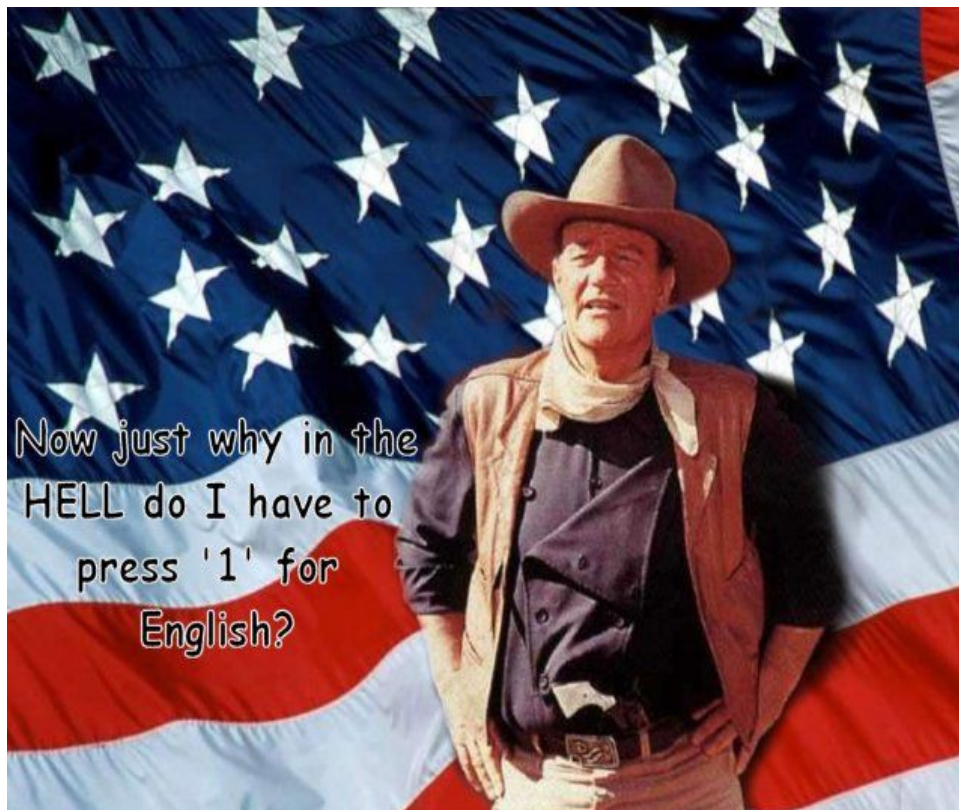


Battle Born Rangers Newsletter

Fernley , NV

April 2023



From our club president -Bordello Fellow

Howdy All,

Well the weather was good to us this month. We had 20 shooters April 2 and because of Easter we shot on Saturday April 8th with 23 shooters. Both matches were a lot of fun.

It's good to get back into shooting on a regular basis again!

Gunfight at Arroyo Cantua is now in the books. It seems a number of BBR members brought home some metals. Congratulations to Fallen Grace, Fanner Fifty, Bordello Fellow, and Sheriff Winchester. Side match scores are not yet posted. The match was fun, fast, and just a hoot! Nyack Jack (Match Director) with Lady Gambler did a wonderful job bringing the match together.

One thing about the match that came to my attention was during posse walk throughs was about safety. Because of the size of posse's it was difficult to have a "Loading Table" marshal. It was suggested that the shooters check each other for proper loaded pistols and look for cocked



rifles, etc. All the posse marshals brought this up on opening morning to each posse. It worked well for about 2 stages, then it kind of got forgotten. I have been a TO for a number of years and only caught a few “cocked rifles” at the firing line. I caught a couple before a penalty was applied. In one or two cases the shooter was given a stage dq. At the match I TO’s quite a bit for our posse and caught two “cocked rifles” on two different stages. Then I stopped a shooter at the loading table with an open gate on his pistol. Had the shooters at the loading table been checking each other, this would not have been an issue. Having confidence in our RO Trainer, Wylie Fox I am sure this will be addressed at the up coming training. This is also a reminder that the training is free to BBR members and is highly recommended by the Board. Please contact Wylie Fox and get signed up for a class today. It would also be a good practice to start checking each other at our monthly matches. I will bring it up at our next match.

