

AGARITA GAZETTE



A Chronicle of the Plum Creek Shooting Society



Agarita Ranch

May 2013

Lockhart, Texas

Ride with Pancho Villa 2013

May 1-5, the Plum Creek Shooting Society hosted the 2013 SASS Texas State Championship Match - Ride with Pancho Villa - at the Agarita Ranch near Lockhart, Texas. The match had a little something for everyone. First, if one did not like the warm, humid weather on Wednesday, a cold front brought wind and unseasonably cool temperatures for side-match Thursday. Those who shot the Main Match starting Friday morning experienced temperatures in the 40's, followed by temperatures approaching 90 when they finished Saturday afternoon. All-in-all, however, there was not much room to complain about the weather for a match in Texas the first weekend in May.

There was record turnout for RO classes on Wednesday, with 13 or 14 shooters attending RO1 and RO2 classes taught by **Dusty Lone Star**. **Goatneck Clem** had another 14 shooters attend his Wild Bunch RO class. More shooters started

trickling in Wednesday afternoon to pick up shooter packets, find out posse assignments and peruse the activity schedule. The Spoiled Doves of Texas were at the range to provide food starting with lunch on Wednesday.

Fifty men and women showed up early Thursday morning to shoot on three posses in the Wild Bunch match. Fifteen shooters participated in the Plainsman match Thursday afternoon. All day long there were cowboys and cowgirls shooting Long Range side matches and speed events. Lucky Nickels and Lucky Lone Stars could be purchased by anyone wanting the opportunity to shoot the speed events more than once. The Spoiled Doves served a great steak dinner Thursday night after the competition ended.

The Main Match began Friday morning with 254 shooters from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Colorado, Nevada, Montana and Australia shooting on 18

posses. Before the match began, Match Director **Dragon Hill Dave** presented a hilarious, but informative safety briefing decked out as Pancho Villa, complete with large sombrero and bushy mustache. All ten Main-Match stages were written by **Phantom**. Each stage was accompanied by an historical story about Pancho Villa, written by **Dragon Hill Dave**. Although relatively simple, each stage gave shooters an opportunity to decide how best to shoot the required

Continued next page



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Range Deputy - Lightning McQueen

sequence of shots. There were some small targets (chickens hanging from chains) and some large targets (near life-size buffalos). Most of the targets were pretty close, but not those dratted chickens. The men shot in 19 different categories, the women in 14, including Gunfighter and Frontier Cartridge. Sixteen men shot in one of two Cody-Dixon categories, single-shot and lever-action. They shot the same pistol and shotgun targets as everyone else, but shot longer-distant targets with rifle-caliber rifles. Everyone reported having a good time.

Results for the Side Matches were announced at dinner Friday night, which was well-received BBQ served by the Spoiled Doves. A Texas Hold 'Em poker tournament, organized by **Captain Jim Bison**, followed dinner Friday night. Additional food during the day Friday was provided by Fatty's – great breakfast tacos and Gorditas. An unfortunate food truck breakdown prevented Fatty's from returning on Saturday.

Results for the Main Match were announced at dinner Saturday night, also served by the Spoiled Doves. **Phantom** and **Joe Darter** handled the awards, shooter prizes and stretch raffle winners, all with grace and humor. **Shotglass** and her gals made sure there were plenty of tickets sold for the stretch raffle, which raised more than \$4,000 to help defray the expenses of the match. During the banquet, **Boon Doggle**, **Elroy Rogers** and **Wild Hog** were recognized for long-time service to the *Plum Creek Shooting Society* and significant contributions during preparation for the Texas State Championship. Also given special recognition was that organizational genius and "energizer bunny", Assistant Match Director, **Agarita Annie**. Men's overall winner was **Rattlesnake Wrangler**, shooting in the Young Gun category. Overall Lady's winner was Cowgirl **Hey You**. Top-5 buckles were handed out in each category; award plaques went to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Overall winners received the SASS Texas State Champion buckles. Complete scores, including category results, can be viewed on the Plum Creek Shooting Society website, www.pccss.org.

What's Inside:

Find Delta Raider	4
Jake's Stories	4
Message from Annie	5
Photos	6-13
The Dispatches	3

Continued next page

The Dispatches: Long Juan Here!



