

# AGARITA GAZETTE



*A Chronicle of the Plum Creek Shooting Society*



Agarita Ranch

June 2014

Lockhart, Texas

## Mack Farrel (Elroy Rogers)



Mack and his many contributions to the Plum Creek Shooting Society. I first got to know Mack many years ago when he was running things at Red's Indoor Shooting Range near the "Y" in Oak Hill. He was the friendly, knowledgeable guy who greeted me each time I walked through the door. Later, when I started shooting cowboy action, I went to Red's one afternoon to spend some time trying out my new-to-me '73 lever action rifle. Both Mack and Bert Parchman (**Wild Hog**), who also worked at Red's, were very helpful and invited me to come shoot with the Plum Creek Shooting Society. That invitation soon led me to the Agarita Ranch.

Mack was a charter life member of the Plum Creek Shooting Society. When I started shooting with the Plum Creek Shooting Society, my usual posse included **Elroy Rogers** and **Wild Hog**. Most of us on the posse shot Grand Army of the Frontier or Cody-Dixon. Those categories require shooting at rifle targets further away than the close-in cowboy-action targets. Shooting monthly with Mack let me get to know and appreciate him more than I ever would have simply from our interaction at Red's. Mack was one of those guys who seemed never to miss the longer-range rifle targets. He and **Boon Doggle** were simply amazing. Mack was also one of the friendliest and most helpful guys I've ever known. When my daughter, **Sterling Sage**, began to shoot cowboy action a few years after I did, he took

We lost a good friend this month. **Mack Farrel (Elroy Rogers)** died from pancreatic cancer on June 11, 2014. Mack was 70 years old. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mack's family at this time of loss,

sorrow and celebration of Mack's life.

We all miss and will remember

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her under his wing and helped her become an excellent shot, particularly with her rifle. She thought the world of Mack and he seemed to reciprocate those feelings. When Sterling admired Mack's new Ruger Bisleys, he immediately handed them to her and told her to go shoot them. Mack was just that kind of guy.

Mack did most everything necessary to keep the range at the Agarita Ranch going. He built and repaired targets. He built and repaired props. He did everything! Stage 3 at the Agarita Ranch is appropriately named the **Elroy Rogers Wheelwright Shop**. Mack stored all of his tools and supplies there. Although many others made and continue to make contributions to the range at the Agarita Ranch, without Mack, the range would not be what it is today – the best cowboy action shooting venue in all of Texas for sure, likely in the whole wide world.

On the Sunday after Mack's death, a group of about 60 of his friends and family gathered at the Agarita Ranch to share memories and to honor Mack. An honor guard of his cowboy friends commanded by  **Scooter** fired a 21-gun salute in honor of Mack's life. The honor guard included  **Jake Jones, Texas Sarge, Lucky Nickel, Wild Hog, Jarhead Jake** and  **Jake Paladin**. The Austin Light Artillery Battery, led by  **Artiman** and  **Lefty Leo**, fired its canon

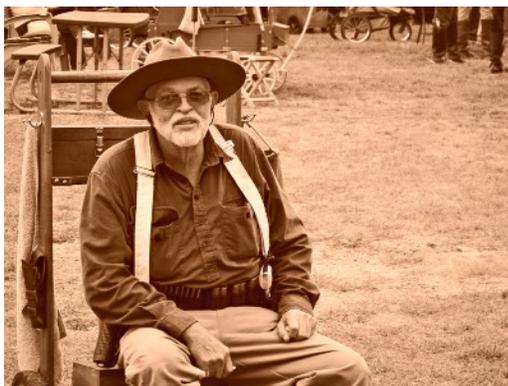
"Patience" right after the 21-gun salute. Other Plum Creek members attending the celebration of Mack's life included  **G.T. Sharps, Annalong Longshot, Dragon Hill Dave, True Blue Cachoo, Boon Doggle** and  **Chisos**.  **Delta Raider** spoke briefly about how much Mack loved the Agarita Ranch and how much he did for the Plum Creek Shooting Society. At the conclusion of the ceremony,  **Artiman** presented artillery medals to Mack's family and they were given the brass from the 21-gun salute. The BBQ Capital 4H Shooting Sport Club served barbeque to those attending the celebration. Mack was a big supporter and asked that any memorial contributions in his name be made to that organization. There was a funeral service the next morning in Lockhart, followed by burial at the Texas Historical Cemetery in Center Point where many early pioneers and community leaders are buried, including 32 Texas Rangers – a fitting resting place for Mack.



