



The Bullet Hole

February 2020

Next Match March 15, 2020 - Shooters' meeting at 9:30 a.m.

SILVER STATE SHOOTISTS FEBRUARY MATCH IN GOLD HILL !!!
OUR JANUARY MATCH **OUR FEBRUARY MATCH**



From the Board;



The February match had a single posse of 20 shooters. At times it was a little chilly and breezy but toward the end of the match it was very pleasant. Of the 20 shooters, only Tumbleweed Ed shot a clean match.

The setup and tear down of the range for the match went really well. A large group was at the range by the time the trailers arrived and everyone pitched in almost before the trailers came to a stop. Thanks very much.

We still only have a handful of people signed up for the RO 1 & 2 classes. Remember the organizations are paying the class fees. We need more certified RO's to handle the timer. There are two classes needed to be an RO1 & 2. The first class is Saturday April 25 from 9am - 3pm. And again on Saturday May 16 from 9am - 5pm. We had a couple sign up at the match. If you are interested in attending send an Email to : jeich455@charter.net

Sutro Tunnel

Entrepreneur Adolph Sutro believed that a tunnel, excavated to intersect with the lower levels of the Comstock, would efficiently drain and ventilate the mines. After a failed early proposal, he incorporated the Sutro Tunnel Company with a legislative charter in 1865. His astonishing plan called for an excavation 20,489 feet or over three miles in length. It would climb one and a half percent from the Carson River Valley near Dayton, intersecting with Virginia City's mines at the 1,640-foot level (below Virginia City).

Because of opposition, work on the tunnel was delayed until 1869. It took nine years to complete. The town of Sutro, at the tunnel mouth, became a bustling community of workers. The tunnel was wide enough for donkey-pulled carts to pass one another. Calibration with reflected sunlight every noon ensured that the tunnel would be perfectly straight. On September 1, 1878, tunnel workers broke into the Savage Mine within eighteen inches of the planned target. A strong wind howled as pressure differences equalized. The project cost about two million dollars.

Unfortunately, the Sutro Tunnel opened as the Comstock mines declined. When the major companies ceased pumping in the 1880s, water flooded the lowest levels of the mines. The tunnel, however, provided a passive drain at the 1,640-foot level. To this day, it continues to function in this capacity as water constantly flows from the tunnel mouth, leaving the historic upper levels of the Comstock mines dry.

In response to a resurgence of gold mining in the 1970s and 80s, miners began reworking the tunnel, but they only managed to repair about five hundred feet before the price of gold fell and the work ceased. Today the Sutro Tunnel and the adjacent town of Sutro remain as relicts of a great engineering feat.





If you have a problem finding the location, or if you would like more information about the information in this newsletter, call Jackpot Jerry. My cell phone number is: 310-990-6482