This month's column would more properly be titled, "True Confessions." I have done little or nothing since the State Match. I returned to my day-job full time. My partners and clients seem happy. Time will tell. I also managed a short vacation in Cabo San Lucas. We have friends with a beautiful villa on the Sea of Cortez near the Palmilla resort. We did little other than relax, eat and drink.



And the problem, I say? I did have time to read *The Searchers* again. I also read *The Searchers: The Making of an American Legend* and watched the movie again. All worthwhile. Other than the 24-hour return "trip-from-Hell" with late flights, missed connections and a forced overnight stay in an overrated one-star hotel in Dallas, the trip was just what the doctor ordered.

Continued from previous page

After Cowboy Church Sunday morning, the match concluded with man-on-man, won by "Master Gunfighter" **Joe Darter** in a final shootout with **Phantom**.

More than 15 vendors provided goods and services that included clothing, boots, knives, leather, gold-plating of sites, bullets and other sundries. Sponsors for the match included Cimarron Firearms, Storied Firearms, McBride's Guns, Red's Indoor Range, Rugged Gear, Callahan's General Store, Bond Arms/Sportsman's Finest,

Photos from the match are finally posted on the website. Thanks to **Boon Doggle**, **Artie Fly**, **Lincoln Drifter**, **Skinny Steve**, **Eli Blue** and others who contributed more than 900 photos from which to choose. I selected photos from the shoot-through, check-in, side-matches, **Dragon Hill Dave**'s great "Pancho Villa" safety briefing, the Main Match, the banquet, awards, portraits, Man-on-Man and more.

The *Plum Creek Shooting Society* will shoot at the Agarita Ranch this coming Saturday, June 1st. We will be shooting the "Best-of-State" - Stages 3, 5 , 7, 8, 9 & 10. If you didn't shoot the State Match, this is your chance to try your hand at some great stages. If you did, this is a chance to improve your scores. Registration will open at 7:45 a.m. We will close at 8:30 to assign posses. We will open again to register stragglers right before the shooters' safety meeting at about 8:45. If you are a straggler, we may not be able to honor your posse request. Be early to avoid that possibility. We plan to be hammers down promptly at 9:00 a.m. Hope to see you there.

Texas Hatters, Starline Brass. Arrow Printing and Texas Hatters.

Thanks to the *Green Mountain Regulators*, *Tejas Caballeros*, Dragon Hill Development, Tarryhollow Gang, EGB's, Agarita Annie and Nueces Slim for their extra support of the match. Finally, thanks to everyone who made this event possible and to all who participated. We hope to host again next year. We hope everyone will return and some who were not able to shoot this year will be able to shoot with us in 2014.

FIND Delta Raider

Last month, **Delta Raider** gave us an alternative target so we would not shoot one of his prized longhorns. He was apparently tougher to find than the previous month. Only seven cowboys and cowgirls reported finding him.

Mentioned in the dispatches are:

**Sterling Sage, Boon Doggle,
Skinny Steve, Annalong
Longshot, G.T. Sharps, Lincoln
Drifter and Six Goin' South.**

Speaking of **Six Goin' South**, we are sorry she missed the State Match and hope her sister and mother are feeling better. Can you find **Delta Raider** this month?



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Stories from Jake (*Paladin that is*):

In the Victorian Age and in the Old West, ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in straight-laced', wore a tightly laced corset.

A MESSAGE FROM ANNIE

Language is such an amazing thing.
It can be used to convey a simple idea or it
can be used to paint a vivid image:

The sun set.

-or-

*Every night
The horizon lights up
Swirls of pink and orange
Fading to blue and purple
Few bother to look anymore
At a blessing
That only comes once a day*

(Jessica Millsaps)

It can etch into our very being a time and a place:

“That’s one small step for man; one giant leap for mankind.” (Neil Armstrong

Words can last for hundreds of years

“This above all: to thine own self be true.

(Hamlet, Act I, Scene III)

As amazing as language is, I find it woefully inadequate as I try to find the words to express my gratitude to all of you who volunteered your time to assist with the SASS Texas State Championship. I cannot thank you enough for your assistance, help and support. I will not name names as I am sure to forget someone but you know who you are and please know that I sincerely thank you for your help. It is this part of our sport that is not written about but it is certainly an aspect that sets our sport and our shooters apart from the crowd. It did not matter if the trash needed to be emptied, targets needed to be painted, tables needed to be decorated, Side Matches needed to be manned, score sheets needed to be picked up, scores needed to be entered or toilet paper needed to be checked in the men's room, YOU were there and you helped no matter the task. I am truly humbled and honored to be associated with such a sport and with such amazing folks. THANK YOU!