Mack's brother, Eddie, shared with me, and likely with many others, some of his thoughts about his big brother. Eddie called them, "Eddie's (**Old Bill Dick**) Reflection on Mack (**Elroy Rogers**)". With Eddie's permission, I share his reflections with you.

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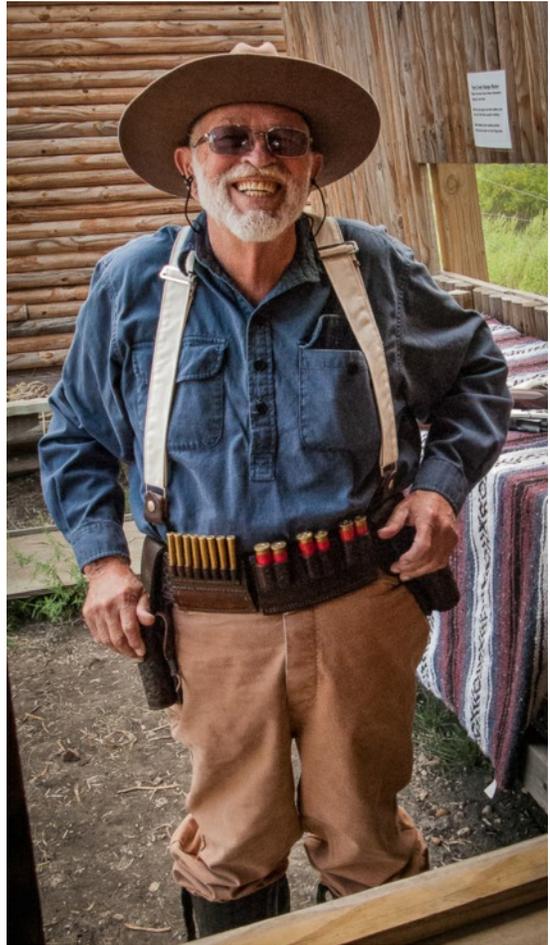
- Mack was a greaser in his teenage years, although the term was not used back then.
- Mack spent most of his younger years under the hood of a car.
- Mack was once thrown out of school for wearing a flat top with fenders.
- Mack once released live bats in the local theatre.
- Mack had a motorcycle...sold it in pieces in a cardboard box...I was never allowed to have a motorcycle after that.
- Mack showed steers in the FFA. Mom had to feed the thing. I was never allowed to be in the FFA.
- Mack and his hoodlum friends used me to start fights with kids they didn't like.
- Mack snuck me into the drive inn in the trunk of his car.
- Mack taught me how to hunt and fish and play poker.
- Mack used me as his retriever when we went duck hunting.
- Mack followed wheat harvest every summer.
- Mack played the trombone in the high school band.
- Mack has forgotten more about guns than I will ever know.
- Mack never did anything small. He would say, if your gonna do something, by God do it with all your heart.
- Mack tore up every toy I ever owned just to see how it worked.
- Mack used to have a long nose until a steer in a squeeze shoot lurched, caused the handle to swing around and durn near knock his nose off.
- Mack didn't want to join SASS. After competition shooting, he thought cowboy shooting was not his thing. As I recall, Chisos finally convinced him.
- Mack's alias came from the fact he used to live in Elroy and wife Jean's maiden name is Rogers.
- Mack met the love of his life, Jean, at the Govalle Church of Christ. This is the same place I met Molly. Not to be outdone and in his usual competitive spirit, Mack and Jean got married a week before Molly and me. We had to wait for them to get back from their honeymoon before we could go on ours in that we only had one car between us.
- The code of the cowboy is to never leave the herd or a friend in times of turmoil. If there were an award for best cowboy it would surely have to go to Mack's wife, Jean. She never left his side during his sickness and made sure he was well taken care of.
- Mack was one of a kind. He may have disagreed with you and may have got in your face, but rest assured he loved you and would do anything for you.



