

# THE VIGILANTE



Volume 14 Issue 11

Editor: Nasty Newt SASS # 7365

July 2012

## The Monthly Chronicle of the Robbers Roost Vigilantes

### From The President

#### Half of Trail is a Full Load of Fun

Goode Bascomb, Bad Bascomb, and Ozark Lawdog shot End of Trail this year. After they had made their way back home, Bad Bascomb saw a SASS Wire thread about a club that was putting on a "half of trail" match, shooting six EOT stages set up as near as possible to the way they were at Founders Ranch. I agreed it looked like a good idea, so we decided to try it at our July match.

Bad Bascomb picked six stages he thought would work, and he and I, along with Ozark Lawdog, went out to the range to see what we could do. We got two of them set up, but realized we should have done more planning in air conditioned comfort, and less standing around in the sun, so we called it a day. I came up with a target plan for the remaining four stages, and the next morning, with additional help from Venomous Doc and Harvey Mushman, we knocked them out in a couple of hours.

They're real big on rifle and pistol knockdowns at EOT, and we did as much of that as we could. Cowboy Earl had repaired our old lollipop shotgun knockdowns prior to Defend the Roost, and we used those for rifle and pistol. We also used the five cowboy knockdown rack (made by, you guessed it, Cowboy Earl) for rifle targets on one stage. At EOT they also had several stages where some stationary targets were used for both rifle and pistol, and we did that, too. It was a fun match to shoot, and gave us a very good idea of how they do things at the World Championships. We might just do it again sometime.

It was a hot day, but nineteen shooters came out for the match, a *great* mid-summer turn-out. Bad Bascomb, Crumville Kid, Yours Truly, Ozark Lawdog and MC Ryder were the top five finishers, and Goode Bascomb was the top lady and 9<sup>th</sup> overall. All of the scores are posted on our web site.

Calico Cad, from Glendale, Arizona, stopped by and shot the match. It was nice meeting you, Calico. Drop in again any time.

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### The Mare's Leg

By

Nasty Newt, SASS # 7365

A few years back, I wrote an article for the newsletter about some of the interesting guns Hollywood has come up with for western movies and TV shows. In the old movies, back when there were few if any reproductions available, a "Hollywood Henry" was a favorite. All you had to do is remove the forearm wood from a Model '92 Winchester and spray paint the receiver gold. And, of course, don't look too close.

TV in those days was black and white, so the Henry didn't get much play, but that didn't mean they couldn't come up with some cool guns. There was Chuck Connors' Model '92 with the set screw stud that pulled the trigger as the lever closed that was used in *The Rifleman*, and there was Hugh O'Brian's Buntline Special from *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp*. By the way, depending on whom you choose to believe, Earp may actually have owned such a gun. As *Johnny Ringo*, Don Durant carried an original LeMat revolver that had been converted to fire blank cartridges in both the cylinder and the shotgun barrel under the pistol barrel.

As cool as those guns were, the coolest for me was the Mare's Leg carried by Steve McQueen as the bounty hunter Josh Randall in *Wanted: Dead or Alive*. His Mare's leg was a Model '92 carbine with the butt stock cut off just behind the wrist, and the barrel and magazine cut just in front of the forearm. They put 45-70 cartridges in the loops on Josh Randall's gun belt for looks, but the gun was a 44-40. As was the case with most such tricked-out TV guns, there were actually three of them: one for shooting, one for walking around, and a beater for throwing around and dropping in the dirt.

Of course, Steve McQueen was pretty good with that Mare's Leg, and the bad guys didn't stand a chance. But now that I'm a lot older and a little wiser, I've come to realize that what really makes it unique is that it is a lousy pistol and a lousy rifle, all at the same time. It can't be *continued on page 2*

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**We're not shooting the first Saturday in August**, but we'll be out there on the third Saturday, the 18th. We're on summer hours, which means sign ups start a 7:00, with the safety meeting at about 7:45. The new shooter class would get underway around 6:30. If you know of a new shooter that's coming out, be sure to let Bad Bascomb or MC Ryder know so we can be prepared.

Whether or not breakfast will be served has not yet been determined, but will be announced prior to the match.

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### **Robbers Roost Vigilantes**

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### Monthly shoots:

**The Cajon Cowboys** shoot on the: 2<sup>nd</sup> (club day) and 4<sup>th</sup> (open shoot) Saturdays of each month at the Gem Ranch in the Cajon Pass on old route 66. Contact Luke Warmwater at (909) 987-7017.

**Five Dogs Creek Cowboys** in Bakersfield shoot on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of each month. Call Dirt McFearson, (661) 805-3281.

**High Desert Cowboys** shoot in Acton on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Contact Doc Silverhawks, (661) 948-2543.

**Double R Bar Regulators**, Lucerne Valley, shoot the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. Call Five Jacks, (951) 347-0862. They host the SASS Western Regional *Last Stand at Chimney Rock*, October 11-14.

