



THE VIGILANTE



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Editor: Nasty Newt SASS # 7365

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The Quarterly Chronicle of the Robbers Roost Vigilantes

From the President

Will the Dog Days Ever End?

Well, it has been a long, hot summer, hotter than usual, and "usual" is plenty hot enough. According to the global warming alarmists, this has just been a taste of what we have to look forward to in the future, and they promise that the climate change deniers will soon be eating some serious crow. I'm not sure there even is any such thing as a climate change denier. We are pretty clearly in a warming trend. What is arguable is whether this is a temporary natural phenomenon of the sort that has occurred countless times over the ages, both warming and cooling, or if mankind is, in fact, in the process of destroying the planet.

It's kind of hard for you and I to know, because I don't think anybody knows, though it makes sense to me that we should work to reduce environmental pollution of all kinds. But I do know this: the people who are now saying man-caused global warming is "settled science" are many of the same people who in the 70's told us that we were looking at a man-caused ice age a few years down the road. That turned out to be "un-settled science."

Every year we talk about taking off all or part of the summer due to the heat. And every year we look around at one another and say things like, "I'll be here" and "I'd like to shoot" and the next thing you know people are volunteering to write stages and it's on. After that match we repeat the process and decide to shoot again in two weeks, and after that match...

We shot five matches in June, July, and August, so we are nothing if not stup..., I mean, tough. We are fortunate to have several talented stage writers who work hard to turn out summer stages that are fast, fun, and require a little less movement and re-setting. On August 18th we had nine shooters, and were finished and on the patio by 10:30*. It was pretty warm even then, but it wasn't 107, which happened a few hours later, when we were at home under the cooler.

*Some of us took the position that it was five o'clock somewhere._____

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A Little Nostalgia From 2001

STAMPEDE 2001

By

Nasty Newt, SASS # 7365

Every year in early March the Nevada Rangers put on a major Cowboy Action Shooting event called Stampede. It is one of the big ones, with more than 425 shooters this year. My traveling buddy Gimpy Gus and I loaded up early Thursday morning, and arrived at the range near Jean, Nevada, around noon. For those who may not know, Jean is the site of Nevada Landing and Gold Strike, and the match takes place on BLM land a couple of miles north of there. Thursday is side match day. I thought I did OK with the pocket pistol, completing a five-shot Nevada Sweep on three targets with my 1879 vintage single-action in a little over 4 seconds. Then the next guy did it with a slick double action in just over 2 seconds. My sizzling time landed me in 23rd place.

The main match was 14 stages over two days. Stages one and fourteen were on the ends, perpendicular to the main firing line. Even without berms, this allowed down range movement and resetting on stages one and fourteen. Stage one was all shotgun, 12 rounds, six clay bird poppers with lots of movement in between. Stage 14 used clay birds as well.

There were 28 to 30 shooters on each posse, and they used a split posse system. In our case, you were either on squad 15A or 15B. The way it works is the "A's" shoot while the "B's" work, and vice versa. It worked out okay, and we moved along quickly. Even with large posses, we were able to shoot 7 stages between 8:00 and 4:00. Another reason things moved along quickly is that there is no brass pick-up at Stampede. All rifle brass and shotgun hulls stayed on the ground, and were just raked out of the way. The Boy Scouts collected the empties at the end of the day, and on Sunday they were auctioned off, with the scouts getting the proceeds. It's kind of annoying to lose 111 perfectly good cartridge cases and 75 shotgun hulls. But I guess in the

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Posting match schedules in a quarterly newsletter isn't of much use, because the crystal ball doesn't go out three months. But I will post the current plan on page 3 as always. Check the website and your email for shoot dates in the outlying months.

We're on **Summer Hours in September**, so we will start signups around 7:00 and try to have the meeting by 7:45.

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context of what it takes to play this game in the first place, it isn't all that serious.

Gus and I both felt like we shot pretty well in the Main Match, but suffice it to say we need to shoot well a *lot* faster. The most successful shooter on our posse was a young lady named 2 Gun Dana, who won the Ladies Modern class. Dana and her dad, El Jefe Hombre, hail from Pocatello, Idaho. They also compete in SASS Mounted Shooting, and were profiled in the March Cowboy Chronicle. As for the rest of the field, Columbus D. Shannon came out of his early retirement to nose out reigning *End of Trail* champion Lefty Longridge for 1st place Mens Traditional, and 1st place overall. Stampede was a total time match, and Columbus shot the 14 stages *.18 seconds faster* than Lefty. You can't cut it much closer than that.

