

AGARITA GAZETTE



A Chronicle of the Plum Creek Shooting Society



Agarita Ranch

October 2012

Lockhart, Texas

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www.pccss.org

We lost a good cowboy

Tejas Bob, Bob Whitesides, died October 2nd. He shot regularly with the *Plum Creek Shooting Society* and also with the *Travis County Regulators*. Responding to word that quickly spread throughout the cowboy action shooting community in Central Texas, PCSS President, **Dragon Hill Dave**, commented, "I am so sad to hear this. One of the great pleasures I get out of this sport is meeting people like Tejas Bob and sharing the experience with them. Tejas Bob was a joy to shoot with, and he always had a smile on his face. We will miss him deeply. Our thoughts and prayers to his family in this time of loss." See more about **Tejas Bob** on the Plum Creek Shooting Society website, <http://pccss.org/?p=563>.



Long Juan Here!



Match Registration. We are continuing to try to improve the match registration experience and to make it more efficient for both shooters and *(continued next page)*



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the folks handling registration. Shooters can do the following to help: (1) If you do not have a current waiver/application form on file, fill one out before you get in line at the registration table. Forms are available on a table on the porch of the Hotel/Saloon. Better yet, download the form from the website, fill it out before the match and bring it with you. Best of all, download it, fill it out, sign it, scan it and email it to me in advance. jsoule@scottdoug.com (2) Check in with me first. I will get you registered for the match and entered into the scoring system if you are not already entered. (3) Next, hand **True Blue Cachoo** your money (\$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, \$8 for lunch). If you are paying for anything other than the monthly match and lunch, be sure to tell her so you will get the appropriate credit. For anyone wanting to register for State, please do that separately. You can fill out the registration form, write a check for the appropriate amount and hand it to me in an envelope. We need to keep that money separate from the monthly money. (4) Sign up on a posse sheet with **Jake Paladin**. Be sure to note any posse requests for people who are not yet paid and signed in. No one can be added to a posse until they have registered for the match with me and paid **True Blue Cachoo**. If you are registering after 8:30, your posse assignment will be luck-of-the-draw. We will try to honor posse requests, but by that time we are finalizing posse assignments. Trying to make changes at the last minute delays the start of the match and often results in mistakes. Thanks for your help and understanding.

Website. Our website is growing in popularity. Guess it is the **photos** now

being posted after each match. Glad folks are enjoying them. I encourage others to take **photos** during the match. If you use a camera with an SD card, I likely can load the photos from your card onto my notebook right after the match. That will save you having to email them to me. If you email them to me, please send full res photos as they are better when I use them on the website or in the **Agarita Gazette**. Thanks to those who have shared photos in the past. Some of the photos this month were taken by **Lincoln Drifter**. In the past, **iBoon Doggle, Dragon Hill Dave, Delta Raider, Sterling Sage** and others have also taken and shared their photos with me. Thanks and keep it up.

Continuing with news about the website, I would like to encourage everyone to visit the site regularly. www.pccss.org You will find announcements and other information on the News Page. You can download the current and back issues of the **Agarita Gazette**. You can also see match scores and information about the SASS Texas State Championship being hosted by the *Plum Creek Shooting Society* at the Agarita Ranch next May.

Activity on the website has been increasing. In the 20 days since I started keeping statistics, we've had almost 500 visits, with more than 60% of the visits being first-timers. The scores and photos have been most popular, but the News and **Agarita Gazette** pages are not too far behind. Bottom line, we want the website to be a focal point for all information about the *Plum Creek Shooting Society*. Visit often. If you have recommendations for improved content, functionality, please let me know.

