wash Kid (SASS#55500) introduced our family to Cowboy Action Shooting™ when I was old enough only to be a brass picker. I promise I am not as narcissistic as my name may make you think. At one Hell on Wheels match, we left all our pistols at home (four hours away). As my dad drove back to grab them he saw a road sign for “Snowy Creek” and thought it would be a perfect alias. Angel got tacked on the end of my name at some point, and I have dutifully informed anyone who calls me that, that it simply isn’t true. Finally, my sister became old enough to hold a shotgun and the four of us were deemed The Powder Wash Gang.

I slowly worked my way from brass picker to Buckarette. It was a little hard to make the transition because I knew I was giving up the most lucrative part of the sport (thank you all for tipping brass pickers so well). It was a struggle because I had a .410 shotgun that would literally knock me on my butt. Then, when I was twelve years old my dad bought a Winchester model 97 for me. I was honestly a little afraid of the 12 gauge. Of course, Dad wanted me to try it the day after I went to the lake and got a massive sunburn. So, I shot it and hated the gun because it really hurt my shoulder. Dad was crushed. The next week I timidly went to Rocky Mountain Regional Raid. The sunburn was gone and after my first stage I turned around with a huge grin on my face and yelled, “I love this gun!” It was in that moment I realized I loved the game!

Cowboy Action Shooting™ was the catalyst for extra-curricular learning for the Powder Wash Gang. As a home-schooled family we used matches as an opportunity to learn about history. I loved learning about the Cowboy and Indian wars, the customs, dances, and life on the prairie. I am convinced that Cowboy Action Shoot-

(Continued on next page)

Scholarship Recipient • Snowy Creek Angel, SASS #40827 . . .

(Continued from previous page)

ing™ is one of the reasons I am studying to be a history teacher! In addition, my sister and I sought out sewing lessons so we could make our own cowboy clothes. Being the overachiever I am, at fourteen I decided I had to become an RO. While my goal was to wear the cool pin, I ended up learning a lot about how stages operate, and gun safety. I would encourage all families with teens to put them through RO training. But we also learned things my mom was not so happy about, like what peach pie moonshine tastes like, or our first curse words. The Wild West is just that rough and tumble and a little wild.

However, the best part of being a cowboy is seeing all our old friends (who were literally old compared to us). My sister and I would run through the cowboy town greeting all our friends from the year before. Then the posse would gather, hug, and tell us how much we had grown. When I shot well everyone would celebrate with me. When my gun

jammed someone always knew what to do or had a replacement gun. My Mom never told my sister and me to be careful or stick around when we went to cowboy events because she knew everyone there was looking out for our safety.

The friendships that one creates with Cowboys and Cowgirls are the kind where you do not need to talk for months, but when you get back together you pick up right where you left off. It is the Cowboy way to teach each other what you know and share what you own. We know each other's favorite gun and western rig but really don't care what religion, race, or party that person is a part of. I did not go out to the range as a five, eight, twelve, or twenty year old because I loved dressing up, getting dirty, or being called "angel." What made me go shoot in the cold or the hot was the amazing family we gathered over the years. This is why I love being a Cowboy! Even as a junior at Colorado Christian University I have a family that I can count on—and I don't know most of their real names. 🤠

Original Interpretation in Modern Times What has the Supreme Court ruled about the meaning of the Second Amendment?

By Snowy Creek Angel, SASS #40827

Adapted & Edited by Justice Lily Kate, SASS #1000

The beauty of the government of the United States of America is found in its self-limiting checks and balances. The federal government is composed in a way that it has those checks and balances in place to counter political agendas. However, the Constitution also limits the ambitions of all branches by the power of the people. On December 15, 1791 the Second Amendment to the Constitution was passed and it states, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." While these liberating words are enshrined into America's founding document, since *Marbury v. Madison*, the case that established judicial review in 1803, it has been the responsibility of the Supreme Court to interpret this document. Which begs the questions, "What has the

Supreme Court ruled about the meaning of the Second Amendment and do you agree with their reasoning and conclusions?" One must begin by looking at the history of the Supreme Court ruling in reference to the Second Amendment and then compare the courts decisions to original interpretation to conclude whether individual gun rights are protected in the status quo.

