

AGARITA GAZETTE



A Chronicle of the Plum Creek Shooting Society



Agarita Ranch

May 2015

Lockhart, Texas

SASS Texas State Championship Battle of Plum Creek 2015

by Long Juan

More than 11 inches of rain fell on the Agarita Ranch in the two weeks leading up to the 2015 SASS Texas State Championship match. In the four weeks since the match, another 16 inches have fallen. We need the rain, so we are not complaining, but we were extremely fortunate to have been able to shoot the match when we did. It was so wet before the match that workers who planned to pre-shoot the match two weeks earlier had to wait until the Sunday before the match and then only were able to shoot 6 of 10 stages. The remaining stages had to be shot catch-as-catch-can during the main match. Thanks to the posses that let us "shoot-through."

In the days before the match, everyone worked hard to make sure the shooting experience on match weekend would be a great one. Special mention for their hard work helping us get ready to **Lightning McQueen**, **Lefty Leo**, **Nueces Slim** and the **Manchaca Kid**. There was grass to mow, drying chips to spread and much more. Targets had to be set and painted. Props had to be reworked and put in final shape for the shoot. Volunteers galore worked steady the days and nights before the match and even some on side-match Thursday to make sure everything was ready.

The shooting began early Thursday morning as 11 shooters on Marshal **Two Gun Johnnie's** Plainsman posse took to the range and started sending black smoke down range. By morning's end, **Six** and **Kow Katcher** had recorded scores that won them first place in the men's and women's categories respectively. Also



Thursday morning and early afternoon, **Texas Jack Daniels** taught RO1 and RO2 classes. Everyone who attended reported learning lots. Registration opened for shooter check-in at 10 a.m. and by late Thursday, all but 35 of 249 registered shooters



Continued on page 3.

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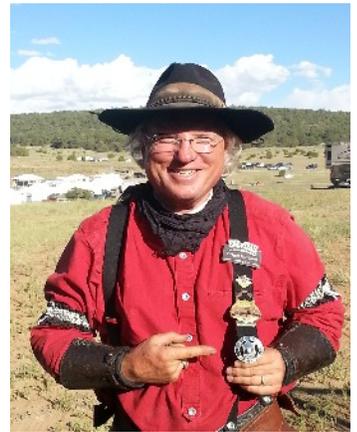
Stage Marshal - **P.T.**

Flag Marshal - **Artiman**

www.pccss.org

President's Word:

DHD and **LJ** thank everyone for all the hard work that went into making the 2015 SASS Texas State Championship a great match. Special thanks to **Agarita Annie**, who was again the Energizer Bunny throughout the match. Without her help and the help of many others, the match would not have been possible. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Agarita Ranch for our June shoot. We will be shooting "best-of" stages from the State Match so everyone should have a great time and not too much will be required for set-up.



SASS Regulator, National Champion
Classic Cowboy & PCSS President
Dragon Hill Dave



Long Juan Here:

FIND DELTA RAIDER:



I would tell you that I made it pretty easy to find **Delta Raider** last month. Guess everyone was focused on the State Match. Only 15 readers reported finding him in "Comancheria." Mentioned in the dispatches for finding him are:

Boon Doggle, Six Goin' South, El Sabre, Lefty Leo, Big John Mesquite, Lincoln Drifter (late report finding him in March also), **Madame V, Sole Proprietor, Manassas Jack, Sheriff Robert Love, Czexican Dave, Meadow Biscuit Slim, Delta Raider, Artiman** and **Hoss Roonwright**. You won't find him hidden this month. Instead, for a mention in the dispatches next month, tell me whose cigar is pictured to the right.



had picked up posse assignments and the great shooter's bag put together by **Agarita Annie** and her many helpers. Right after lunch, six ladies and 39 men participated in the 4-stage Wild Bunch match. They shot on three posses led by Marshals **Joe Darter**, **Sheriff Robert Love** and **Bear Gunz**. **Shooting Iron Miller** won Ladies Wild Bunch Modern and **Green Eyed Brazos Belle** won Ladies Traditional. **Pineywoods Jim** won Wild Bunch Traditional by less than two seconds



over second place finisher, **Tex** (SASS #4), while **Captain Sam Evans** won the Modern category, just ahead of his father, **Goatneck Clem**. During the mid-afternoon hours,



Texas Flower presented a costuming seminar with help from **Kathouse Kelli** and few others. Attendance and participation was great. They were on the other side of the pavilion from shooter check-in where I was working. I learned more than I thought I ever could about the construction, size, shape and wearing of bustles and corsets. It was a great afternoon. Thanks **Flower**.