*Continued next page*

- I have no doubt Mack is in heaven preparing a range for us and rounding up a posse. In such a perfect place I have no doubt Mack will come up with targets such that everyone will not have perfect matches.
- Mack was the ultimate cowboy, husband, brother, father and friend. I am proud to be **Elroy Rogers**' little brother. That is why from now on I want to be known as **Leroy Rogers**. Old Bill Dick has been laid to rest.

On behalf of all of us, I say thanks to **Leroy Rogers** for sharing those thoughts about his big brother **Elroy Rogers**. In closing, I am proud and honored to have known Mack. Mack will live on through all of us who knew him. The plaque below, made by **Little Bullseye** and her Dad, **Lightning McQueen**, says it all. Those of us who knew Mack and shoot with the Plum Creek Shooting Society at the Agarita Ranch will shoot in honor of **Elroy Rogers** every time we have the opportunity to shoot. Thanks Mack!



## Plum Creek Shooting Society Officers

### President - **Dragon Hill Dave**

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### Vice President - **Joe Darter**

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### Editor, **Agarita Gazette** -

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### Territorial Governor - **Jake Paladin**

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chuck@agaritaranch.com

### Range Deputy - **Lightning McQueen**

Jesus Segura  
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vwbug66@gmail.com

### Safety Marshal - **Artiman**

Jay Davis  
Lockhart, TX 512-762-7175  
rebeljaybird1962@att.net

### Stage Marshal - **P.T.**

### Flag Marshal - **Artiman**

[www.pccss.org](http://www.pccss.org)

## President's Word:

Plum Creek Shooting Society President **Dragon Hill Dave** is in New Mexico with other club members shooting at End of Trail, the World Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting.



## Find Delta Raider

It must be summer and everyone is on vacation. Only 5 people reported finding **Delta Raider** in the May issue. He was saluting smartly in Thumler's Tumbler. Hereby mentioned in the dispatches are **Meadow Biscuit Slim, Howdy Nabor, Six Goin' South, Sterling Sage** and **Czexican Dave**. Let's see who finds him this month. Hint: DR was not always his current age.



## Long Juan Here: *The Dispatches*

Hot off the press! At its meeting in June, the Board of the Plum Creek Shooting Society named **Delta Raider** Match Director for Battle of Plum Creek 2015, the SASS Texas State Championship. Assisting Delta Raider will be Deputy Match Director - Operations, **Dragon Hill Dave**, and Deputy Match Director - Administration, **Agarita Annie**. **Jake Paladin, Joe Darter, Lefty Leo, Lightning McQueen, Long Juan** and **True Blue Cachoo** make up the rest of the Planning Committee. We will need plenty of volunteers to make the match successful. We will be in touch as we get organized. In the meantime, registration information can be found on the State Match page at the Plum Creek website.

## Dragon Hill Dave named SASS Regulator

**Dragon Hill Dave**, president of the Plum Creek Shooting Society, has been named a SASS Regulator in the Class of 2014. SASS Regulators are SASS members who work above and beyond the call of duty for the benefit of SASS, the clubs with which they shoot and other SASS shooters. Regulators personify the Cowboy Way. Each is an outstanding role model for all shooters, young and old alike.

Nominations to be recognized as a SASS Regulator are sent to the Wild Bunch for their consideration each year before *END OF TRAIL*. One hundred twenty three SASS members from across the United States joined in nominating **Dragon Hill Dave**, including many who are already SASS Regulators.

**Dragon Hill Dave** was one of 25 selected this year from among 52 nominations received from all over the world. His selection was announced at opening ceremonies for *END of TRAIL* on June 25<sup>th</sup>. At that time, he was presented with his

unique, personalized Regulator Badge (see below), which is an emblem of honor to those men and women who have been recognized as SASS Regulators.