In the news, we continually hear about the restrictions of gun rights, but this is mainly at a state level. The Tenth Amendment guarantees all rights not granted to the federal government belong to the states or the people. Thus states have the constitutional power to regulate gun rights to a point; moreover, state courts can uphold these laws. This was affirmed in 1875 in the case *US v. Cruikshank* (Acosta, 2008). The first radical

(Continued on page 60)

Original Interpretation in Modern Times . . .

(Continued from page 59)

gun rights case of the twenty-first century was presented in 2008 (Barrett, 2014). In *District of Columbia v. Heller*, the plaintiff sued the District for “prohibiting the carrying of a firearm in the home without a license, and the trigger-lock requirement insofar as it prohibits the use of functional firearms within the home.” On a 5-4 decision the court affirmed the right of the citizen to bear arms. Based on this decision, in 2010 the Supreme Court ruled on *McDonald v. Chicago* and on another 5-4 decision the court ruled that the Second Amendment applied to individual states. This means a state must respect the Second Amendment when passing gun legislation (Bravin,

2009). Today, the Supreme Court has been labeled “Gun Shy” and is extremely reluctant to hear any cases related to the Second Amendment (Winkler, *nd*).

Over the years the Supreme Court has been surprisingly protective of gun rights. It is the job of the Justices to interpret United States jurisprudence and so far they have done an excellent job sticking to original intent. James Madison, the most influential author of the Constitution wrote *Federalist 51*, which states, “The provision for defense must in this, as in all other cases, be made commensurate to the danger of attack. Ambition must be made to counteract ambition. The interest of the man must be connected with the constitutional rights of the place” (1788).



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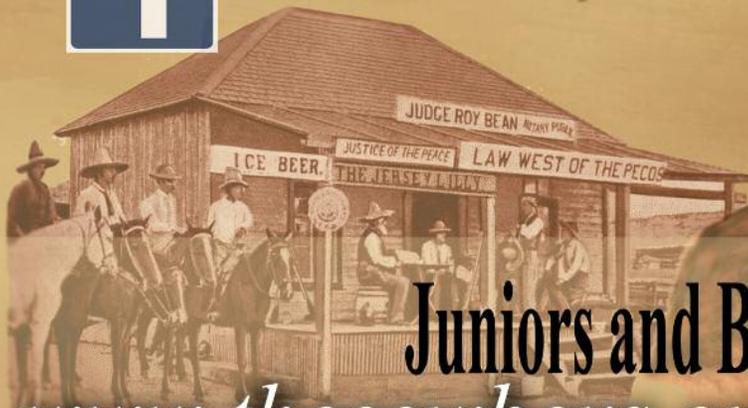
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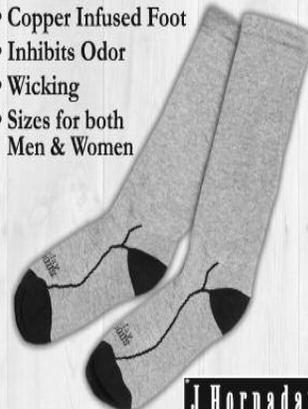
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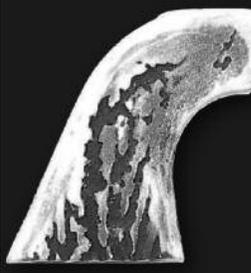
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ALL NEW STORIES