All day long Thursday, shooters participated in various side matches, including Long Range and just about every "fastest" match you can imagine. **Bristlecone Jan** won Ladies Long Range Lever and Single Shot, while **Davy Austin** and **Circuit Judge** won Men's Long Range Lever and Single Shot, respectively. Other side match winners included:

- Ladies Long Range Pistol Caliber - Bellekaye
- Long Range Pistol Caliber - Verdadero Dan
- Ladies Long Range Pistol - Bellekaye
- Long Range Pistol - Rusty Remington
- Ladies Fastest Rifle - Panhandle Cowgirl
- Fastest Rifle - Phantom
- Ladies Fastest Pistol - Spur Broke
- Fastest Pistol - Rusty Remington
- Ladies Fastest 1911 - Green Eyed Brazos Belle
- Fastest 1911 - Constable Nelson

- Ladies Fastest Shotgun 87-97 - Mar-Lynn
- Fastest Shotgun 87-97 - Phantom
- Ladies Fastest SG SxS - Panhandle Cowgirl
- Fastest Shotgun SxS - Constable Nelson
- Ladies Fastest Shotgun Hammered - Shotgun
- Fastest Shotgun Hammered - Needmore Gunz
- Ladies Fastest Pocket Pistol - Daisy Dee
- Fastest Pocket Pistol - Rusty Remington
- Ladies Fastest Derringer - Dream Chaser
- Fastest Derringer - Colorado Jackson

One side match that requires more explanation is the Coal Burner. A charcoal briquette was placed on a cart mounted on rails. At the buzzer, the shooter retrieved his/her shotgun staged on a barrel and released the cart, which rolled down the rails. The first shot was used to engage a popper on the cart that, when hit, sent the briquette airborne. With the second shot, the shooter engaged the flying briquette. Quickest time without misses won. Fun was had by all who participated, but **Spur Broke** and **Two Gun Johnnie** ended up with no misses and the fastest times.

Continued next page

At the end of the shooting day Thursday, Stage Sheriffs and Posse Marshals did a walk-through of main-match stages with **Phantom** and **Joe Darter**, who with a little help from a few others, wrote the great main-match stages we shot. **Jake Jones**, **Nueces Slim** and **Lefty Leo** served as Stage Sheriffs. Stage Sheriffs, each assigned 3 or 4 stages, were “first responders” when questions came up during the match. We had 15 great posse marshals who kept things running smoothly and efficiently throughout the main match. Thanks to Marshals **Anvil Al**, **Bear Gunz**, **Billy Boots**, **Brushy Creek Bill**, **Dutch Van Horn**, **Eli Blue**, **Kettleman**, **Kit Carson**, **Scooter**, **Sheriff Robert Love**, **Texas Jack Daniels**, **Texas Slim**, **Two Gun Johnnie**, **Walter Durbin** and **Whiskey Kid**.

Have I mentioned the weather? As noted earlier, the weeks leading into the match were laden with heavy rain, but the weather for the days during the match itself could not have been better. It was sunny and dry – cool in the morning and warm in the afternoon. That’s absolutely as good as it gets in Central Texas in early May. As a side note, at least 16 more inches of rain have fallen at the Agarita Ranch in the four weeks since the match. We were very lucky and count your blessings while wishing all the best to those who have suffered during the floods in Central Texas that have resulted from the rain.



