



The Monthly Chronicle of the Robbers Roost Vigilantes

From The President In Like a Soggy Lion, Out Like a Sunny Lamb

You know how cats get when they're wet, so we had to call off our match on March 1. It was about the only decent rain we got all winter, so naturally it had to coincide with a shooting match. But don't despair. The Week One gang is not so easily discouraged. They will set 'em up again, and we will shoot 'em on April 5.

In my email reminder about the March 15 match, I said the weather was only going to be perfect, and I didn't lie. You've heard of "Chamber of Commerce" weather, and this was it. The Inyokern and Ridgecrest C.O.C. both claimed it. I also said we'd be shooting a great St. Patrick's Day match by M.C. Ryder. That may have actually been an understatement.

Eighteen shooters came out and had a ball, most of them walking away from stage 4 with a bottle of Guinness and/or a shamrock lapel pin. Smiling faces were the order of the day. Senior Gunfighter Venomous Doc got there firstest with the mostest, followed by Bad Bascomb, M.C. Ryder, Cowboy Earl, and Tank. Goode Bascomb was top lady on the day. It was good to see Ben D. Barrel and Rum Runner again. We also had the pleasure of meeting Augustus Bullet, SASS # 706 (!!) who came over from Boron and is the newest member of the RRV.

I'm probably remiss in not talking more about costuming at our matches. I'm pretty much a minimalist, but I do enjoy and appreciate the costuming efforts of others, and there were some great looking shooters at this match. Everybody looked good, but Ball N. Chain, Buckhorn Bud, Venomous Doc and M.C. Ryder looked *great!* When you dress like that, you dress up the match, and we were looking good.

All of the scores are posted on our web site at www.robbersroostvigilantes.com. Last month I said we would have a clean shooter next time, for sure. We had to import somebody from Tehachapi, but we got it done —Rum Runner shot the match clean. ☺

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Real Life Westerners You Didn't Want to Mess With Seventh in a Series

Belle Boyd, also known as "La Belle Rebelle" was a young lady you didn't want to aggravate. She was 17 in 1861 when Union soldiers took down a Confederate flag that was flying above her Virginia home and replaced it with the stars and stripes. That was bad enough, but when one of the soldiers cursed her mother, Belle shot him dead. Though she was exonerated, the family was under virtual house arrest, with sentries posted at their home and her father's place of business.

Still angry, Belle eavesdropped on conversations between the soldiers, and charmed at least one officer into revealing military secrets. During the Shenandoah Valley Campaign in the spring of 1862, she provided valuable intelligence to Generals Turner Ashby and Stonewall Jackson, using a slave as a courier. For her contributions, Stonewall Jackson awarded her the Southern Cross of Honor and made her an honorary captain and aide-de-camp on his staff.

That summer she was betrayed and arrested, serving a month in prison before being exchanged. Her gender had stood her in good stead. While it wasn't unusual in the early days of the war for the two sides to exchange captured soldiers, a male spy would have been summarily shot. Arrested again the following year, she spent six months in prison before being released.

Suffering from typhoid, in 1864 Belle went to England to regain her health. While there she met and married, of all things, a Union naval officer. He died in 1866 when the ship he commanded went down.

Belle Boyd returned to the U.S. in 1869. A marriage, a divorce, and another marriage later, in 1886 she began touring the country giving dramatic lectures about her life as a Civil War spy. She died while on tour in Wisconsin in 1900, at the age of 56. And right up until the end, it probably wouldn't have been a good idea to say anything nasty about her mother.

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In April we will be shooting on the 5th and the 19th. 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.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly shoots:

The Cajon Cowboys shoot on the: 2nd (club day) and 4th (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.

Five Dogs Creek Cowboys in Bakersfield shoot on the 1st weekend of each month. They host the **SASS California State Championships**, May 1 – 4, 2014. Call Utah Blaine, (661) 203-4238. www.5dogscreek.com

High Desert Cowboys shoot in Acton on the 3rd 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 2nd Sunday. www.rrbar.com. They will host **Crap Shoot at Chimney Rock, "ROLL THE DICE,"** April 11 – 13. Contact Little Jersey Jo, 1-760-247-5012, joed56676@gmail.com.

Lone Wolf Shooters, Pahrump, NV, shoot the 4th and 5th Sunday. Call Lash Latigo or Penny Pepperbox, (775) 727-4600 days, (775) 727-8790 evenings. www.lonewolfshooters.com.

El Dorado Cowboys, Boulder City, NV, shoot the 1st weekend (Sat & Sun). Contact Charming at 702-565-3736, or Creeker at 702-328-4867. They host **Best Shoot by a Dam Site**, May 3 – 4 2014. www.eldoradocowboys.com.

Support the Ridgecrest Gun Range Assoc. We're Luckier Than You May Know

Most clubs that shoot on private property are required to pay for the privilege. The Ridgecrest Gun Range Association (RGRA) is private property. Within that property, the RRV has its own dedicated range, which we have been able to develop and use as we please. And it costs us nothing. They ask only that we maintain the range, conduct our events safely and legally, and help out when we can at RGRA work parties.

There are still a few of us left who remember the days when we shot on public land. We had to haul everything in and out on the day of the match, with the worker bees arriving at the crack of dawn to start setting up—NO FUN in the dead of winter. Believe me, we are very fortunate to have a range with on-site storage and permanent shooting bays, with annual rent of \$00.00. Life is good.

The RGRA derives its income from member dues. It's \$25 a year for an individual, and \$50 for a family. Multi-year memberships are also offered, and are discounted off the annual membership cost. I don't know who in the RRV is and isn't a member of RGRA. It's none of my business. But I'm quite comfortable stating that in my opinion, every one of us should support the RGRA in any way we can.

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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. 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 Ridgcrest Gun Range Association.** For further information visit our website at www.robbersroostvigilantes.com.



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Schedule of Monthly Matches RRV Match Dates:

April 5, 2014
 April 19, 2014

Winter Hours: Sign up starting ~ 8:00,
 Safety Meeting ~ 8:45.

New Shooter Class ~ 7:30.

Who Was St. Patrick, and Why Does He Get a Day?

One thing for sure is he wasn't a Leprechaun. Sometime in the last half of the 5th century, when he was about 16, he was captured from his home in Great Britain, and taken as a slave to Ireland, where he lived for six years before escaping and returning to his family.

After becoming a cleric, he returned to northern and western Ireland as a missionary. In later life, he served as an ordained bishop, but little is known about the places where he worked. By the seventh century, he had already