



The Bullet Hole

September 2021

Next Match October 17, 2021 - Shooters' meeting at 9:30 a.m.



SILVER STATE SHOOTISTS SEPTEMBER MATCH



September 19, 2021 Match

The match on 9/19 went great! We shot the six stages in a single posse of 15 shooters. It started out windy, with some wind gusts throughout the morning, but it was sunny and the temperature was comfortable. Tumbleweed Ed was our one clean shooter.

Due to Street Vibrations we postponed the trailer cleanup and pushed the Board meeting to next Saturday, 10/9 @10am.

Dirk



From Jackpot Jerry –

Again, heartfelt thanks to everybody for all of the help setting up and tearing down the bays for the match. With Georgia Blue taking on all the responsibility of the match again, he was certainly thankful for all of the help with iPads, steel, and tables. Since this makes two matches in a row I have missed, I have no photos or insights to share.

The photo of the Bison was taken at Railroad Flats a number of years ago. For our October match a number of our members (me included) will be attending the match there. Due to this for the October match I will be writing a fairly straight forward shooting contest in one shooting area. The stages are already posted on the website.



Personal Thoughts: Tying Some Of The Past Stories Together

I have met some really great folks since I was introduced to Cowboy Shooting by Drifter John and Rowdy Robin. One of my favorite locations to shoot is Railroad Flats, CA. They have a great venue and I love riding the ore cart while shooting. Now while this is a beautiful venue, I have a personal attachment to this area.



This historic mining town, elevation 2,600 feet (788 m), was named after primitive mule-drawn ore cars used here. There was never actually a railroad here. The town was established in 1849. It was the site of an Indian council as well as the center of rich placer and quartz mining. Its largest producer was the Petticoat Mine. The post office was established in 1857, closed in 1858, and re-established in 1869 and the Edwin Taylor store built in 1867 which is where we still buy supplies while we are at the match.

The Petticoat mine consisted of a vein deposit hosted in slate and schist. The ore body strikes a thickness of 2.13 meters. A 2 to 7 foot thick vein occurs in graphitic schist and quartz-mica schist. Workings include underground openings comprised of a shaft with an inclined depth of 680 feet. A second shaft 1,200 feet north is 210 feet deep. Both are now caved. The lead-in to the shafts held the donkey drawn

cart tracks. This lead-in and cave-in depression is where the targets are placed for the matches so we are shooting down hill on many of the stages.

In the mid-1850s Joseph Stacy Murdock purchased a 500 acre ranch from Lucky Bill (the first man hung in Nevada written up in a prior newsletter) about half way between Genoa and Woodfords. During the next few years he ran two pack trains a month of supplies from Genoa to the gold miners in California. He packed cheese, eggs, meat, furs, and other supplies. He was probably assisted by his sons John Heber Murdock and Pickett Albert Murdock (an adopted Indian son who was latter unjustly killed and written about in a prior newsletter – “He Was Only An Indian”). Due to Joseph Stacy Murdock’s relationship with the Indians, whom he respected and treated fairly, he was one of the only pioneers allowed to cross the Carson pass in such a way.

As I sat around the campfire at one of my first matches in Railroad Flats I speculated that my Great Great Grandfather Murdock and perhaps even my Great Grandfather John Heber Murdock may have camped in that very spot 165 years earlier.



The gulch is just south of the Gold Hill train depot and west of the Gold Hill Hotel.

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