

January
2011

Agarita Gazette

A Chronicle of the Plum Creek Shooting Society

Agarita Ranch
1794 Old Lytton Springs Road
Lockhart, Texas 78644

Marshalls

Range Marshall - *Delta Raider*
Territorial Governor - *Jake Paladin*
Safety Marshall - *Elroy Rogers*
Protest Marshall - *Vacant*
Stage Marshall - *Boon Doggle*
Long-Range Marshal I - *Wild Hog*
Administrative Marshall - *Boosey Babe*
Medical Marshall - *Jake Paladin*
Raffle Marshall - *Shotglass*
Costume Marshall - *Lorelei Longshot*
Entertainment Marshall - *Old Bill Dick*
Special Events Marshall - *Belle Fire*
Side Match Marshall - *Texas Sarge*

From the Editor:

Long Juan here! I am your new editor of the Agarita Gazette, a monthly chronicle of the Plum Creek Shooting Society. My “real world” name is John Soule. I am a practicing oil and gas attorney in Austin. Although I have been into guns and shooting all of my adult life, I am relatively new to cowboy action shooting. I joined SASS and the Texican Rangers near Fredericksburg in 2009. I joined the Plum Creek Shooting Society in 2010. I plan to shoot regularly with both clubs in 2011. I am also a member of the GAF and NCOWS. My goal for the Gazette is to provide an entertaining, informative and educational newsletter each month. I need your help.

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New Year's Day Shoot a Resounding Success ...

New Year's Day 2011 found members of the Plum Creek Shooting Society and many friends and guests at the Agarita Ranch enjoying a great shoot. The weather was cool, but sunny and clear. We welcomed many snowbirds down from the north and enjoying our Texas “winter” weather, where they tell us they can shoot every weekend. With 49 shooters, there were more than enough to fill three posses and shooting categories were many. Following the pledge of allegiance, an inspiring prayer by snowbird *Cree Vicar Dave* and the obligatory safety meeting, hammers went down shortly after 11:00 a.m. Shooting continued without pause until nearly 3:00 p.m., after which most shooters enjoyed another of *Kitchen Kate's* fine meals. This time there was sausage, chili, bean soup and queso, with apple crisp a la mode for dessert.

We were in for a special treat right after lunch. *Whiskers*, who hails from Houston, brought his full scale Gatling Gun to Agarita Ranch and made it available to shoot for \$1.00/round. *Wild Hog* said it was the fastest ten bucks he'd ever spent. *Wild Hog* must not have been alone. There was a big pile of brass piled up after the last shooter. What a hoot!! Thanks, *Whiskers*, for sharing your gem and making the fun possible.

We had six clean shooters for the day: *Klickitat Bob*, *Spyder John*, *Cielo Lobo*, *Little Mama*, *Boon Doggle* and *Long Juan*. *Dakota Doc*, *Jake Jones* and *Two-Gun Annie* also shot with no misses, but each had one of those darn P's. I hate those P's, *Jake*, don't you? Fastest overall shooter was *Waterloo*, followed closely by *Phantom*. Category winners were: *No Good Nate*, *Buckaroo*; *Two-Gun Annie*

Continued page 2 New Year's Day

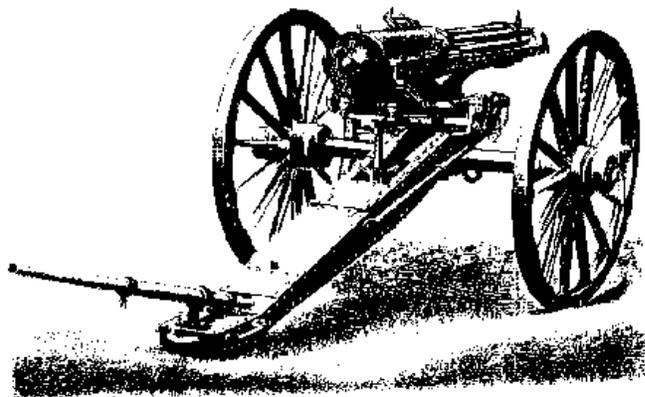
Editor (continued from page 1)

