



THE VIGILANTE

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Editor: Nasty Newt SASS # 7365

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The Monthly Chronicle of the Robbers Roost Vigilantes

From The President

A New Year's Party to Die For

And Then You Have to Clean Up the Mess

The Week One gang decided that the Vigilantes should party like it was New Year's Eve, even if it was really January 4th, and so we did. Of course, we don't know how to anything, including party, without somebody going for their guns and starting a fight. It's a good thing, too, because it's a lot more fun that way.

Ten shooters turned out on the first Saturday. It was a perfect day for shooting, and we're kind of known for that, this time of year. We know it will get cold and windy again, but we enjoy it while we can. Party pooper Bad Bascomb wanted to get the party over with as quickly as possible, and won the match going away. The rest of the top 5 were Venomous Doc, Harvey Mushman, M.C. Ryder, and Wrangler Red. Goode Bascomb was top lady.

On the 18th, nobody had to sing, "Turn out the lights, the party's over." You could tell from the mess. The saloon had to be cleaned up, but even worse, the boss man at the hotel decided it would also be a good time to give the hotel a good six-month cleaning, which included changing sheets and dumping chamber pots. Some hotel employees threw themselves off the balcony to their deaths, and some shot their way out and escaped, I mean, quit. Luckily, the sheriff had some prisoners who "volunteered" to finish up.

On another warm and sunny day, twelve shooters shot the match, including 2 first-timers, Bridgette Riley and Josh Barran. It was also good to have Rusty Dover shooting again. Welcome, and come back soon!

Cowboy Earl took top honors, followed by Tank, M.C. Ryder, Harvey Mushman, and Fast Legs. Bridgette Riley was the fastest lady shooter on the day.

All of the scores from both matches are posted on our web site at www.robbersroostvigilantes.com. Nobody shot either match clean. In fact, nobody has shot a clean match since Wrangler Red did the trick on September 21st. All together now, FRONT SIGHT!

Real Life Westerners You Didn't Want to Mess With

Fifth in a Series

Bass Reeves was a slave in Texas before he escaped to Indian Territory during the Civil War. He lived with several Indian tribes until the end of the war, when he moved to Arkansas and began farming. In 1875, the U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Arkansas was authorized to hire 200 deputies to patrol the lawless district, which included Indian Territory. Reeves knew the Territory and could speak several Indian languages, and he was hired as one of the 200.

Reeves was the first black man to be appointed a Deputy U.S. Marshal west of the Mississippi. During a 32-year career as a Federal peace officer, he is believed to have arrested some 3,000 felons, one of whom was his own son, and killed 14 in self-defense in the line of duty.

One noteworthy incident took place as Reeves attempted to serve arrest warrants on the Brunter brothers, a nasty trio of murderers and thieves. Rather than surrender, the Brunters drew their guns and opened fire. It isn't known who shot first, but Bass Reeves shot straight. He killed two of the brothers before disarming the third and pistol-whipping the thug into submission—with his own gun.

Bass Reeves may have been the real-life inspiration for the fictional Lone Ranger, a larger-than-life hero who stood up for law and order and struck fear in the hearts of bad guys. Come to think of it, it does kind of sound like him.

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In February we will be shooting on the 1st and the 15th. We are on **Winter Hours**, so we'll start sign ups at 8:00, have the meeting at 8:45, and the new shooter class will be at 7:30. As always, we'd like to know in advance if a new shooter is coming out so we can be prepared to take care of them.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly shoots:

The Cajon Cowboys shoot on the: 2nd (club day) and 4th (open shoot) Saturdays of each month at the Gem Ranch in the Cajon Pass on old route 66. Contact Luke Warmwater at (909) 987-7017. www.cajoncowboys.com.

Five Dogs Creek Cowboys in Bakersfield shoot on the 1st weekend of each month. Call Utah Blaine, (661) 203-4238. www.5dogscreek.com

High Desert Cowboys shoot in Acton on the 3rd Sunday. Contact Doc Silverhawks, (661) 948-2543, or Lumpy Grits or Ima Schofield at (661)265-1923.