FARGO KID



IND

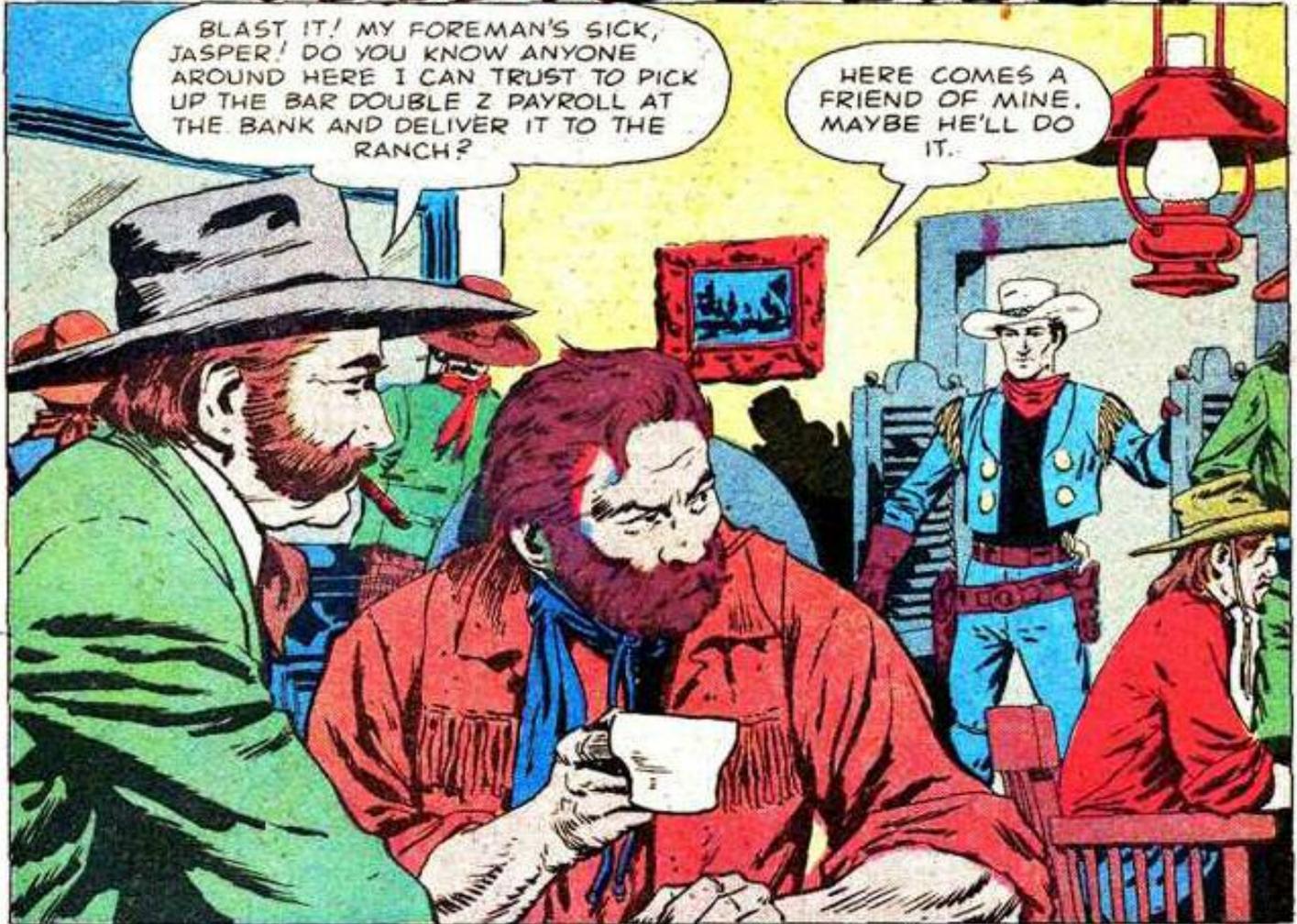
JUNE-JULY
1958

10¢



HE BLAZED A RUGGED AND COLORFUL TRAIL ACROSS THE OLD WEST. NO ONE COULD MATCH HIS COLOSSAL BRAVERY AND FIGHTING SPIRIT. HE WAS ...

The FARGO KID!



BLAST IT! MY FOREMAN'S SICK, JASPER! DO YOU KNOW ANYONE AROUND HERE I CAN TRUST TO PICK UP THE BAR DOUBLE Z PAYROLL AT THE BANK AND DELIVER IT TO THE RANCH?

HERE COMES A FRIEND OF MINE. MAYBE HE'LL DO IT.



HOW'D YOU LIKE TO MAKE SOME EASY MONEY AND DELIVER A PAYROLL TO THE BAR DOUBLE Z RANCH?

SORRY-- BUT THAT'S NOT A JOB FOR ME.



YOUR PAL-- **YELLOW?** AFRAID SOMEONE MIGHT TRY TO STEAL THE PAYROLL FROM HIM?

YELLOW? NOT HIM. LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT HIM! THAT'S THE FARGO KID!



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WHAT'S ALL THIS GOT TO DO WITH YOUR FRIEND BEING YELLOW?



"I'M COMIN' TO THAT. THE FARGO EXPRESS WAS DOWN TO ITS LAST DRIVER WHEN THEY GOT A JOB TO DELIVER 10,000 IN GOLD DUST."

OKAY, FRISBEE, I'LL TRY TO GET THE GOLD THROUGH-- BUT WHO'S GOING TO RIDE SHOTGUN?