I plan to publish the Gazette each month, approximately mid-month, by posting on the PCCSS website, distribution through our Yahoo Group and/ or by direct email. I do not know all of you yet and cannot shoot with every posse, every month. I will have formal results for each monthly match from *Delta Raider* and *Boon Doggle*, but I am hoping to get from all of you what Paul Harvey would have called “the rest of the story.” I hope to get input from each posse every month. Who shot particularly well? Who looked good? Who embarrassed themselves? Who were our guests and visitors? Who has photos they want to share? Who shot with other clubs or in state, regional or national matches during the past month? What were the results? I hope our Marshalls will each write an occasional column for the newsletter. For example, I hope Wild Hog will write a short column about long-range shooting that would encourage more members to participate in the next long-range side match. I plan to recognize businesses that support our hobby, our sport and our club, like Red’s and W.J Cowboy. What other businesses deserve our support? I also want to include “For Sale or Trade” and “Items Wanted” sections in the Gazette. **Bottom-line, I need input from each and every member of our club.**

I hope to see you at the next shoot and, if I have not already, to meet you in person. In the meantime, if you have questions or suggestions relating to the Agarita Gazette, please email me at jsoule@scottdoug.com.

New Year's Day (continued from page 1)

Ladies 49'er; *Texas Two Step*, Ladies Cowboy (or is that simply Cowgirl?); *Cherokee Granny*, Ladies Senior; *Cactus Kay*, Ladies Super Senior; *True Blue Cachoo*, Ladies Wrangler; *Phantom*, Men's 49'er; *Waterloo*, Men's Cowboy; *Jake Palidin*, Men's Classic Cowboy; *Wild Hog*, Men's Cody Dixon Repeater; *Boon Doggle*, Men's Cody Dixon Single-Action; *Klickitat Bob*, Men's Duelist; *Dakota Doc*, Mens Elder Statesman; *Cree Victor Dave*, Men's Frontiersman; *Abilene*, Men's Frontiersman Cartridge Gunfighter; *Texas Sarge*, GAF Lever Action; *Long Juan*, GAF Single Action; *Bolo Bob*, Men's Senior; *Lucky Lennie*, Mens Senior Duelist; *Lars*, Men's Super Senior; *Cyrus Spears*, Men's Wrangler; and *Shootin Joe*, GAF Youth. Whew! That's a bunch of categories and a bunch of good shooters. We were particularly happy to welcome two young shooters, *No Good Nate* and *Shootin Joe*, both of whom shot safe and well. The future of our hobby appears to be in good hands and we hope to see them at shoots regularly in the future. Thanks to Chuck (*Delta Raider*) and Nancy (*Kitchen Kate*) for hosting a wonderful start of the New Year.



Gatling Gun

All Clip Art courtesy of Rattlesnake Jack



GAF Holds National Muster in Lockhart

by Captain John ("Long Juan") Soule, GAF, Texas Div.

In November, the Agarita Ranch and the Plum Creek Shooting Society hosted the annual national muster of the Grand Army of the Frontier (GAF). This year's muster was attended by GAF members from Alberta, Canada, Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, Arizona and, of course, Texas.

The GAF honors the memories and achievements of the Victorian-era military of all nations between 1858 and 1904, with particular emphasis on the American army on the western frontier between 1860 and 1900. The GAF actively participates in the hobbies of cowboy action shooting and historical reenacting. Members of the GAF are encouraged, but not required, to wear an appropriate uniform of choice when participating in GAF events.

Planning, preparation and set-up for the muster took place over a number of months under the able leadership of Commander, Division of Texas, (Bvt) Lt. Colonel *Scooter*, Department Sergeant Major *Texas Sarge* and *Captain Mack*. Shooting stages, written by *Texas Sarge*, were based on forts and battles across the Texas frontier. The featured forts and battles included the Battle of Plum Creek (of course), Old Fort Parker, Old Camp Verde (you remember the camels don't you?), Fort Griffin, Fort Davis, Fort Mason, Camp Ford, Fort Texas/Battle of Palo Alto, the Battle of Palmito Ranch and (another of course) the Alamo. Each stage included not only the scenario description, but also a detailed historical description of the fort and battle being featured. Not only did we have fun shooting, but we also learned or relearned lots of good Texas history.