Double R Bar Regulators, Lucerne Valley, shoot the 2nd Sunday. www.rrbar.com. They will host **Crap Shoot at Chimney Rock, "ROLL THE DICE,"** April 11 – 13. Contact Little Jersey Jo, 1-760-247-5012, joed56676@gmail.com.

Lone Wolf Shooters, Pahrump, NV, shoot the 4th and 5th Sunday. Call Lash Latigo or Penny Pepperbox, (775) 727-4600 days, (775) 727-8790 evenings. www.lonewolfshooters.com.

El Dorado Cowboys, Boulder City, NV, shoot the 1st weekend (Sat & Sun). Contact Charming at 702-565-3736, or Creeker at 702-328-4867. www.eldoradocowboys.com.

Powder, Powder, Who's Got the Powder?

I can find bullets pretty easily. Primers are tougher, but doable. Smokeless powder suitable for cowboy loads, on the other hand, is damn nigh impossible, and I'm about out. Down to seeds and stems, as the stoners say. I've got back orders and requests to "email me when you get some in stock" all over the place. So, what's going on here?

Well, it depends on who you ask. Manufacturers say they're trying, but can't keep up with the demand. They debunk the government conspiracy theory, which was started and is perpetuated by people who don't understand government contracting, indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contracts, and maximum quantities, which are the big numbers they throw around and which represent the most the government can buy on a given contract over a period of five years or so. The manufacturers say the government isn't doing anything different, even if Obama is the president.

Shooters are pretty much divided into two camps, the "haves" and the "have nots". The "haves" say, "I saw this coming and stocked up because I'm smart!" The "have nots" counter with, "No, you and the other hoarders panicked and caused it. Nice job." I don't know who's right, but I lean in the "hoarding is the problem" direction.

In terms of stock on hand, I'm definitely a "have not." I've only got enough 22's to shoot another match or two, but even if I could find more, I won't pay \$100 a brick. I'm not interested in shooting BP, so I anticipate taking some time off. There's a SASS Wire rumor that there might be some Trail Boss available around September. ☺

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How to Join the Robbers Roost Vigilantes...

Come out to a RRV match, held the third (and sometimes first) Saturday of every month, or call Nasty Newt at 760-375-7618, or MC Ryder at 760-384-2321, or mail it in. Our membership application is here [RRV Membership Application](#) Annual membership dues for the RRV are: single membership \$25, member and spouse \$30, family membership (including children under 18 living at home) \$35. First time shooters will be able to take their FIRST (1) NEW SHOOTERS CLASS for \$10, any subsequent new shooters class or RRV match shoot will be \$10 members, \$15 nonmembers. Donations for shooting regular monthly RRV matches will be \$10 members, \$15 non-members. Memberships run from September 1 - August 31. New memberships purchased after September will be prorated depending on the number of months remaining and the type of membership. **RRV members are encouraged to become Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) members.** Please call SASS at (505) 843-1320, or go to www.sassnet.com. SASS first year single initiation membership is \$55, renewal for single membership is \$45. As part of your SASS membership you will receive The Cowboy Chronicle (12 issues/year), registration of your alias, a SASS badge with your SASS number on it, a membership certificate and membership card, a SASS Marshall lapel pin, and SASS Shooters Handbook. SASS membership is not required for membership in RRV, or participation in RRV regular monthly matches. **RRV encourages all shooters to join and support the NRA and the NRA Foundation, and Ridgecrest Gun Range Association.** For further information visit our website at www.robbersroostvigilantes.com.



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Schedule of Monthly Matches RRV Match Dates:

February 1, 2014
February 15, 2014

Winter Hours: Sign up starting ~ 8:00,
Safety Meeting ~ 8:45.

New Shooter Class ~ 7:30.

Defend the Roost

Entries for *DTR* aren't exactly selling like hotcakes, so yes, we still have room for YOU. If you're planning to shoot, we'd like to get your name on the list as soon as possible. There is a LOT of planning that goes into this thing, and guessing about attendance makes it harder. As always, your credit is good with us, so you can sign up now and pay later if you'd like to do that.