That said, Friday morning of the match dawned sunny and cool. Seven posses of shooters showed up for the shooter safety meeting at 8:30. Match Director, **Delta Raider**, welcomed everyone to the Agarita Ranch, where the Plum Creek Shooting Society regularly shoots. The Agarita Ranch Events Center is owned by **Delta Raider** and his wife, **Sue Freely**. After **Delta Raider** imparted his words of welcome, **Phantom** and **Joe Darter** briefed shooters on the stages they would be shooting and Safety Marshal, **Artiman**, gave a safety briefing. Then came what has become fun tradition at big matches hosted by the Plum Creek Shooting Society. Club president, **Dragon Hill Dave**,



appropriately attired as Matthew “Old Paint” Caldwell and complete with personal sound effects and big knife in hand, demonstrated to shooters how they would be scalped if they violated any SASS or range safety rules. Ranger Captain Caldwell, who fought and led at the real Battle of Plum Creek, was nicknamed “Old Paint” because



of white spots in his hair, beard and on his breast - like a paint horse. **Dragon Hill Dave** certainly looked the part.

Formalities complete, main-match hammers were down by 9:00 a.m. By the end of the day, all 15 posses had completed five of the ten main-match stages and were ready to party. **Six Wire** and friend provided great live music. Snacks and beverages were served, while side match awards and shooters prizes were handed out. There were guns, knives and pretty much anything and everything that a shooter could want among the shooter prizes. Many in attendance finished the night with a great bowl of jambalaya cooked and served by **Whiskey Kid** at his circle of RV wagons.



Left to right - Judge Roy Bean, Cat Ballou, Tex and Justice Lily Kate

We were very fortunate to have members of The Wild Bunch join us for the match. **Judge Roy Bean** (SASS #1), his wife, **Justice Lily Kate** (SASS #1,000), **Tex** (SASS #4) and his wife, **Cat Ballou** (SASS #55) were all there. We thank them for being a part of the Battle of Plum Creek 2015 and for everything they have done for years to make cowboy action shooting the great sport it is today.

Saturday dawned a little earlier for the shooters, as we were hammers down by 8:30 in order to finish in plenty of time to get ready for the big awards banquet that night. Immediately after the shooting was finished, more than 26 people entered the late-afternoon costume contest judged by **Texas Flower**, **Kathouse Kelli** and **Cowtown Scout**. Competitors had to be SASS members, but did not have to be registered shooters. Awards were presented three deep. Best-Dressed winners included Couple - **Smoke Jensen** and **Gypsy Diamond**; Gentleman - **Kettleman**; Lady - **Yankee Texan**; B-Western Lady - **Lil McGill**; B-Western - **Handlebar Bob**; Soiled Dove/Parlor House Madam - **Shotglass**; Military - **Major H.J.H. Williams**; Junior Girl - **Texas Cutie** and Junior Boy -

Kidd James. For **Smoke Jensen, Gypsy Diamond** and son, **Kidd James**, it was a family sweep.



The Family Jensen

At the awards banquet Saturday night, everyone enjoyed chicken fried steak and fixin's for dinner, while **Dragon Hill Dave, Joe Darter** and **Phantom** served as masters of ceremony and **Agarita Annie** once again played the Energizer Bunny, keeping everything organized and running efficiently. **Shotglass** and her crew did a great job with the stretch raffle. Not sure if everyone was buying tickets for the raffle or just to enjoy the "stretch." Thanks **Shotglass** and crew for everything. Money was raised to defray expenses for the match and for a nice donation to the SASS scholarship fund. Included in the items raffled were a Dillon 650, together with several rifles and pistols. **Handlebar Bob** served as live auctioneer for a first-generation Colt donated by Event Sponsor Red's Indoor Range. Thanks to **Goatneck Clem** for the winning bid and to everyone else who encouraged him to bid high.



Congratulations to overall winners, Texas State Champion, **Matt Black** and Ladies Texas State Champion, **Spur Broke**. Top Ten overall in order of finish were **Matt Black, Constable Nelson, SkinDawg, Oklahoma Dee, Rusty Remington, I Reckon, Copperhead James, Boomstick Jay, You Bet** and **Captain Sam Evans**. Congratulations also to **52 (21%) clean shooters**. Space limitations prevent the inclusion of everyone receiving an award. Complete scores and results of the costume contest are available on the Texas State Championship page of the Plum Creek website, www.pccss.org.