Other matches coming up is High Sierra Shootout in Railroad Flats, Ca. Dates are May 25-28, 2023. Match directors, Chance McCall and Nyack Jack always do a good job with this match.

More information can be found at www.Cagunslingers.com.

Another match coming in September is Shootout at Helldorado. It will be start on 9/24-24, 2023. Blackhorse is the match director, and is a very challenging shoot. They also include Tom Horn as a category if you are so inclined. Rumor has it that Blackhorse will be at Roop County days and might be available for questions about the match. More information can be had at our web site or the gunslingers web site.

Update for Roop county days: We are six weeks away for this match!!

Raffle: As per the survey, club members (87%) think we should move forward with a raffle. I now have a volunteer to help with the raffle but we still need donations for the raffle. As one member put it, “Not garage sale junk” but good shooting/cowboy related products. Also wine, knives, and cowboy clothes (in good repair) is good. I won a bottle of “High Rye” at Arroyo and was tickled pink about it. Again, if you have a talent for making products, please think about donating it to the raffle.

Greeters: We have three people to greet shooters. Because we are putting on a weeks worth of matches, we could still use another couple of people to help.

Range Cleanup: a couple of work days are coming soon.

Shooters Trophy’s: All of the buckles are on order and the rest of the awards are in the process of being made.

There is still a lot of things that need to be done, supplies/hay to be ordered, generators to be check, out-houses to be ordered, etc. Help, help, help, please.

Also May is the month that annual dues are collected. Remember to update your membership.

One last item for now. You might be interested to know that a number of nameless Senior Duelest have been betting on who will win certain matches. Bets include things like loser making breakfast with homemade biscuits including sausage gravy, and other such nonsense. It seems that Arroyo was no exception. Sr. Duelest’s were betting on the outcome. Still not sure how I got roped into the gambling mess, but I did. This time the loser was to make the winners an ice cream sundaes. I was going to just buy them at

DQ, but I was informed that they had to be “homemade” with whip cream, nuts, and a minimum of 3 cherries on top. You would think that would be enough, but no it wasn’t. There was also a requirement for dress too. So regardless of equipment failures, missed shots, P’s, or safeties, highest score was going to make these sundaes. So with that in mind, it has been said that a picture is worth a thousand words.....



From the Secretary – Jasper Agate



Howdy All

I missed all the April matches. We were in Arizona at the Ben Avery Range in Phoenix.

Before the match we stopped in Chino Valley to hang out with Drifter John and Rowdy Robin. Their home is finished including landscaping. All they need now is a level space for me to park my trailer! John is building again. I guess retirement didn’t suite him yet. Something

about wanting to acquire a new tractor has him motivated to bring home more income!! We had an outstanding visit with them they are wonderful hosts for us out of towners!! To get to their home we had to travel the worst road in America!! Interstate 40 from Kingman to their turn off is a wreck!!!! We saw, without exaggeration, a dozen cars pulled off on the shoulder with flat tires!! We were swerving back and forth on the road like drunken sailors to avoid the worst of the potholes. There was no way to avoid them all. We had minor damage to the trailer with the spare tire coming loose and the inside being trashed. The items I carry in the back of the truck took the brunt of the damage. I had to rebuild a number of things that I had made over the years that live in the truck bed because that road tore them apart!!!

The entire AZWINS match was a hoot! Ten days of shooting everything from 22lr at 200’s to 45/90’s at 1000’s. We started with two days of BPCR (I was shooting my 40/65) run by the Wilkes family and they were fantastic to deal with!! One incident we had just gotten back from setting rams and they called rifles to the line. We had barely caught our breaths when we had to hustle back up to the line to shoot. Management recognized our dilemma and came down to our end of the line and stayed there