Long Juan



The Winchester Model 1876 "Centennial" Rifle

October Monthly Match Report

The October monthly match was about as good as it gets. We had wonderful crisp cool air. We had 58 shooters. We had great stages to shoot. We enjoyed having the reuniting Delta Raiders there to watch and, better yet, with whom to visit and share experiences. We had a tasty lunch of hamburgers and hotdogs. **Skyhawk Hans**, had a great day. He finished first overall and shot clean. Congratulations to our other clean shooters, **Captain Jim Bison**, **Esteban Caliente**, **Frank Longshot** and **Nueces Slim**. Buckaroo **SkinDawg** finished third overall. **Phantom**, **Joe Darter** and **Kickshot** were the other shooters in the top

five. **Sagebrush Molly** finished first among the women. Congratulations finally to all category winners. The complete results can be viewed on the *Plum Creek Shooting Society* website. www.pccss.org. Click on the Scores tab and navigate to the scores for the October match.

Skyhawk Hans on his way to the Triple Crown - 1st in category, 1st overall and clean!



The Delta Raiders of Vietnam had a reunion at the Agarita Ranch



Feathers were clearly the order of the day for some!



PBR Rep gives Wild Hog the pitch



| Parabellum Research

PBR Ammo brought samples to the Agarita Ranch for our October shoot. Everyone appreciated having the opportunity to give it a try.

This is the only photo of **SkinDawg** from the October shoot. I will have to try to remedy that error of omission in November!



Find Delta Raider

Only three people found **Delta Raider** last month. Must have been too easy! See pic below. Congratulations to **Boon Doggle**, **Artiman** and **Lincoln Drifter**. He's here again this month. Shoot me an email when you find him and tell me what you think I should do for those who find him each month.



The *Chateau Frontenac*, nestled in the heart of Old Quebec, stands above an historic area that has been designated a United Nations World Heritage Site, which means that the buildings cannot be torn down. DHD wonders if the U.S. would ever surrender its sovereignty to the U.N. over any area like Canada apparently did? Not likely! For more than a century, the *Chateau Frontenac* has been the true-life castle of many people's dreams. In the late 19th century, William Van Horne, General Manager of Canadian Pacific (CP) Railway, began building the hotel as a stopover for CP travelers. Prior to building of the hotel, the site was occupied by the *Chateau Haldimand*, residence of the British colonial governors of Lower Canada and Quebec. Drawing on the architectural styles of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, the *Chateau Frontenac* immortalizes the



Chateau Frontenac

WHERE'S DRAGON HILL DAVE?

For much of September and October, **Dragon Hill Dave** and his wife, **Barely There**, have been caravanning around New England and Canada in their 5th wheel, enjoying fall foliage and other sights.

One of their stops was in Quebec City, where they visited the Parliament Building,

the Plains of Abraham where the decisive battle between the French and the English led to Canada becoming part of the British Empire, the *Chateau Frontenac* and the Citadelle of Quebec.

Continued below left column



history of the two great powers that had occupied Quebec City's highest promontory, France and England. The *Chateau Frontenac* opened in 1893 and owes its name to a flamboyant French governor, Louis de Buade, Count of Frontenac, who guided the destiny of New France from 1672 to 1698. Frontenac's coat-of-arms can be seen on the outside wall of the entry arch and throughout the hotel.

Dragon Hill Dave and **Barely There** have a tradition of taking "high tea" wherever it is offered and they have the time. Not sure about "high tea" at the *Chateau Frontenac*, but "high tea" is often a misnomer. Many people refer to afternoon tea as high tea because they think it sounds regal and lofty, whereas high tea was traditionally a working class meal served on a high table at the end of the workday. It was a heavy meal of meat dishes (e.g., steak and kidney pie), fish

dishes (e.g., pickled salmon), baked goods (e.g., crumpets), vegetables (e.g., potatoes or onion cakes) and other heavy foods (e.g., baked beans and cheesy casseroles). Afternoon tea, also known as "low tea" because it was usually taken in a sitting room where low tables (like a coffee table) were placed near sofas or chairs, is what most people think of when they hear "high tea." Afternoon tea involves things like manners, lace and dainty foods. It is typically served mid-afternoon with fancy pastries and cakes on delicate china. It is often a ladies' social event. High tea was a working class family meal rather than an elite social gathering.