Finally, congratulations also to our category winners:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Alias</u>
Buckarett	Little Bullseye
Junior Girl	Diamond Kate
Junior	Matt Black
Cowgirl	Spur Broke
Cowboy	Boomstick Jay
Lady Wrangler	Kathouse Kelli
Wrangler	Copperhead James
Lady 49'r	Bent Barrel Betty
49'r	Constable Nelson
Lady Senior	Dream Chaser
Senior	I Reckon
Lady Silver Senior	Bristlecone Jan
Silver Senior	Lefty Wheeler
Grand Dame	Cactus Kay
Elder Statesman	Pineywoods Jim
Cattle Baroness	Boosey Babe
Cattle Baron	Rebel Bill
Patron	Ed Sieker - Texas Ranger

<u>Category</u>	<u>Alias</u>
Lady B-Western	Panhandle Cowgirl
B-Western	Texas Slim
Classic Cowgirl	Hot Tamale
Classic Cowboy	Dragon Hill Dave
Lady Duelist	Green Eyed Brazos Belle
Duelist	Hairtrigger Hayes
Senior Duelist	Eli Blue
Silver Senior Duelist	Handlebar Bob
Gunfighter	Rusty Remington
Lady Senior Gunfighter	Krazy Legs Kay
Senior Gunfighter	Texas Gator
Lady Frontier Cartridge	Silver Streak Barb
Frontier Cartridge	Preacher Kid
Frontier Cartridge Duelist	Billy Boots
Frontiersman	Six
Lady Cody Dixon Lever	Red Ramblin Rose
Cody Dixon Lever	Bootstrap Richard
Cody Dixon Single	Old River Ranger

Sunday morning started with cowboy church in the chapel at the Agarita Ranch. “The Reverend” **Bisbee Jackson** presided and **Cameo Jackie (Wildcat Bob’s better half, a/k/a Wildcat Tamer)** provided some beautiful *a cappella* music. Man-on-man and a team shoot followed cowboy church. **Phantom** was last man standing in man-on-man, but getting there was pretty tough. In the round of six, **Phantom** beat **Ain’t Dunit**, **Oklahoma Dee** beat **Constable Nelson** and **Jackaroo** beat **Spur Broke**. Both **Spur Broke** and **Constable Nelson** shot



faster than their opponents, but both missed the rifle knock-down to close it out. Thereafter, **Jackaroo** had a bye while **Phantom** had to beat **Oklahoma Dee** to face **Jackaroo** in the finals. Four teams started the team shoot. The photo below shows the final two teams. Notwithstanding some fingers to the contrary, the team on the right



finished first – **Czexican Dave**, **Constable Nelson**, **Jackaroo**, **Panhandle Cowgirl** and **Cowboy Small**. Congratulations all!



Overall the 2015 SASS Texas State Championship – the Battle of Plum Creek – hosted by the Plum Creek Shooting Society at the Agarita Ranch was a booming (literally) success. Don't forget, each wave on Friday started with a boom from Patience, fired by **Lefty Leo** and others of the Austin Light Artillery Battery. Shooters must have enjoyed themselves. These are some of the emails we received in the following days:

“Thank you and the whole Plum Creek gang! Had a great time.”

“I would like to tell you what a great job you did! I heard nothing but compliments.”

“You and many others at Plum Creek put on a mighty fine shoot. Thanks. Really enjoyed the match.”

“Thank you kindly for a mighty fine match. You and your cohorts did excellent. Many cheers to you all.”

A wonderful match that was again finer than any I have been to in a long, long time. Thanks again for a great time. You can tell Phantom and Joe Darter that their stages were understandable, fast and fun... .”

“Thanks for a great shoot. You all outdid yourself. Really enjoyed everything. Food was great, lots of vendors, good entertainment, great giveaways. Will always make Plum Creek a must shoot every year.”



Having a blast!

“Thank you for the great match! Please extend our appreciation to the rest of the Plum Creek team for a well done match and the fellowship shared!”

“Thank you all again for another great State match and the kindness you all show my family.”

“Thank you ... for another excellent PCSS event. We all look forward to seeing you again someday soon.”

“Thanks for a fun match, I had a great time! I'm so glad I was able to come shoot with your club this year, you have some very nice people in your group and I will certainly be back another time, soon! You folks put a lot of work into your match and it shows! The range is gorgeous and reminds me a lot of home, in so many ways, of course, Texas IS my home now, so keep an eye out and I'll see you again soon! Thanks again.”

