



# THE VIGILANTE



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Editor: Nasty Newt SASS # 7365

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## The Quarterly Chronicle of the Robbers Roost Vigilantes

### From the President

#### I'm Thankful For More Things Than I Can Count

Thanksgiving is coming up soon. I've always said I'm the luckiest guy I know, and I haven't changed my mind. But there was no silver spoon involved. When I was a kid, our first TV wasn't even ours, it was the neighbors'. My brothers and I stood in their yard and watched it through the window. My old man was so embarrassed he ordered one from Sears on credit.

I graduated in 1966, which made me prime cannon fodder for Viet Nam, but I didn't get drafted. I did try to enlist in the Air Force, but I had a pregnant wife in tow, so they weren't interested. Over the years, I vacillated between feeling guilty that I didn't participate in my generation's war, and feeling thankful that I didn't have to. I have settled on thankful.

I had been hired by the post office, and was processing in when a lady in the China Lake Public Works department tracked me down and offered me a job as a laborer. That was pretty lucky; I was at the old base dispensary getting a physical from old Doc Zumwalt. The PW job paid \$2.74 an hour, and the post office paid \$2.64, so for four dollars a week I kicked the post office to the curb and went to work on the base while I figured out what I really wanted to do. 38 years later I retired, having been successful—and lucky—beyond my wildest dreams.

The luckiest thing that ever happened to me is that the second time around, I hit the jackpot and married WAY over my head. There is no way on earth I deserve a woman like Desert Willow, but I've got her, and I'm keeping her. She is a gifted and hard-working artist with more talent under her fingernails than I'll ever have, and is totally unselfish. For instance, I recently had the opportunity to look over a private gun collection that included two Japanese WWII service rifles. As some of you know, I am LGBTQ for surplus bolt actions, and I was mulling which one to buy. Desert Willow said, "Buy both of them if you want them." Now,

*Continued on page 2*

### Little-Known Local Lore

By  
Nasty Newt, SASS # 7365



The late country singer Buck Owens had a long and successful career in the music business, but his legacy actually dates from his youth spent with the local Paiute-Shoshone Indians. He spent his summer vacations at Camp Independence, where his uncle, Fuzzy Owens, was the blacksmith and horse shoer. To while away the hours, young Buck would help the indigenous peoples gather pinon nuts, which they stored to eat in the winter months. Although he wasn't very good at it, every pinon nut counted, and the natives were grateful for the help. They gave him the name Avcr'tix pols'g'll qua'glib'son, which is Mono for "Little white boy with big ears who can't find nuts with both hands." They later decided they should do more, and named their valley, river, and lake in his honor.

The actress Cameron Diaz also made a significant mark in the Buck Owens Valley, which is today typically shortened to Owens Valley. Over the years she has spent a considerable amount of time there while researching the secret formula for Paiute hair gel, usually staying in her camper at the Boulder Creek RV Park. At one point, the exact time of which is lost to history, she decided it would be nice if there was a lake on the other side of Highway 395, which could be stocked with trout, and would also serve as a handy place to wash her hair after trying out various hair gels. With that in mind, she rented a backhoe and dug a ditch from Lone Pine Creek to the low area across the highway. The resultant lake was a boon to the local  
*Continued on page 2*

#### INSIDE THIS EDITION

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 From the President | 2 Holiday Extravaganza |
| 1 Local Lore         | 3 Business Cards       |
|                      | 3 State of the RRV     |

*From the President Continued from page 1*

to be clear, she wasn't saying, "Spend your money on whatever you want." We don't have his and her money, only *our* money, and it's been that way from the start.

However, we do technically have his and her kids, but they're all *our* kids. I'm happy to say they all grew up to be decent, self-reliant, responsible adults, and are raising grandchildren who are headed in the same direction. I like to think I had something to do with that, but it's probably mostly luck, and I'm thankful for it.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

## **Robbers Roost Vigilantes**

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*Local Lore continued from page 1*

economy, drawing hordes of fishermen and beer drinkers to the area. Out of gratitude, the Lone Pine City Council named it Lake Diaz. They considered calling it Lake Cameron, but were afraid people might think it was named after Rod Cameron, which would have been embarrassing. The Paiutes also saw increased sales at their Route 66-style Indian curio shop, and gifted Cameron Diaz with a small sample of actual Paiute hair styling gel, for use in a future movie.

Closer to home, if you ask any Indian Wells Valley old-timer, you will learn that over the years there have been about 147 brothels in the local area. Ride around with an old guy in a hat, and he will point out the locations. "Yeah, there was a cat house right there on that corner" or, "See that vacant lot? There was a cat house right there." A burned-out hulk alongside the highway? You guessed it, cat house.

One even had a name, as if it were a town, but it was really only a combination gas station and bordello. According to legend, the cat house employees worked the gas pumps at Assorgas on their days off. Bear in mind this was in the days of full-service gas stations, when people drove over the hose that rang the bell, then sat in their cars and waited for somebody to come out and ask, "How can I help you?"

Of course, the ladies working the Assorgas gas station asked the question that gave the establishment its name. But a lonely traveler with an empty tank could presumably get some of each.



**SAVE THE DATE! DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> IS OUR YEARLY CHRISTMAS AND HANNUKAH CELEBRATION. WE WILL SHOOT SIX STAGES, AND YOU WILL HAVE LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO EARN TICKETS FOR THE DOOR PRIZE DRAWING BY MAKING EASY BONUS SHOTS. AND, OF COURSE, WE WILL HAVE A FEAST AS WELL. STAND BY FOR MORE INFORMATION AS IT GETS CLOSER.**

## Business Cards



**GUNS4US, INC.**  
201 W. PANAMINT AVE  
Website: [www.guns4us.com](http://www.guns4us.com)  
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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](http://www.robbersroostvigilantes.com)

Note: Both GUNS4US and KZGN TV are at a new location at 409 S. China Lake Blvd, Ridgecrest, CA. 93555



**KZGN TV**

201 Panamint St  
Ridgecrest, CA 93555  
(760) 375 - 6555

[www.KZGN.net](http://www.KZGN.net) "Your Community Station"  
[info@kzgn.net](mailto:info@kzgn.net) Ridgecrest, Inyokern, and China Lake

**Schedule of Monthly Matches**  
Matches are announced on the web site and via email to club members. Cowboy matches are first (sometimes) and third Saturday. Usually, Trail Walks are second Saturday, and BAMB and Cowboy Rifle are fourth Saturday, when scheduled.  
**Winter Hours:** Sign up starting ~ 8:00, Safety Meeting ~ 8:45.

## The State of the Union (okay, the RRV) is Strong

There are a lot of little things that need attention on a regular basis that aren't visible to club members. MC Ryder does a great job keeping our website posted with the latest and greatest, and al keeps our domain name protected. He is also the "Colonel of the Urinal", dumping the porta potty as required and doing the maintenance.

Speaking of the porta potty, there is a \$10 Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) fee that is good for five years. They don't issue new stickers, but it keeps the trailer registered in our name if we ever need to prove it is ours.

I just redid our Fictitious Business Name/DBA statement with Kern County. It is also good for five years.

It's time for me to file the annual form 990-N "E-Postcard" with the IRS to keep our non-profit status. It's done on line and easy to do.

The annual lead-in-soil sampling for Kern County is done. Don't get me started.

Liability insurance, NRA affiliation, and SASS affiliation are all paid. We are good to go.