Scoring in GAF matches is similar to scoring in SASS matches, with the following differences: a 10-second penalty is awarded for each miss and a 20-second penalty is awarded for each procedural violation, with multiple procedural violations and thus penalties possible on each stage. The GAF stresses accuracy and doing it right, with less emphasis on pure speed. Shooters typically use one rifle and one sidearm (pistol). Sidearms are reloaded on the clock for the second five rounds on a typical stage. The "staff officer" category shoots with sidearm only and the infantry category shoots with rifle only, both engaging all targets. Rifle targets are typically at Cody-Dixon distances; pistol targets are at typical SASS distances. Shooting categories are based on the rifle used. Examples include milspec (military specification) repeating rifle (e.g., the Krag), milspec single-shot (e.g., Sharps Carbine), and militia/scout lever-action. Sidearms must be milspec or of demonstrated military usage.

Shooting competition at the muster began Friday with side matches for Long-Range Rifle, Long-Range Sidearm and Era of Expansion (Wild Bunch). The Division of Texas made a good showing in the side matches, with our very own Texas Sarge winning the Era of Expansion match and Wild Hog winning the long-range match.

Continued next page GAF.





Artiman and his artillerymen!

Following colors Saturday morning, which included firing of the canon by *Artiman* and his volunteer artillerymen, the main match began in earnest. Six of ten stages were shot before calling it a day. Shooting categories included smokeless and black powder Marksman Repeater, Rifleman Single-Shot, Infantry, Scout and Militia. The evening meal was a formal banquet with typical *Kitchen Kate* fine cuisine. *River City John* was heard to opine about the meals generally, "Sadly, the commissary was put together without thought to proper regulations! The menu offerings had variety, recognizable form, a pleasing texture, and worst of all great flavors." All participants at the banquet were decked out in their military finest. *Captain Mack* was nothing if not a true, strutting peacock. Many of the participants elected to rough it, bunking in the barracks or hotel on site. There were even awards for the finest barracks set-up, i.e., the guy who could bounce a quarter the highest on his tightly made rack. Someone was heard to comment, "It was very discouraging; the barracks had indoor plumbing and HOT water on tap!" Chuck, I am sure you can fix that problem for the ingrates next year, right?

Sunday morning began again with colors and firing of the canon, followed by shooting of the

remaining four stages. After another great meal, awards were presented. First, second and third-place ribbons were awarded in each shooting category and for dress and field uniforms. The Brigade Champion or Iron Trooper award (best overall combined scores for uniforms and shooting) went to *Drydock*, Lt. Colonel, Ordinance, from the Division of Missouri. *Cowtown Scout*, a Texan and current



Drydock and Texas Sarge

president of the Texas State Rifle Association, won the award for the best dress uniform. Our very own *Captain Mack* came in second, tied with *Rattlesnake Jack* out of Alberta, Canada. The award for best field uniform went to *Rattlesnake Jack*, with *Drydock* taking second. Plum Creek members taking awards home in the shooting categories included: *Elroy Rogers* (3rd Marksman Repeater), *Artiman* (1st BP Marksman Repeater), *Long Juan* (1st Rifleman Single-Shot), *Jake Jones* (1st BP Rifleman Single-Shot), *Texas Sarge* and *Jarhead Jake* (1st and 2nd Infantry) and *Wild Hog* (1st Scout). Best of all, Texas was the Division champion, beating out perennial winners, Missouri and Nebraska!

A fun time was had by all and the Plum Creek

Continued next page GAF

GAF *continued from previous page.*

Shooting Society looks forward to hosting the 2011 GAF national muster again at Agarita Ranch in November. Thanks to all who participated in 2010.

The GAF encourages all members of the Plum Creek Shooting Society and our frequent visitors and guests from around Texas and the rest of the country to join us at next year's

muster. You can wear a uniform and shoot military firearms or you can shoot in the Scout category, with your cowboy action guns and regular cowboy duds. There is simply no excuse for not participating in this fun and patriotic event. Of course, you might also use the GAF as an excuse to acquire more guns and period clothing. I did!