A GUY WOULD HAVE TO BE PLUMB LOCO TO TAKE THAT JOB WITH THOSE MURDERIN' HIGHWAYMEN STILL AT LARGE!

YEAH-- IT'S LIKE ASKING SOMEONE TO DIG THEIR OWN GRAVE!



I'LL TAKE THE JOB.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, STRANGER? TIRED OF LIVING?



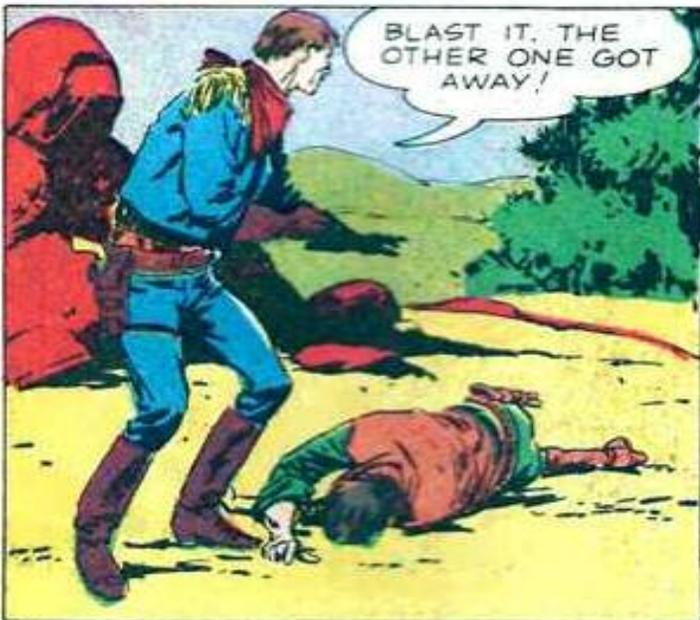
"THE TRIP STARTED OUT UNEVENTFULLY, BUT AS THE COACH STARTED WINDING ITS WAY DOWN THE RIVER ROAD..."

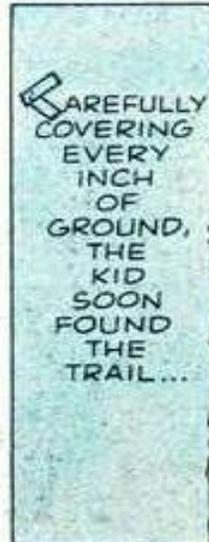
--THERE GOES THE RIFLE!

BLAM! BLAM!

HOLD ON! OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO RIDE RIGHT THROUGH THEM!









THE TRAIL LED TO A HARMLESS LOOKING CAVE DEEP IN THE WOODS...

I BETTER HAVE A LOOK INSIDE.



THIS IS QUITE A HAUL, BROWN.

THERE'S TOO MANY FOR ME TO TACKLE ALONE. I'LL GET THE SHERIFF AND A POSSE.



YOU MADE A BIG MISTAKE LEAVING BEFORE THE COACH SANK IN THE RIVER! IF HE ESCAPED, IT COULD MEAN TROUBLE. WE'LL DIVVY UP THE LOOT NOW AND SEPARATE!

HM! I DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE. I'M GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE THIS A ONE MAN JOB!



SINCE THIS IS THE ONLY WAY IN AND OUT, I KNOW JUST WHAT TO DO.



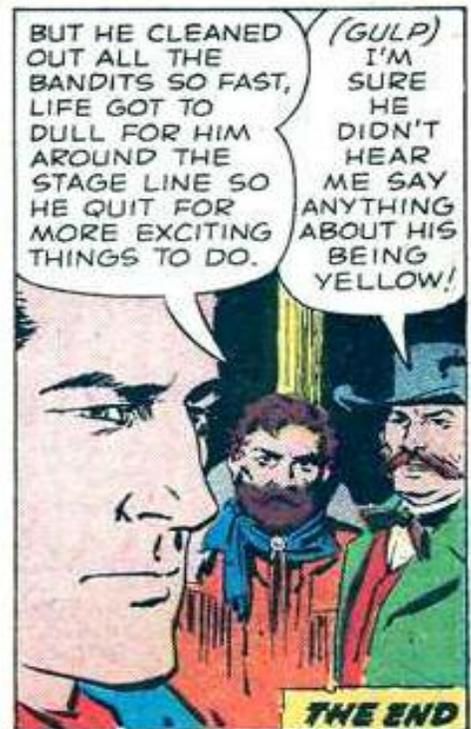
FIRST I'LL NARROW DOWN THIS ENTRANCE SO THEY CAN'T COME RUSHING OUT MORE THAN TWO OR THREE AT A TIME.