until we were read to shoot again. That family was cordial, polite and fun to shoot with. I'll shoot with them anywhere any time!!! The first day was on the main range shooting 22's (I shot my CPA with different barrels for all the matches) at 200 yards. We shot three relays with targets mirroring the 200', 300' and 400' targets. That was great fun although I could have done better! The next couple of days we shot "mid range" 500 and 600 yards and as long as the winds stayed in our favor we were able to turn in some reasonable score. The next couple of days we shot 800 and 900 yards (I broke out the big gun in 45/90 for the rest of the match) and if your load or rifle had any problems it let you know right away!! The next two days we set our sights on 1000 yards and every little thing that you had problems with for the last couple of days seemed to rear its ugly head in a more exaggerated way! Even the wind and mirage mirrored what I wrote in the last sentence!! At one point when we were changing shooters on the first day at 1000 yards the wind came up and literally ripped the shooters mat out of 49er Preachers hands and sent it sailing down range!! We had a bucket with a rock in it to catch our patches from swabbing the bore and that flew away as well. It was a tough day but still satisfying in that fact that we were hitting the target at 1000 yards. Unfortunately I came down with an ailment the kept me from shooting the last two days of the match. I did make it to the awards banquet to see the same GREAT shooters win the match.

The friendships that we have made with a bunch of world-class shooters will keep me taking the long drive and hardships of driving one of the worst road in America for as long as I am able!!!

I could go on and on about the match but its late in the month and I really need to get this newsletter published so until next time we meet on the range stay safe,

Jasper Agate

Next Months Matches

May 6th Wild Bunch

May 7th HPD Cowboy

May 13th Long Range- Lever Gun

May 14th ROOP Cowboy

From our Wild Bunch Coordinator – Flanigan Flats



Howdy all,

We finally caught a break and got a WB shoot in on the first of April. We had 8 shooters come out for a very nice spring morning to join us for our first monthly attempt at a big-bore WB match where we are offering Teddy Roosevelt (TR) and Dough Boy (DB). Fallon Kid and I were the only big bore shooters and we both shot the Teddy Roosevelt category. I was very excited to see JJ make his return to the range. It was suggested that we stay with the winter schedule for this match, and it appears it was a good decision. It was still cold while we were setting up steel and shooting our first stage on bay 3 which featured our new plate rack. It works as it should and reset is a breeze. From Bay 3 we moved

over to the bordello for 3 more stages. The sun was working by then and the morning was warming up nicely. It was really fun to watch the shooters work through the twists and turns of the stages. I think one stage was shot differently by almost every shooter and I can't say any one way was better than any other. It was a great day that I really enjoyed and hope everyone else did as well.

The match was won by Two-Timer.

I would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to Gold Rush Allie for taking care of us administratively and scoring the match for us, and to Wild Bill Berry coming out and helping us pick up our brass. Without him I'm sure we'd lose most of our brass.

Washoe Zephyr has volunteered to write the May stages for us. He has notified me that the round count will be as follows; 91 pistol, 24 shotgun, 24 rifle, and 21 TR/DB.

For those of you that are thinking about TR or DB come on out. It is awesome to shoot those "safe queens" we never get to shoot, or maybe shoot quite often but are looking to shoot even more.

Teddy Roosevelt substitutes a rifle caliber lever or pump action rifle manufactured before WW1 ended (or replica thereof) for our normal WB legal rifle and will be engaging targets at the outer limits of our bays. Rifle caliber is defined as having a minimum 1.8" cartridge case length. This opens the door to the 1895 Winchester and the Savage 99 to name just a few candidates. The Winchester 1876, 1886, 1894 and the Marlin counter parts are also very good options. Another interesting dynamic to this category is that period correct receiver mounted peep sights are legal. For a very good article on this category see page 16 of the January 2023 Cowboy Chronicle.

Dough Boy substitutes an original caliber bolt action military (BAM) rifle issued by any country to its military forces through the end of WWII. It must be as issued with original iron battle sights and no external modifications. Of course, faithful reproductions are ok.

Only lead bullets are allowed, gas checks are ok, for both categories. The official rules for both categories can be found on pages 21 and 22 of the SASS WB Range Operations/Match directors Handbook available on the SASS website. I encourage all perspective shooters to review these, and we'll cover them at the WB shooters meetings as needed. It is my plan to limit the TR/DB round count to 5ish rounds per stage, twentyish rounds of rifle cartridges per monthly match.

As always feel free to reach out to me with any questions. Next match will be May 6th. Steel/stage set up begins at 0800, shooter's meeting at 0900, shooting to follow thereafter.