One aspect of Stampede that annoyed some people this year, including me, was that you had to attend the Saturday night awards dinner, which cost extra, in order to be eligible for a door prize. I thought that was kind of lousy, but Gus, Debbie, Cheryl and I went to the dinner anyway. While I was eating they called out shooter number 190 as the winner of the major prize of the evening, a hand-made custom two-gun rig from Old Pueblo Leather in Tucson, Arizona. They said lucky number 190 could have the holsters and belt in his choice of style, color, and carving, with or without conchos, not to mention choice of holster lining and bullet loops, and buckle style.

You guessed it, shooter number 190 was yours truly. I felt a little sheepish going up to collect my prize, seeing as how I had been one of the people who was most annoyed by the door prize set-up, but I got over it. I spent some time talking to Rimrock, the artisan, and Gila River Mo, Rimrock's better half, and posed for a picture with Mo. Once home, with some trepidation and a lot of help from Rimrock, I designed my rig. I had never given any thought to the type of belt and holsters I would choose if I could have anything I wanted, so it was a little tough, but a lot of fun. If the rig I settled on looks half as good as I think it's going to, it will be a dandy.

The End

Time to Pay Your Annual Membership Dues

Our member year is September 1 – August 31. You can pay your dues at a match, or mail a check to:

Robbers Roost Vigilantes
1036 W. Vulcan Ave.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Individual:	\$25
Couple:	\$30
Family, includes children living at home under age 18:	\$35

If you pay your dues on or before September 15, you will be entitled to a free shoot at any match (CAS, Trail Walk, or BAMB) up to but **not including** the Christmas turkey shoot. Some shooters paid their dues and took their free shoot at the August 18 match. Don't miss out.

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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 877-411-SASS. SASS membership information can be found here:

<http://www.sassnet.com/Membership-Main-001A.php>

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.



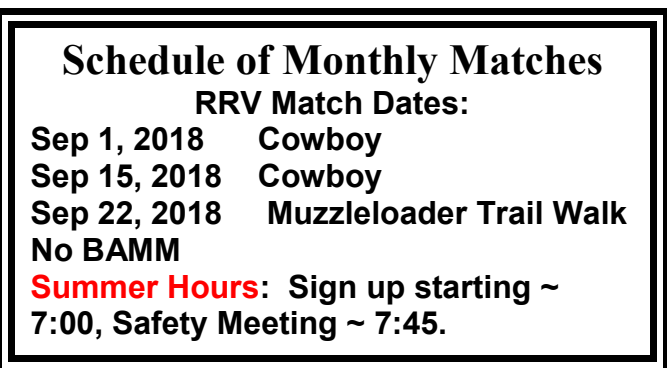
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Schedule of Monthly Matches

RRV Match Dates:

Sep 1, 2018 Cowboy
Sep 15, 2018 Cowboy
Sep 22, 2018 Muzzleloader Trail Walk
No BAMB

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

Stampede 2001 Redux

It is kind of fun to think about how much our game has changed since 2001. And let me say up front that I think the main reason for most of the changes is that the people who shot Stampede in 2001 are either 17 years older or dead ☐ ☐ And some of it is because today's fast shooters blanch at the thought of anything except their blazing speed affecting their score.

Match directors and stage writers were able to do a lot of stuff then that we don't even think about doing now, not the least of which is seven stages a day. These days, that is considered way too much shooting for the aging SASS membership, and rightly so. And these weren't today's typical major match 15 second stages. The fast guys were 25 - 30 seconds. Targets were smaller and farther out, farther even than what we today call "retro." Many of the sets were designed for midgets, and if you were over 5 ft. 8 you had to shoot your long guns from a crouch. We shot one stage while standing on a mattress, with all the inherent unsteadiness that you might imagine. The Ft. Huachuca set required going up and down six or eight steps to the three shooting positions. Nobody thought anything about it. In those days you showed up for a match and shot whatever they threw at you, and if somebody was better than you at a "non-shooting" activity and got the bonus, and you didn't, too bad.

Everything changes, and I like some of it, and some I don't. But that's how it is and it is still a great game.

By the way, that leather I won is what I use to this day. I thought it was beautiful when I opened the box, and I still do. One funny thing is that when I first got it, the belt was almost too big. Now it is almost too small. I didn't know leather shrunk.
NN