NOW I'LL BLOCK THE OPENING AND WHEN THE AIR SUPPLY DWINDLE THEY'LL COME OUT!



HEY! WHAT HAPPENED? HE MUST'VE CUT OFF THE AIR! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!



THE END

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MEMBERS BY STATE

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104,746.....Teddy Bison
104,815.....Kitsap Kid

AL

104,705.....Big Iron Ranger
104,711.....Manolito Montoya
104,726.....104726
104,742.....Deadly Grace
104,760.....Bad Bob Olinger
104,769.....Jack B. Hammer

AZ

104,721.....Jim Baker
104,722.....El Cucuy
104,764.....Prescott Parson
104,774.....Professor Slumber
104,775.....Black Jackal
104,801.....Cutter Bill

CA

104,737.....Cheatum Even
104,744.....Sharpshooter AJ
104,749.....Shatterhand
104,752.....F.T. Burke
104,772.....Rocky Mountain Mel
104,778.....Devil of Tasmanian
104,783.....Haystack
104,787.....Poke Along Poki
104,795.....Lucky Two Bucks

CO

104,808.....Thumb Buster

FL

104,727.....Stormin Norman
104,739.....Mad Hog Masterson
104,747.....Grim Grizzly
104,768.....R. K. Carroll
104,780.....Goose
104,781.....Delores Delta
104,805.....Moonshiner
104,820.....Grant Valkaria

GA

104,735.....Marshal Rico
104,743.....Miss Taken
104,753.....Papa Pat
104,754.....Sweet Pecan
104,755.....Serious Ken
104,756.....Sparkle Dancer

HI

104,731.....Kid Cruzler

IL

104,710.....Rowan Rider
104,718.....Deadeye Tim
104,729.....Kid Rockford

IN

104,789.....Fluke McGilder

KS

104,719.....Wolfpack Jack

KY

104,821.....Moore's Creek Rambler

LA

104,782.....Ed Zachary

MI

104,738.....Kid Danger

MO

104,786.....Catfish
104,806.....Wild Lead

NC

104,709.....Shotgun Gibbs
104,720.....Boone Doc Willy K
104,770.....Rusty Cannon
104,797.....Smokin Forty Five

ND

104,758 Dakota Chuck
Wagon

NH

104,785.....Plumb Loco

NJ

104,750.....Jersey George
104,765 Old Gunfighter Bob
'The'

NM

104,713.....104713
104,800.....Ramblin' Rick
104,810.....Falling Rock, Ms.
104,811.....Crazy Dazy
104,812.....Nikki Pistol
104,813.....Blondie Blue

NV

104,807.....Luscious Lorraine

NY

104,707.....Evil Ed

104,757.....Crazy Train

OH

104,791.....Kit N. Caboodle

OK

104,740.....Oklahoma Tequila
Rose

104,773.....Salsa Mike

104,788.....Smokey Barrels

104,803 Bearded Wonder
'The'

OR

104,792.....Teddy Clyde

104,798.....Cam Colt

104,814.....Scarlett Storm

PA

104,732.....Street Sweeper

104,793.....Ramblin Randy

SC

104,717.....Recondo

104,728.....Hess Holloway

104,771.....Leg Iron

TN

104,733.....Boxx Carr Kid

104,751.....Dodgin' Bullets

TX

104,706.....Creek Doyle

104,708.....Sweet P. Doyle

104,730.....Little Bowly

104,741.....Harry Hickok

104,761.....Boomstick Belle

104,762.....Boomer

104,763.....Lily Belle

104,794.....Whiskey Myers

104,804.....Horrible Harley

104,816.....Moudd March

104,817.....Sallie March

UT

104,715.....Rocker Bob

104,759.....Blue J

104,790.....104790

VA

104,712.....Lawdog Dan

WA

104,714.....Salty Dawg

104,779.....Dead Eye McNeil

104,784.....Floyd Calhan

WV

104,796.....Old Scudder

**MEMBERS
BY COUNTRY**

SASS # ALIAS

AB

104,734.....Neck Breaker

BC

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