

# THE VIGILANTE



Volume 28 Issue 1 Editor: Nasty Newt SASS # 7365 Winter 2026

### The Quarterly Chronicle of the Robbers Roost Vigilantes

# From the President

Here we are again, wrapping up another year of sending lead down range. Speaking of years, this newsletter is Volume 28, Issue 1. That seems impossible, but here we are.

Each year has its ups and downs, and I have a tendency to accentuate the positive. But we had a heart breaking low point this year when we lost Rum Runner. He was one of the nicest guys I ever met in this game, or anywhere else, for that matter. He was a willing worker for the club. I remember him stringing overhead lights inside the big tent for Defend the Roost. He was a tall guy, but he still needed about a ten foot stepladder to do it. We probably should have rented a scaffold, but Rumrunner got it done with a ladder. He shared my fondness for milsurp bolt action rifles, and like me, would sometimes shoot a BAMM match with a less than reliable rifle, just because he wanted to shoot it. I once mentioned to him that I had about half of a 30-40 Krag, but that the parts to finish it would cost twice what the rifle would be worth. He said, "You know you'll do it. It's a Krag." He was right, I did it, and am now the proud owner of a cool Model 92-96-98-1903 front sight rifle worth about half of what I've got in it. R.I.P, Rum Runner. Lots of love to Maggie Thom and the family.

We suffered a rare cancellation when we got rained out in November, and we decided to skip the Christmas match and luncheon this year. Even with that, we managed to get in 21 Cowboy matches, plus 9 Trail Walks and 2 BAMMs.

Back to the downer side, some asshat(s) recently stole a couple of targets, snakes that we have had since day one. It's probably a good thing it isn't legal to lay booby traps. I might do it if it was.

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# Grandma Had an AD At the Depot

Nasty Newt, SASS #7365

(With apologies to Randy Brooks)

(Chorus) Grandma had an AD at the Depot, shooting in a SASS match Christmas Eve. You can say she really don't slip hammer, but as for me and Grandpa, we believe.

All her guns were slick as KY, springs as light as they could be. But she cocked while she was drawing, and blew a hole through Grandpa's Teflon knee.

It's a rough Christmas for Grandpa, he's in traction with the runs. But the thing that worries Grandma, is wondering who's going to clean her guns.

(Chorus)

Medicare will pay for Grandpa, so Christmas dinner should be fine. See Grandma out there in the kitchen, chopping giblets, drinking Mogen David wine.

Cousin Nell brought figgy pudding, but it really is too rich. Grandma said of course, it's no good, coming from the little rhymes with witch.

(Chorus)

Cousin Nell took food to Grandpa, but the nurses threw it out. They said the less he eats, the better. And that pudding would play hell with Grandpa's gout.

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#### From the President Continued from page 1

A little more on Rum Runner. In the early days of Monday night NFL football, when they put pictures of the players on the screen during the game, they would be wearing a coat and tie, and Don Meredith would often say something like, "Look at ol' Bobby. He cleans up good, don't he?"

As you can see at the bottom of this page, Rum Runner cleaned up pretty good, too. Great photo by Wrangler Red.

# Robbers Roost Vigilantes Executive Board

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#### Grandma continued from page 1

Grandma's running low on ammo, but Grandpa doesn't really care. He said he's nearly out of Trail Boss, plus he doesn't have another knee to spare.

Grandpa needs a blood transfusion, Grandma said you're in a spot. But you wouldn't need donations, if you hadn't fooled around and gotten shot.

#### (Chorus)

Uncle Hank came down from Reno, and he always is a hit. And he brought Grandma a present, a Pedersoli flintlock rifle kit.

When Grandpa heard about this present, he said that's really all I need. I'm the one who'll have to build it, while she plans front-stuffing ways to make me bleed.

#### (Chorus)

Christmas night we all are zombies, Gen Z is outside blowing weed. Cousin Nell is saving her share, for the next time she and Grandpa do the deed.

I know this all sounds kind of crazy, but as the Bard said, here's the rub. If you look up the word dysfunctional, it will say see Cowboy Action Shooting Club.

(Chorus) Grandma had an AD at the Depot, shooting in a SASS match Christmas Eve. You can say she really don't slip hammer, but as for me and Grandpa, we believe.



Steve Karoly, aka Rum Runner, RRV # 183, at the 2007 Defend the Roost banquet

#### **Business Car**



# 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. 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.



Note: Both GUNS4US and KZGN TV are at a new location at 409 S. China Lake Blvd, Ridgecrest, CA. 93555



Schedule of Monthly Matches
Matches are announced on the web
site and via email to club members.
Cowboy matches are first (sometimes)
and third Saturday. Usually, Trail
Walks are second Saturday, and BAMM
and Cowboy Rifle are fourth Saturday,
when scheduled.

Winter Hours: Sign up around 8:00, Meeting around 8:45.



# 1883 Colt Burgess Rifle

During 1883-1885, Colt produced this lever action in rifle and carbine versions. The obvious plan was to compete with Winchester in the lever action market, and steal some of the thunder from the venerable Winchester Model 1873. Like the model 73, it was chambered in cartridges also suitable for a revolver, and featured a toggle-joint action similar to, though purportedly stronger than, the Winchester's innards.

Winchester wasn't amused, and began working on a prototype revolver designed to cut into Colt's Single Action Army market. Legend has it that the two companies eventually came to a "gentleman's agreement" that Colt would end production of the Burgess if Winchester gave up the revolver idea. At any rate, both things did happen. I know at least one Winchester revolver exists; I saw it at the Cody firearms museum in Cody, Wyoming.

Winchester apparently wasn't worried about competition from Colt's slide action Lightning rifle, which remained in production from 1884 to 1904.