**Dragon Hill Dave
& Barely There
Montmorency Falls, Quebec**

Whether high tea or afternoon tea, DHD and BT have taken tea at the *Chateau Lake Louise* and at the *Beauchart Gardens* and the *Victoria Hotel* in Victoria. High tea at the *Chateau Frontenac* turned out to be a little different from their previous experiences. It

did not start with champagne, which in DHD's estimation is a high point of high tea. There was, however, a good selection of teas and tasty morsels on a tray. To compensate for the lack of champagne, DHD sampled some Port.

The *Chateau Frontenac*, like many grand hotels, has various types of stores in its

many corridors. After tea, BT visited them all. DHD hung in as long as he could, but when he looked at his watch at an inappropriate moment, BT's hiss was an indication that DHD needed to find a Starbucks and read his book until BT finished shopping. According to DHD, she made just a "few" purchases. With shopping completed, they headed out to the plaza in front of the *Frontenac*, where they saw carriages that offered 45-minute rides around the Upper City. It was still a nice day turning to evening. Asking themselves when they would be in to Quebec again, they jumped in and enjoyed listening to their carriage driver who spoke passable English and had something to say about most everything.

I visited the *Chateau Frontenac* in August 1963 as a Coast Guard Academy cadet, having sailed up the St. Lawrence Seaway on the *Eagle*, a three-masted sailing ship used by the academy for its summer training cruises. Along with several other cadets, the first night off the ship I ventured into a bar at the *Frontenac* where I made the acquaintance of a beautiful French girl who was visiting Canada for the summer. Of course, I fell in love immediately and still remember ..., but then that's a story for another time.



Whose boots?



RO Corner: The “Trifecta”

There was a discussion on the wire recently, one of the usual, What’s the Call? The rifle string was supposed to be 4-3-2-1 on four targets. The shooter shot 4-3-1-1 and left one on the carrier. The responses were quick and consistent: “P” (10 sec.) for shooting the targets out of order (9th shot should have gone on the 3rd target instead of the 4th. Miss (5 sec.) for the unfired round. Minor Safety Violation

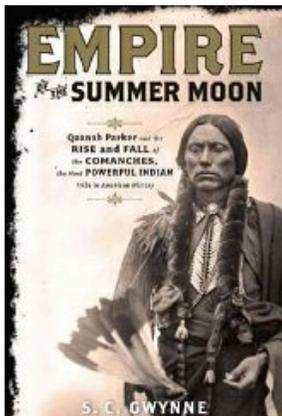
(MSV – 10 sec.) for round left in the rifle on the carrier. Total penalty 25 seconds, referred to by the “experts” as a variation on the “TRIFECTA.” There was an interesting addendum relating to the miss (unfired round) that is worth noting. “Just as when the shotgun round count is 4+, but all targets go down with three. The shooter receives a miss if the 4th round is not fired. It had nothing to do with the target.” Shooters and RO’s be aware!

Comanche Moon: What’s it mean?

From J. Frank Dobie’s book, *The Mustangs*, first published in 1952, “Every fall, for a third of a century, beginning about 1830, the Comanches rode down the established trails to despoil ranges and huddle inhabitants into ruin and terror hundreds of miles below the Rio Bravo.” *Editor’s note: The Rio Grande is known in Mexico as the Rio Bravo del Norte or simply the Rio Bravo.*

Almost 60 years later, in 2010, former *Time* and *Texas Monthly* editor S.C. Gwynne wrote a great book for anyone interested in the Plains Indian Wars and Texas history in general. The book is both a biography of the Comanche Chief, Quanah Parker, and a gripping, dramatic historical tale. In a nutshell, it’s a great read! The following is a brief summary of the story told in Gwynne’s, *Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches, the Most Powerful Indian Tribe in American History*.