Agarita Annie



“There’s no place like this place, anywhere near this place, so this must be the place.” Manny Gammage

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Longhorns and rattlers at the ranch during the State Match



Bandera Kid, Newt Ritter timing



Waterloo



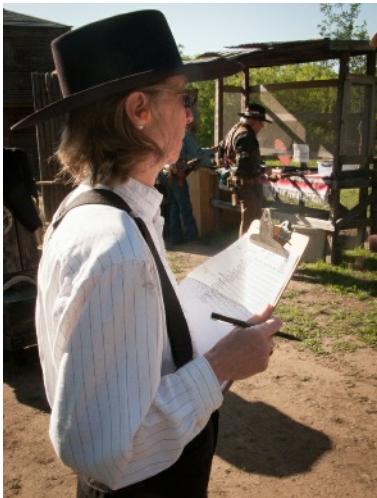
Whose flag is cuter? Jake Jones or Boon Doggle?



Shoot
Through
Posse

Phantom's San Francisco
Surrender was more
impressive in person!!

Agarita Annie scoring for the
shoot-throughs



Damn, Lightning
dresses up "good."





Just try and tell me that Minnitex Slim didn't buy some stretch raffle tickets!



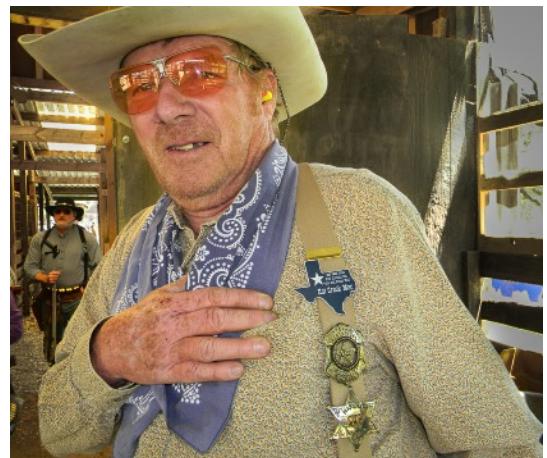
Phantom & Joe Darter did a great job co-hosting the awards banquet



Overall Texas State Champions:
Hey You & Rattlesnake Wrangler
Congratulations!!



Posse 18 takes a break



Hat Creek Mack showing off his great RPV13 Badge



Whiskey Kid



Buckeye Slim



Great Wild Bunch Posse



Captain Jim Bison shooting Wild Bunch



Wild Hog spotting for the long-range side match



Dragon Hill Dave, a/k/a Pancho Villa, delivering a safety briefing at the beginning of the match.



Pancho Villa arriving in style!



Above, Patience signals the start of the match.
Below, shooters attend a cool and early morning safety briefing.





Who are these guys, anyway?



Kettleman
Desperado or Posse Marshal?



Farr Ranger, author & cowboy shooter



Bronco Birnbaum



Shotgun Jim



Artiman



Joe Darter looks happy after besting Phantom in Man-on-Man to win the Master Gunfighter award



Yuma Jack, new president of the Texican Rangers



Nueces Ranger



L.W. Hannabass shooting the holy black



Handlebar Bob showing how it's done - shooting Duelist that is!



Dragon Hill Dave showing how he broke his foot



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	105	FP	30	60
	125	RNFP	32	64
	125	FP	32	64
	130	RNFP	32.50	65
	158	RNFP	35	70
	158	FP	35	70
	158	SWC	35	70
.380	100	RNFP	29.50	59
.38-55	245	RNFP	51	102
.41	215	SWC	42.50	85
.44	180	RNFP	37	74
	240	SWC	45	90
.44-40	200	RNFP	39	78
.45 COLT	160	RNFP	42	84
	180	RNFP	37	74
	200	RNFP	39	78
	250	RNFP	46	92
9MM	124	RN	32	64
	125	CN	32	64
40 S&W	180	FP	37	74
.45ACP	200	SWC	39	78
	200	RN	39	78
	230	RN	43.50	87
45-70	405	FPT	92.50	185