



THE VIGILANTE



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Editor: Nasty Newt SASS # 7365

November 2016

The Monthly Chronicle of the Robbers Roost Vigilantes

From The President

**A Time to be Thankful for our Fighting Men,
And for our Good Fortune to be Americans**

If you look at this month's masthead you'll see a Pilgrim family and a WWI doughboy. Both men are posing with firearms, and both invested blood, sweat, and tears to help give us the freedom we celebrate on Veteran's Day, and the bounty we enjoy on Thanksgiving. Let's hang onto both!

November was a good month for burning powder out at the RRV range. We had two cowboy matches and a black powder trail walk. Your humble editor shot all three of them. I put about 300 rounds downrange all together, through six different kinds of guns, and thoroughly enjoyed every shot.

At the Cowboy match on the 5th, nine shooters came out for some great stages by Buckhorn Bud, MC Ryder, and Bad Bascomb. At the end of the day MC Ryder had lapped the field, followed by Buckhorn Bud, Zig Mar, Ozark Lawdog, yours truly, Wrangler Red, Fast Legs, Silver Badger, and Death Valley Rose, who toughed out her first match in quite a while, and brought brownies. ☺

At the Trail Walk on the 12th, Cowboy Earl had us shooting at pipes, circles, squares, Ed Hinkley's spinner, bells, ground hogs, bowling pins, and clay birds, to name a few, with our cap and ball rifles and pistols. When the shooting and the razzing had tapered off, the usual suspects, Ed Hinkley and Craig Wilson, were one and two, respectively. Silver Badger and yours truly tied for third, and Cowboy Earl and MC Ryder tied for fourth.

On the 19th, 13 cowboys and cowgirls turned out, including two new shooters, Jay Workman and Rhonda Workman. Welcome, and do come back! Venomous Doc had the rest of us eating his dust, and MC Ryder, Cowboy Earl, Orland Granger, and Buckhorn Bud rounded out the top 5. All the scores are posted elsewhere on this site. It was good to see Rusty Dover, Belle E. Button, and Orland Granger. It had

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Don't Get Brassy with Me!

By Nasty Newt, SASS # 7365

Today (November 21, 2016) I ordered 1,000 pieces of new .45 Colt unprimed brass. There's nothing unusual about that, except that it is the first time I ever bought .45 Colt brass.

When I started this game 20 years ago I bought eight boxes of Remington .45's for \$17.00 a box, which I thought was awful. And of course, it was, in 1995. But now we know what awful really is. Anyway, I had judiciously researched that ammunition and found it propelled a 250 grain bullet from a 7 - 1/2 inch test barrel at 960 f.p.s. Since the SASS maximum was 1,000 f.p.s., I figured I was golden. *Little* did I know, but that's another article. ☺

I subsequently bought a box or two of new ammo here or there, and bought several hundred reloaded rounds from Ten-X, which he made from used brass collected and auctioned off by the Boy Scouts at End of Trail. At that point I started sending my brass to Ten-X to be reloaded. My shooting buddy, Gimpy Gus, and I decided we needed to roll our own, so we went halves on a Dillon Square Deal B, which I still use today.

I have been reloading that collection of brass ever since. Conservatively speaking, I have put 30,000 .45 Colt rounds downrange in the last 20 years. I know it sounds crazy, but non-conservatively speaking, it's probably closer to 40,000. I never owned more than 1,500 pieces of brass; most likely, less than that. So I've reloaded that brass I started with 20 times, maybe more.

I guess I planned to shoot it forever, although I've culled a lot of split cases. Splits starting at the mouth and working their way down are the most common failure of worn out brass. I catch them
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been a while since they shot a match.

In December, we will have Cowboy matches on the 3rd and 17th, and a black powder muzzle loader trail walk on the 10th.

Get yourself out to the range and have some fun!

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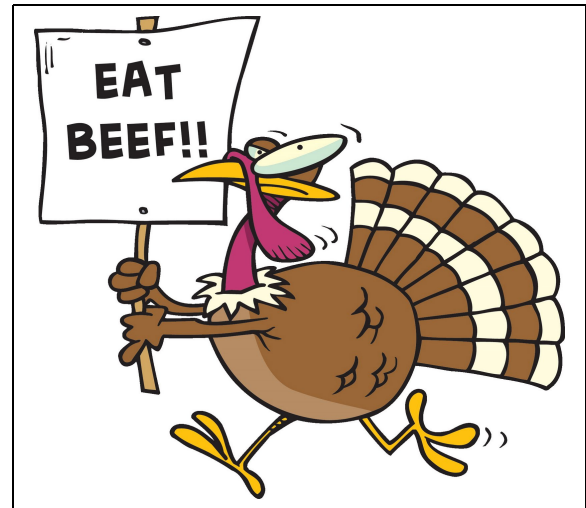
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Editor's Note: I have decided to end the practice of listing monthly matches for CAS clubs in surrounding areas. I don't think anyone who wants to shoot with other clubs depends on the listings in *The Vigilante* to know when those clubs shoot. I will continue to try to list significant annual matches and special events that are scheduled by other clubs, space permitting. NN



Brass continued from page 1


at every step in the process: sorting, cleaning, lubing, reloading, boxing, loading table, and unloading table. But I missed one when I was reloading the cartridges I used on November 19th.

If I had put it in a pistol, everything would have been hunky-dory. It would have been a little hard to punch out of the cylinder at the unloading table, but no big deal. I've caught a lot of splits at that point. But I didn't put it in a pistol, I put it in my rifle. It was number 4 or 5 in a ten shot string. With every shot, the split got a little deeper, and the bullet sank a little farther into the case. But the time it got to the receiver, it was flush with the mouth of the case. My rifle didn't understand, and tried to let another cartridge into the receiver. The carrier came up under that one part way out of the magazine, and at that point, things locked up good and tight. I'm glad that compressed powder load didn't make it all the way to the chamber. It might have just kicked a little hard, or it might have been a bomb. I can live without knowing.

I had just put my Marlin back into service. It had developed "Marlin Jam-itis," that little groove in the carrier that lets the carrier drop down too low, and in the process of looking into that, I must have lost the spring-loaded plunger and retainer clip from the carrier. Anyway, it was missing. I welded the groove, ordered the parts, and it worked like a charm, until the 19th. I was afraid my gunsmithing had come undone, but it was that bad case that did it.

The moral of the story is that nothing lasts forever, not even thick, resilient, .45 Colt brass. But you can count on your fellow cowboy shooters. Venomous Doc loaned me his rifle and gave me ammo to shoot the last stage. Thanks, Doc.

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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 877-411-SASS. SASS membership information can be found here:

<http://www.sassnet.com/Membership-Main-001A.php>

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:

Dec 3, 2016 Cowboy
Dec 10, 2016 Trail Walk Turkey Shoot
Dec 17, 2016 Cowboy Turkey Shoot

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

Gobble Gobble!!

Two December Turkey Shoots at RRV Range

Well, we're not actually going to give away turkeys. We did once, and then decided that gift cards made more sense.

At the Muzzleloader Trail Walk on the tenth, the turkey shot will be at a playing card, face down on the backboard. Pick one that looks lucky and shoot it. The shooter that comes away with the highest playing card gets the gift card.

At the Cowboy Match on the 17th, we'll do what we've done before. You'll get a ticket in the can when you sign up, and you'll have the opportunity to earn, or maybe luck into, more tickets during the match. After the match we'll draw one ticket for the card.