In 1836 a Comanche raiding party swept down on the frontier settlement of Parker's Fort located between modern-day Groesbeck and Mexia east of Waco. During the raid, the Comanche killed five men and carried off



Parker's Fort

two women and three children, including nine-year-old Cynthia Ann Parker. This event had a significant effect on Texas history over the next 75 years. *Editor’s Note: “The SASS matches, Raid on Old Fort Parker” each March and “Defend Old Fort Parker” in October, hosted by the Old Fort Parker Patriots, commemorate this raid.*

The Comanche were the fierce Cossacks of the Southern Plains. Their mastery of the horse in the 1600’s enabled them to dominate the region. They halted northern Spanish expansion from Mexico and westward French incursions from Louisiana. Their raids ranged north to the Arkansas River that runs from Colorado through Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas to the Mississippi and deep into Mexico to the south. They drove the Apaches from the Texas plains and into the New Mexico-Arizona mesa country. In 1706, they attacked Taos, New Mexico. In the following decades they continued their savage harassment of the pueblo communities. Raids on Mexican haciendas netted horse

herds numbering in the thousands. For two centuries, Spanish, then Mexican, and finally American presence was mostly powerless against the Comanche. The raiding parties traveled at night. To this day, a full summer moon in Texas is called a "Comanche Moon."

Cynthia Parker was raised by the Indians, eventually marrying a chief, Peta Nocona. Like most young white captives, she became totally immersed in Comanche culture, even losing her ability to speak English. Despite her ultimate status as the "White Queen of the Comanche," her life was one of abject drudgery, as women did all the "blood and grease" work to maintain a nomadic culture based on buffalo hunting. Every day was a struggle for survival. Cynthia was "rescued" against her will 24 years later in 1860 by a force of Texas Rangers commanded by Sul Ross, a future governor of Texas. By then she had given birth to three children: a daughter named Prairie Flower; and two sons, one nicknamed "Peanuts," and the other the legendary Quanah Parker. The skirmish that liberated her left her with only her daughter. Her husband was killed. Her two sons escaped and were left to their own devices.

Quanah, born in 1848, grew up to be a warrior, and -- like his father -- eventually a chief. He mastered hunting, riding and fighting skills at a young age. In his early twenties, he participated in Comanche resistance to white settlement on the Texas plains. When the U.S. Army first encountered him in a skirmish on the Brazos River in 1871, he was a calculating young chief, known for bloodthirsty raiding to avenge the tragedy inflicted on his family. Unknown to him, Cynthia Parker died of influenza in 1870 after a decade of living unhappily with a series of white relatives. His sister Prairie Flower had died of pneumonia in 1864, still a child.

Quanah's persistent struggle continued four more years, as outside forces converged on

the Comanche. White settlers filled the Texas river valleys (the Brazos, the Guadalupe and the Rio Grande).

Buffalo hunters scoured the plains killing literally millions of bison, made valuable for

their hides by modern tanning methods. In the post-Civil War era, Washington could again turn its attention to the "Indian problem" hindering western expansion. Although California was already a state and the Pacific coast was being rapidly settled, the Great Plains and Rockies remained wild and unsettled, a great gap in American Manifest Destiny.

A two-century long mounted war culture made the Comanche fierce adversaries. Superior horsemen, they were masters of lightning-strike guerrilla tactics. Not only did they travel easily at night, but they excelled at evasion. At Blanco Canyon in 1871 Quanah avoided engaging a large force commanded by General Ranald "Bad Hand" Mackenzie by constantly dividing the fleeing Indians (including women and children and a large horse herd), leaving the noted Civil War veteran confused and ineffective. Mackenzie would not make the same mistakes three years later when he commanded three thousand troops converging on the Comanche in five columns from that many directions.

The Comanche's final defeat occurred at Palo Duro Canyon in the Texas Panhandle in 1874 during the Red River War. Though Quanah himself was not present, Mackenzie attacked a large village and inflicted heavy losses. The escaping Indians suffered, as Mackenzie captured thousands of pounds of



Quanah Parker

stored buffalo meat and intentionally shot 1,400 horses. The survivors eventually succumbed to relentless military pressure and severe winter weather. Small groups surrendered throughout the winter of 1874-75. Quanah himself brought his band to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in June 1875.