GAF 2011 National Muster, Agarita Ranch, Lockhart, Texas

| | <u>Category</u> | <u>Home</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Artiman | BP Marksman Repeater | Texas |
| Bow View Haymaker | Scout | Nebraska/Arizona |
| Cactus Rope | Scout | Illinois |
| Captain Mack | Rifleman Single-Shot | Texas |
| Captain Montgomery Little | Scout | Missouri |
| Cowtown Scout | Marksman Repeater | Texas |

| | <u>Category</u> | <u>Home</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Drydock | Marksman Repeater | Missouri |
| Elroy Rogers | Marksman Repeater | Texas |
| Jake Jones | BP Rifleman Single-Shot | Texas |
| Jarhead Jake | Infantry | Texas |
| Long Juan | Rifleman Single-Shot | Texas |
| Mojave Al | Scout | Texas |
| Pony Express | Marksman Repeater | Missouri |
| Rattlesnake Jack | BP Rifleman Single-Shot | Alberta, Canada |
| River City John | BP Rifleman Single-Shot | Nebraska |
| Scooter | Rifleman Single-Shot | Texas |
| Scruffy Skippy | Militia | Nebraska |
| Sergeant Jack Payne | Scout | |
| Texas Sarge | Infantry | Texas |
| Wild Hog | Scout | Texas |

RO's Corner: Did you know?

I recently completed the RO1 (Range Operations Basic Safety Course) and RO2 (Range Officer Training Course) courses taught by Cactus Kay and Dakota Doc. I learned much more than I expected and thoroughly enjoyed both courses. I have even begun timing for the posse and, yes Jake, I am trying to remember to count all the rounds fired. I can recommend that everyone take at least the RO1 course, whether or not you ever intend to be a posse leader, timer or whatever. There is lots of useful information that will make you a better shooter and, more importantly, a safer shooter. I am planning to include a monthly column in the newsletter entitled "RO's Corner: Did you know?" In that column, I hope to relate useful information I learned, using as my source the RO manuals that are available for download by anyone from the SASS website. So, here goes

Did you know that de-cocking may not be done

to avoid a penalty if a firearm is cocked at the wrong time, position or location once a round has gone down range? No gun may be de-cocked on the firing line except by pointing it down range and pulling the trigger or while under direct supervision of the stage officer. The penalty for de-cocking is Stage Disqualification. Once a revolver is cocked, the round under the hammer must be expended in order for it to be returned to a safe condition. Once a rifle is cocked, either the round under the hammer must be expended or the action opened in order for the rifle to be returned to a safe condition. Shotgun shells may be removed without penalty to return the firearm to a safe condition. Be sure you think next time you cock your firearm on the firing line and then realize, you are in the wrong position or using the wrong firearm at the wrong time. There is a right way and a wrong way to fix the problem.

Source: RO1 Manual, Appendix A – Range Safety Rules.