“You put on a great shoot. We truly enjoyed ourselves at the match. It was loads of fun!”

“I cannot express how much I enjoyed the State match AGAIN. I wish you could host it EVERY year! I want to say THANK YOU for a most entertaining, enjoyable match. Please pass on my thanks to Annie, Dragon Hill

Dave, Phantom, Joe Darter and all that played parts in hosting one of the finest shoots I have seen. All my best to you and your great club!"

Annie, Dragon Hill Dave, Phantom, Joe Darter and all that played parts in hosting one of the finest shoots I have seen. All my best to you and your great club!"

Excellent!! Thanks for the GREAT time we had!!

From all of us at the Plum Creek Shooting Society, thanks for those wonderful comments. Seeing everyone have fun and those kinds of remarks made all the hard work worthwhile!

And now for one final email from **Hoss Roonwright** that made my day as editor of the *Agarita Gazette*:

Long Juan,

After reading your story in last month's *Agarita Gazette*, my wife and I were curious about the town of Linnville. After some research, we found that a historical marker had been placed at the site in 1936 or so. Today we went looking for it. We drove out past Port Lavaca and got pretty close to the site. Found a house at the end of the road that said Linnville Texas on it. Nobody appeared to be home and no marker on the road. We asked a lady checking her mail, she said the marker reportedly was out in a field behind that house, but she had never seen it. Anyways, we were close, and it was a great day spent riding around with my wonderful wife, so even if we didn't see the marker, it was a day well spent. Thanks for the article, we both enjoyed it!

Hoss

Thanks, Hoss, hope to shoot with you again soon. And thanks to everyone who worked so hard before and during the match to make the Battle of Plum Creek a success and to everyone who came and shot, watched and otherwise participated in all the fun activities.



Everyone sure looks like they enjoyed the stretch raffle!



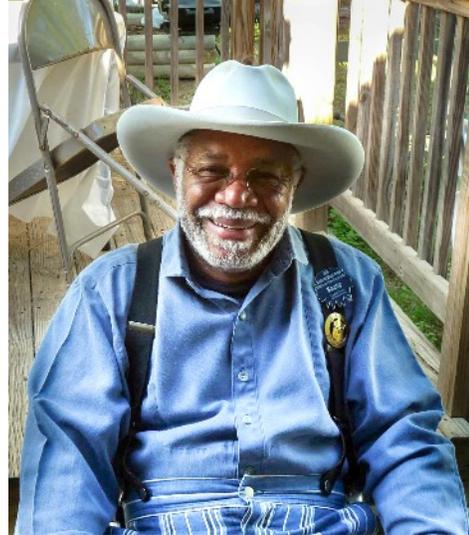
Stories from Jake (Paladin that is):

Jake took a well-served vacation from his column this month. His stories will return in July. We also will be starting a new column in July, "Tales from Jake (Jones that is)." Thanks to both for their contributions to the Gazette.

Photos from the 2015 SASS Texas State Championship



Long Hunter was well represented among our many vendors

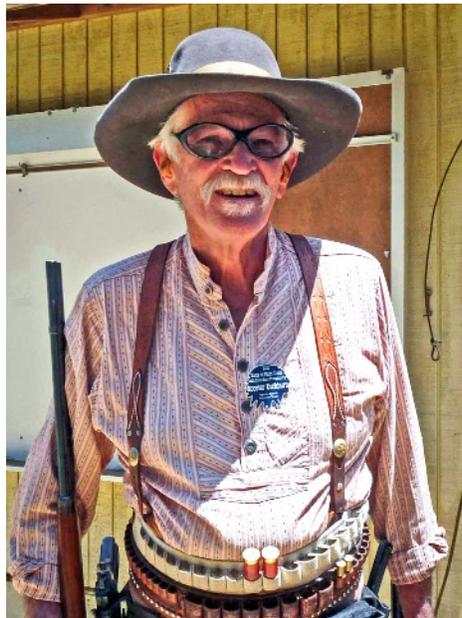


Nonstop having fun nonstop



Judge Roy Bean - SASS #1

Rooster Cockburn from Down Under



Sending lead downrange and brass flying. Wild Bunch is FUN!