Congratulations Dave. Well deserved!



### Stories from Jake (Paladin that is):

**Thanks to a Winchester rifle, we know Billy the Kid wasn't a lefty.**

A famous tintype photograph of Billy the Kid shows him with a holster on his left side. For years, that portrait led many to believe that the outlaw was left-handed.

Most tintype cameras, however, produced a negative image that appeared positive once it was developed, meaning the end result was the reverse of reality. We know the photo of Billy the Kid was the reverse of reality because he posed with his Winchester Model 1873 lever-action rifle. In the photo, Billy's rifle appears to have a loading gate on the left side, but Winchester only made the '73 with a loading gate on the right. Thus the holster shown on Billy the Kid's left side was really on his right side, making him a righty, not a lefty.



# June Match Photos



L.W. Hannabass greeting Texas Ghost, who attended our monthly match to present the Plum Creek Shooting Society with two pistol cases in recognition of money collected at Battle of Plum Creek 2014 and donated to the TSRA



Queso Kid



Spotters and scorekeeper, Cimarron Jones, Nueces Drifter & True Blue Cachoo

SklinDawg



Cimarron Jones - great hat!

Nueces Slim



Shooters' Safety Meeting before hammers down





Rogue Heeler with Cowboy Small running the timer



Long Juan shooting, Phantom timing



SkInDawg with his Dad, David Skinner keeping score.



Father, Hopalong Herbert, (left) and daughter, Ivory Venom (below) both show great shooting form



Charlie Reynolds shooting gunfigher





Little Bullseye enjoys a pickle break



Kuckleburr helps with spotting



Dutch Van Horn's great new pewter grips



Phantom says, ... ??



Spur Broke



Phantom



True Blue Cachoo



Diamond Kate



Mesquite Creek Mike

Johnny Morris, SASS# 69007  
 Montana Hannah, SASS# 69008  
 Cheyenne Ranger, SASS# 49747  
 (713) 703-1915 johnny@jm-leather.com  
 jm-leather.com



Dragon Hill Dave



Lightning McQueen



Six Goin' South & Lincoln Drifter havin' some kind of fun! Must be a selfie!

Thanks to Six Goin' South,  
 Lincoln Drifter, Lightning  
 McQueen, Little Bullseye &  
 Dragon Hill Dave for  
 contributing photos this  
 month.

# Long Juan goes to France

In May, right after the Battle of Plum Creek, Powderkeg Patty and I visited France. We had a great time.



Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris



Brand on Napoleon's Horse

Mont St. Michel





Eiffel Tower



American Cemetery at Normandy

## More from France



Arc de Triomphe in Paris

# RED'S



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## Even More from France



For a moment in France, I had hope. Then I discovered they were selling printer cartridges.



At least someone in France must have an interest in the American Old West.

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place, so this must be the place." Manny Gammage

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# Longhorn Bullets



Pricing, effective 9/1/13\*

Don Herbert (Hopalong) 210-602-6994

Rick Page 210-844-9362

Caliber	Weight	Config.	Price/500	Price/1000
.38	100	RNFP	32	64
	105	FP	33	66
	125	RNFP	35	70
	125	FP	35	70
	130	RNFP	36	72
	158	RNFP	39	77
	158	FP	39	77
	158	SWC	39	77
.380	100	RNFP	33	65
.38-55	245	RNFP	59	117
.41	215	SWC	49	98
.44	180	RNFP	41	81
	240	SWC	52	104
.44-40	200	RNFP	45	90
.45 COLT	160	RNFP	46	92
	180	RNFP	41	81
	200	RNFP	45	90
	250	RNFP	53	106
9MM	124	RN	35	70
	125	CN	35	70
40 S&W	180	FP	41	81
.45ACP	200	SWC	45	90
	200	RN	45	90
	230	RN	51	101
45-70	405	FPT	111	222

\*Price increase because of higher cost of lead. Sorry for any inconvenience.