Colt Army



Henry Repeating Rifle

PLUM CREEK SHOOTING SOCIETY CALENDAR

Next Monthly Match

February 5, 2011

Ride with Pancho Villa

March 4, 5 and 6, 2011 *(see last page for registration form)*

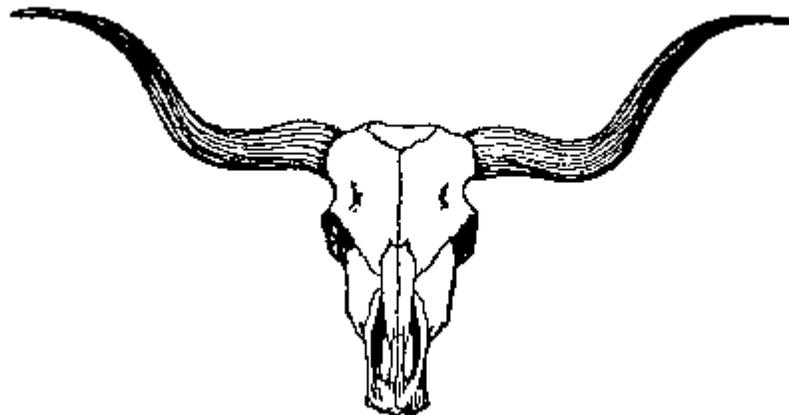
For Sale or Trade; Items Wanted

Each month, I am planning to include in the newsletter a For Sale or Trade; Items Wanted section. This section is intended for use by our cowboys/cowgirls in Central Texas seeking to sell, buy or trade some cowboy action shooting gear. The deadline for inclusion in the newsletter will be the 10th of each month. Because I have no input this month from other club members, I will include one of my own guns that I am hoping to sell.

Uberti/Cimarron 1874 Sharps Carbine .45-70 \$950

This gun was purchased new from Texas Jack's in 2010. I had ordered a Shiloh Sharps carbine, but wanted to start shooting GAF and just couldn't wait! I expected to shoot the Uberti for a season or two, while waiting on the Shiloh. To my surprise, the Shiloh shipped within a month of placing my order. The gun for sale has been shot less than 200 rounds. Lonnie Aman out of Hempstead did some action work to lighten the trigger. Otherwise, it is in like-new condition. It is a good shooter; I just prefer my Shiloh.

Contact: Long Juan (John Soule) 512-750-3923 or jsoule@scottdoug.com



Rattlesnake Jack (above left) lives in Alberta, Canada and attended the GAF National Muster in November. He has a great website. The clipart used in this month's newsletter is taken from that site. See it yourself and other interesting information at his website, Rattlesnake Jack's Old West Clip Art Parlour. <http://members.memlane.com/gromboug/> Thanks Jack!

RIDE WITH PANCHO VILLA

MARCH 4, 5, AND 6, 2011

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM FOR "RIDE WITH PANCHO VILLA"

Enclose total payment and mail with completed form. All refund request must be received prior to February 21, 2010 and are subject to a \$25 processing fee. Shooter packets must be picked up before shooters meeting on Saturday March 5th 9:00 AM. Registration received by February 21st will receive a belt buckle. For registration after February 21st add \$10.

Make checks payable to: PCCSS Mail to: 1794 Old Lytton Springs Rd., Lockhart, Texas 78644
www.pccss.Org • For Information call Delta Raider 512-376-2602

(Complete an Entry Form for each shooter)

ALIAS _____ SASS NUMBER _____

NAME _____ PCCSS Member? Yes No

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

HOME PHONE (____) _____ WORK PHONE (____) _____

E-MAIL _____

Check the appropriate category

| | <u>Non</u> <u>PCCSS Member</u> | <u>PCCSS</u> <u>Member</u> |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Main Match Fee (3 days, Banquet & All Side Matches) | \$85 _____ | \$75 _____ |
| Junior (14-16) | \$25 _____ | \$25 _____ |
| Buckaroo (13 & Younger) AGE _____ (Required) | FREE | FREE |

Individual Side Matches (Friday & Saturday Only)

Wild Bunch Side Match (4 stages) Friday 10:00 am Circle one YES/NO

(All fees included in Main Match Fee and side matches)

We will shot 6 stages on Saturday and 4 on Sunday.

Friday night shoot. Circle one YES/NO.

Shooting Categories (Circle Applicable Category and gender) Men Lady Boy Girl

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cowboy | Cowgirl | Wrangler | Duelist | Senior Duelist (60+) |
| Gunfighter | Forty-Niner | Frontier Cart | Frontier Cartridge Duelist | |
| Frontiersman | Classic Cowboy/Cowgirl | B Western | Senior (60-64) | Silver Senior (65-69) |
| Elder Statesman (70+) | Grand Dame (70+) Young Guns | Buckaroo (13 & Younger) | | |
| Military 1911 | Military 1911 & M&P | Cody Dixon Lever | Cody Dixon Single | |
| Grand Army of the Frontier Rifle | Grand Army of the Frontier Single | | | |

VIVA VILLA! VIVA REVOLUCION!