Only 27 at the time of his surrender, Quanah lived long thereafter and prospered in the cattle business on the Oklahoma reservation, his youth and half-white status easing the transition. He seemed to understand and adjust to the great change that had come to the Comanche. He had at different times a total of eight wives. He fathered 24 children. His polygamy was a sore spot with government bureaucrats and missionary types who dealt with him as the

primary Comanche leader. Quanah built a large home to accommodate his extensive household. His prized possession was a photograph of his mother Cynthia taken in Fort Worth following her return to civilization.

With varying degrees of success, the previously nomadic Comanche settled down to become farmers and ranchers. For Quanah, it was bittersweet, considering his family history and former free life on the plains. That way of life was only a vivid memory in his later years. He entertained the likes of President Teddy Roosevelt at his dinner table and made many trips to Washington to advance Comanche interests. He died in 1911.

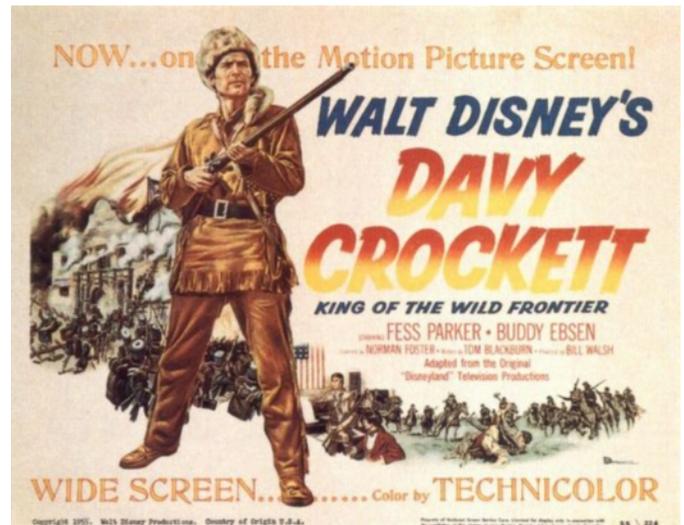
Movie Wit and Wisdom: Texas

“There’s plenty of room out there for every dream I’ve ever had.”

Davy Crockett played by Fess Parker in *Davy Crockett, King of the Wild Frontier* (1955)

“There’s room down there for a man to stretch his soul as well as his legs.”

Sam Houston played by Richard Dix in *Man of Conquest* (1939)



Los Tres Amigos!

Texas Sarge

Jake Jones

Captain Mack

Photos from the October Match

So where are all of the photos, you ask? Most are posted on the Plum Creek Shooting Society website. To see more, go to www.pccss.org, click on the Photo Tab, navigate to the match you want to view, click on the thumbnail and view to your heart's content.



Elroy Rogers



Lightning McQueen



Wyl' Bill Biggun



Remember, these men are among your leaders. Worried ?



It was good to have Klickitat Bob back, even for only one match



Agarita Annie helping, AGAIN!



Bad Little Mama



Kitchen Kate gives Patience a yank!



Patience being patient



Caos Drifter



Chisos



Bunk Stagner & Texas Blue Eyes



Nueces Slim Mesquite Creek Mike



Bronco Birnbaum



K Ash Maverick



Klickitat Bob



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Lars Christopherson



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	130	RNFP	59
	158	RNFP	63
	158	FP	63
	158	SWC	63
.380	100	RNFP	53
.38-55	245	RNFP	92*
.41	215	SWC	77
.44	180	RNFP	67
	240	SWC	81
.44-40	200	RNFP	70
.45 COLT	160	RNFP	76*
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	200	RNFP	70
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New-to-PCSS shooters, Texas Blue Eyes and Deputy Bloodhound, from Des Moines, Iowa. Welcome to Central Texas and the Plum Creek Shooting Society!