Flanigan Flats

From our Territorial Governor – Wylie Fox

There was a TG meeting at the 4 Corners Territorial Match this month. The meeting got side-tracked discussing Wild Bunch. I expect that in a month or so there will be some updates concerning how to increase the number of Wild Bunch shooters. Some notes from the EOT TG meeting were also shared, nothing new.



There will be a RO II class this month. At this time there are 13 participants, I am pleased with the interest. In May there are scheduled two RO I classes, May 13 and May 20. So far there are only two registered. Depending on the number registered the location might

be adjusted. In July there will be a Wild Bunch class. BBR and SSS will cover the SASS fees for these courses for the respective members. One day every two years will be worth your time!

Match Roles & Match Terms

This section is a very basic, summarized listing and definition of Match roles, Match Officials, and terms. For a more in-depth understanding regarding all match roles and the crucial function they serve at any match, please attend a SASS RO 1 Course.

- Posse – A group of shooters scheduled to shoot through all stages together during the course of a match.
- Match Director – is in charge of the overall match and is required to ensure qualified officials are in place in all competition areas. The Match Director is typically the stage writer/designer of the match and has the authority to override an “RO-assisted” MSV penalty for a reshoot.
- Range Master – is in charge of and oversees all stages and ensures qualified officials are in place on all stages. He or she reviews all stages and ensures they are designed and constructed to operate in a safe manner for both competitors and officials.
- Match RO – acts as an intermediary between Posse Marshals and the Range Master in resolving issues regarding the application of rules/penalties.
- Posse Marshal/Deputy Posse Marshal – is in charge of a posse and is required to ensure all posse positions are manned to safely and efficiently run the posse through each course of fire, ensuring all rules and regulations are followed.
- Timer Operator (TO) –is in charge of the firing line as long as he/she is running the timer and has the primary objective to safely assist the shooter through the course of fire.
- Spotters/Counters – have the responsibility to count shots and misses and to verify targets were engaged in the correct order for the required number of shots. Three spotters are required – majority 2/3 breaks any ties in regards to misses.
- Scorekeeper – records the times and penalties appropriately for each contestant on the provided score sheets for each stage.
- Loading Table Officer – is responsible for visually checking to ensure all firearms are loaded with only the correct number of rounds, verify no round is ever under the firing pin of any firearm, and all loaded firearms’ hammers are fully down on an empty chamber.
- Unloading Table Officer – is responsible for visually checking to ensure all firearms are unloaded (clear) at the completion of the shooting stage

From our friend – The Fallon Kid



Lead testing for dummies

Much is talked about bullet hardness and how to know ‘what cha got’. BHN or Brinell Hardness Number is most commonly used. There are several other scales used in engineering and science but all equate to the same thing. Every material has a specific hardness. For our purpose pure lead is BHN 5. At the other end of hard bullets is Lyman #2, which is about 16 BHN and Linotype is about 22. The most common blend we at BBR use is 20-1 lead which is about 10 BHN. And the other type is range lead. This is a mixture of many types of bullets, but after being melted, cleaned and into ingots, it usually runs between 12 and 14 BHN. Most hardness testers used in industry simply take a known shape, like a cone or pointed needle, and press it against the test object at a specific pressure for x amount of time. The indent

or impression into the test object is then measure across the indent on the surface. Basically, “how wide is that hole?” Charts tell you the hardness based on hole width. Most testing equipment is not affordable to the average person.

For us to test hardness a pretty good and inexpensive method is the Lee Precision Lead Hardness Kit. This kit has been compared to very expensive equipment and tracks very accurately. To use you need a single press, like a rock chucker. I don’t need to go into how to use but it is in my skill level which ain’t much. Once the impression is made in the lead, you need to measure it. The kit has a 24x magnifier which is scaled. It is impossible to hold the magnifier by hand and take a reading. I made a stand in about 15 min and works quite well. I use a close pin to maneuver object in position. Takes a little practice because when looking through magnifier everything is reversed (up is down and Right is left) A scale chart is also supplied and I have checked known lead samples and tested and readings were spot on.

Attached is pic of my stand and if you have questions please contact me,

Fallon