**Lone Wolf Shooters**, Pahrump, NV, shoot the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Call Lash Latigo or Penny Pepperbox, (775) 727-4600 days, (775) 727-8790 evenings. They host *Wild West Extravaganza* October 11 - 12, and the *Nevada State Wild Bunch Championship* November 10 - 11. Contact [pennypepperbox@yahoo.com](mailto:pennypepperbox@yahoo.com).

**El Dorado Cowboys**, Boulder City, NV, shoot the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend (Sat & Sun). Contact Charming at 702-565-3736, or Boxherder at 702-858-6396. [www.eldoradocowboys.com](http://www.eldoradocowboys.com). They host the Nevada State Championship, *El Dorado*, October 4 - 7.

**The Bridgeport Vigilantes** have canceled their season and hope to resume shooting next May.

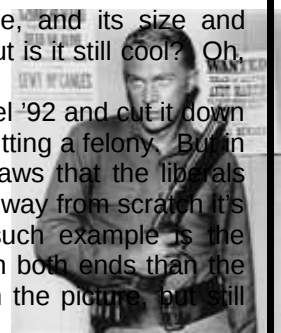
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The Rossi Ranch Hand

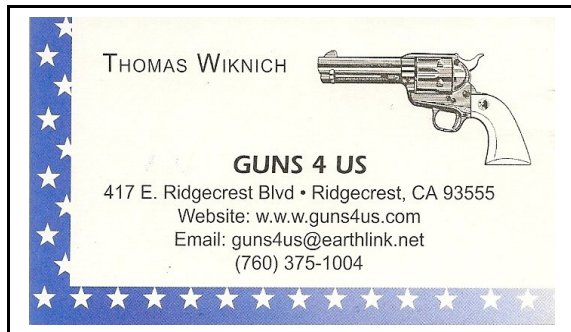
shouldered and aimed like a rifle, and its size and shape make it a clumsy pistol. But is it still cool? Oh, yeah, off the chart cool!

If you were to take a Model '92 and cut it down into a Mare's Leg, you'd be committing a felony. But in keeping with our "sensible" gun laws that the liberals are so proud of, if you build it that way from scratch it's a handgun, so it's OK\*. One such example is the Rossi Ranch Hand. It's longer on both ends than the one Steve McQueen is holding in the picture, but still pretty cool.



\*Well, anyhow, it is OK with the federal BATF. Unfortunately, the Ranch Hand doesn't appear on the California Department of Justice list of approved handguns, so it is not legal here.

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## How to Join the Robbers Roost Vigilantes...

Come out to a RRV match, held the first and third Saturdays of every month, or call Nasty Newt at 760-375-7618, or MC Ryder at 760-384-2321, or mail it in. Our membership application is here [RRV Membership Application](#) Annual membership dues for the RRV are: single membership \$25, member and spouse \$30, family membership (including children under 18 living at home) \$35. First time shooters will be able to take their FIRST (1) NEW SHOOTERS CLASS for \$10, any subsequent new shooters class or RRV match shoot will be \$10 members, \$15 non members. Donations for shooting regular monthly RRV matches will be \$10 members, \$15 non-members. Memberships run from September 1 - August 31. New memberships purchased after September will be prorated depending on the number of months remaining and the type of membership. RRV members are encouraged to become Single Action Shooting Society (SASS) members. Please call SASS at (505) 843-1320, or go to [www.sassnet.com](http://www.sassnet.com). SASS first year single initiation membership is \$55, renewal for single membership is \$45. As part of your SASS membership you will receive The Cowboy Chronicle (12 issues/year), registration of your alias, a SASS badge with your SASS number on it, a membership certificate and membership card, a SASS Marshall lapel pin, and SASS Shooters Handbook. SASS membership is not required for membership in RRV, or participation in RRV regular monthly matches. **RRV encourages all shooters to join and support the NRA and the NRA Foundation, and Ridgecrest Gun Range Association.** For further information visit our website at [www.robbersroostvigilantes.com](http://www.robbersroostvigilantes.com).

## Schedule of Monthly Matches

RRV Match Dates:

**August 18, 2012.**

**Summer Hours: Sign up starting  
~ 7:00, Safety Meeting ~ 7:45.**

**New Shooter Class ~ 6:30.  
Breakfast to be determined.**

## Nominations Sought for RRV Board of Directors

Summertime, and the livin' is easy, and it's time to think about whom you want on the RRV board.

The current board members are listed on page 2 of this newsletter. With a couple of exceptions, the tendency of this club over the years has been to reelect the incumbents. For the last two years at least, the only nominations received (if any) have been for sitting board members.

However, all dues paying members of the RRV are eligible to stand for office. If you would like to see changes on the board, this is your annual opportunity. Nominations will be accepted through August 15. The election will be held in late August or early September, TBA.