Texas Gator showing off a great shooter's badge.



Stage Sheriff Jake Jones spotting the Long Range side match



Best Seller



Jake "Doc" Paladin stayed busy. Here with wife, True Blue Cachoo



Ladies Texas State Champion Spur Broke



Taos O



Captain Sam Evans showing the moves that won Wild Bunch Modern



Six on his way to first in the Plainsman side match



Kathouse Kelli imparting wisdom at the costuming seminar



Six Goin South



Fairplay John



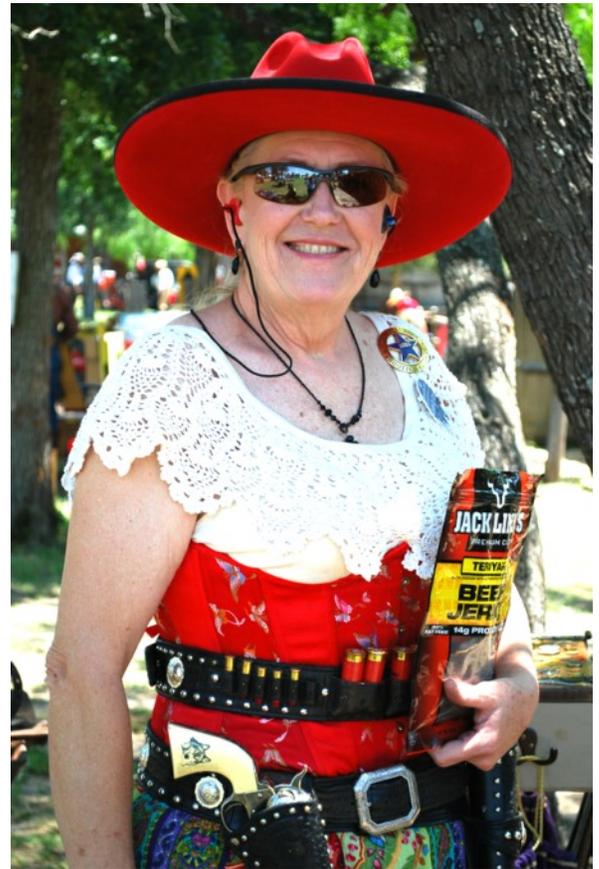
SASS Texas State Champions - Spur Broke and Matt Black



The Plainsman Posse



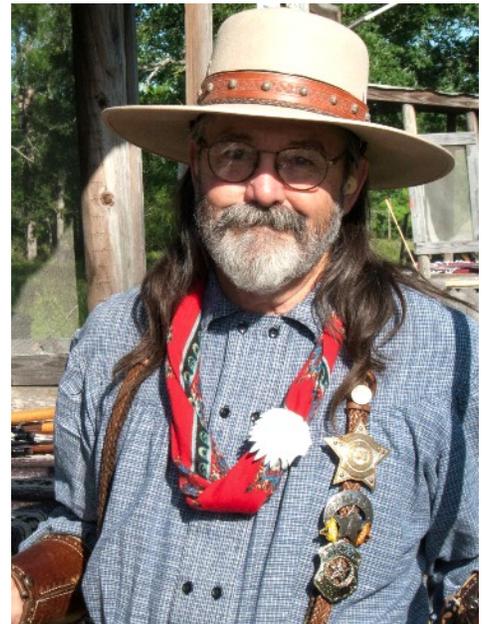
Matt Black on the move



Justice Lily Kate doesn't get far from her jerky



Tex with his spotter's tomahawk



Mad Dog McCoy



Cat Ballou



Energizer Bunny & Assistant
Match Director Agarita Annie &
her favorite waddie Nueces
Slim



Long Range Champ
Bristlecone Jan



Junior Girl
Champ
Diamond
Kate



Cody Dixon shooter,
Charles Goodnight



Sunny Spurs



Posse Marshal Walter Durbin



Montana Hannah



Cowtown Scout



Ellie Mae



Youngest Shooter Texas Cutie



Miss Sassi Fras & Tascosa Kid



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	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
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