



# THE VIGILANTE



Volume 16 Issue 3

Editor: Nasty Newt SASS # 7365

November 2013

## The Monthly Chronicle of the Robbers Roost Vigilantes

### From The President

#### Shakespearean Festival and Thanksgiving Day Celebration

A while back the RRV board was having an e-mail discussion. We were kicking around whether or not to make a weather-related scheduling change to *Defend the Roost* when M. C. Ryder said, "So, we change it, and we're unlucky and get bad weather. What do we do then, change it again? *That way madness lies.*"

Well, we didn't make that change, but I opined that M.C. Ryder should have to write a Shakespeare-themed match as punishment for using that line on us. Which he did, and we shot it on November 2, with shooter lines adapted from "Macbeth," "Hamlet," "Julius Caesar," "Romeo and Juliet," "Richard III," and "King Lear."

A good theme doesn't mean much if the stages aren't fun, but guess what, they were great! Eleven shooters turned out and had a ball. The usual suspects wound up in the top 5 (Bad Bascomb, Harvey Mushman, Ozark Lawdog, M.C. Ryder, and Venomous Doc). Cowboy Earl was right on their heels shooting cap and ball pistols. It was good to see Lumpy Grits, Ima Schofield (top lady on the day), and Ozark Lawdog out there again. M.C. Ryder and I shot "Pike." He did it well, and I gave a clinic on how not to do it.

On the 16<sup>th</sup>, thirteen vigilantes came out and got into it over Thanksgiving dinner seating arrangements at the hotel, alcohol (!) was involved in some trouble at the saloon, and Aunt Rosemary rolled in on the noon stage with 300 pounds of sweet potatoes, not to mention her bawdy sense of humor. Buckhorn Bud shot "Josey Wales," and it was great fun watching him shoot those 4 cap and ball pistols on every stage.

The top five shooters were Bad Bascomb, M. C. Ryder, Ozark Lawdog, Cowboy Earl, and Harvey Mushman, respectively. Goode Bascomb was the top lady on the day. Of the thirteen shooters, twelve were champions, and Wrangler Red was an also-ran. ☺ The scores from both matches are posted on our web site at [www.robbersroostvigilantes.com](http://www.robbersroostvigilantes.com).

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### Real Life Westerners You Didn't Want to Mess With

#### Third in a Series

James Riley was a frail 18-year-old Kansas boy with tuberculosis. He wasn't impressive to look at, but as the saying goes, some bad hombres once underestimated him at their peril.

A lawman by the name of Mike McCluskie took a liking to the skinny kid, took him under his wing, and taught him to shoot. McCluskie had a friend for life in young James, but McCluskie's life was going to be short.

On August 19, 1871, McCluskie found himself backed into a corner in a saloon in the cow town of Newton, Kansas. One week earlier he had killed a man named Bailey, ostensibly in the line of duty, but Bailey's Texan cowboy friends didn't see it that way, and figured McCluskie needed to pay.

One of the cowboys shot McCluskie in the neck. When he tried to fight back, his pistol mis-fired, prompting several cowboys to stand over him and finish him off.

At this point, James Riley entered the fray. He had never been involved in a gunfight before, and probably never was again, but his lack of experience was not to be a deterrent on that day.

With a revolver in each hand Riley started firing. When his guns were empty the room was filled with smoke, and he had wounded or killed seven men. Among them were some of the cowboys who had killed McCluskie, but also some innocent bystanders and a man named Jim Martin who had tried to prevent the fight in the first place. Martin would subsequently die of his wounds, a decent guy who was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

James Riley walked out of the saloon and was never seen or heard from again around Newton, or anywhere else; he simply disappeared. But a bunch of Texas cowboys never forgot him.

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In December we will be shooting on the 7th and the 21st. We are on **Winter Hours**, so we'll start sign ups at 8:00, have the meeting at 8:45, and the new shooter class will be at 7:30. As always, we'd like to know in advance if a new shooter is coming out so we can be prepared to take care of them.

## 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. [www.cajoncowboys.com](http://www.cajoncowboys.com).

**Five Dogs Creek Cowboys** in Bakersfield shoot on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend of each month. Call Utah Blaine, (661) 203-4238. [www.5dogscreek.com](http://www.5dogscreek.com)

**High Desert Cowboys** shoot in Acton on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Contact Doc Silverhawks, (661) 948-2543, or Lumpy Grits or Ima Schofield at (661)265-1923.

**Double R Bar Regulators**, Lucerne Valley, shoot the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. Call Five Jacks, 1-760-949-3198. [www.rbarregulators.com](http://www.rbarregulators.com)

**Lone Wolf Shooters**, Pahrump, NV, shoot the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Call Lash Latigo or Penny Pepperbox, (775) 727-4600 days, (775) 727-8790 evenings. [www.lonewolfshooters.com](http://www.lonewolfshooters.com).

**El Dorado Cowboys**, Boulder City, NV, shoot the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend (Sat & Sun). Contact Charming at 702-565-3736, or Creeker at 702-328-4867. [www.eldoradocowboys.com](http://www.eldoradocowboys.com).

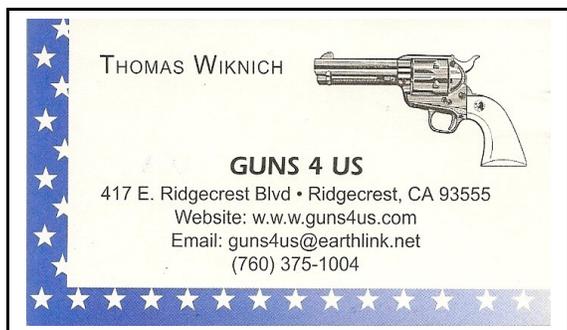
## DEFEND THE ROOST 2014 ANNOUNCED

The Robbers Roost Vigilantes and GUNS4US present our 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary shoot Thursday through Saturday, May 15, 16, and 17, 2014. You can look forward to a full day of side matches on Thursday, including a three stage warm-up match, the Great Train Robbery, and a night black powder shoot. On Friday it will be five main stages and The Professionals, and on Saturday, five more main stages and Last Man/Woman Standing. Not to mention all the great food, Yelping Coyote, awards, and Cowboy Karaoke.

The major change is that DTR is a three-day event this time around. The "Sunday Funday" events have been eliminated, with the exception of the Last Man/Woman Standing, which has been moved to Saturday afternoon. The only Sunday event anybody turned out to shoot last time was LM/WS, but it wasn't set up, and nobody was real interested in doing it. Many people are worn out and thinking about getting packed up and heading home on Sunday, so we have accepted that reality and nothing is scheduled for Sunday.

The DTR 2014 application and information is available on our web site at [www.robbersroostvigilantes.com](http://www.robbersroostvigilantes.com).

## Business Card Advertising



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

Come out to a RRV match, held the third (and sometimes first) Saturday 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 nonmembers. 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).

### December 7<sup>th</sup> Match

The Weak Won crew is going to resurrect some favorites from past matches. So if you missed out on Bad Bascomb's balloon target, or "The Gong Show" as envisioned by Harvey Mushman, you're going to have another chance to shoot them. Don't miss 'em a second time!



### Gun Cart Winner

Bad Bascomb won the cool gun cart built for the club by Cowboy Earl. He then turned around and gave it to Silver Badger, who then turned around and gave his old gun cart to Panamint Pete. Winners everywhere you look, including the RRV, which netted \$295 from the raffle. Thanks, Cowboy Earl!