

A publication of the

# High Plains Drifters

## Cowboy Action Shooting Club

Fernley, NV



June 2011

Volume 6

### A Few From Our President - Irish Ike

#### Western States 2011



*Well, it's over!*

Months of preparation and a week of frenzied activity and now it's all behind us.

From Monday through Wednesday people were setting up for the match. Much of the work was done and by Wednesday afternoon. All that was left was the man on man set up.

Part of what we do is trying to find humor and good natured ribbing in what we do. We have all seen the energizer bunny commercials. It's all about going, and going, and going with unlimited energy. As I watched Deadeye Dick work all week it became apparent that the man has no limits to what he can do. He even looked a bit like the Energizer Bunny. He had borrowed his sons ATV. You'd see him go by and then a few minutes later he goes by back again. And then you see him up on the hill painting targets, and then you'd see him...well you get the idea. Dick had gone over the hill to Richmond and picked up a load of props he made over the years. He spent two days directing and working to make our range look far better than it ever has before. We learned that he was the saw man and his

wife Vivian was the artist who made the props come to life. Many a shooter commented on how great the range looked and what wonderful props we had. It was nice to see everyone pitching in and doing what they could to get ready for the shoot. There is always so much to do and so the help was well received. And again our Scouts came out on Wednesday to help set up.

The match started with about 80 registered shooters. A few no shows, and one person got sick and we ended up with 72 shooters. Thursday the side match day started with some cool weather and some wind. The veterans of our shoot brought warm and cold clothes so jackets were seen until about noon.

Before the speed events started we had the Warm Up match, and the Long Range event began at 9:00am. Long Range was set up by Deadeye Dick. Our range is one of the few that actually is a long range match. Well organized and we got the help of Fort Churchill Kid to keep it that way. If you have ever shot long range you know wind is not your friend. Its direction and speed is constantly changing. Wind weeds out the average shooters and brings the good ones to the top. We had a few shoot offs to determine the winners.

The best shoot off was between Tumbleweed Ed and Jasper Agate for single shot big bore. They shot 3 sighters and 10 hits to start the day. They tied at 10 each. So now it's later in the day and the wind is again different from the morning. Sight settings from the morning don't mean much. After 17 rounds were expended by each shooter and all were hits at 400 yards Dick called it a draw and both shooters took a first place. That's about 33 rounds each, put on steel at 400 yards without a miss. That is some real shooting there.

### **Plainsman**

We split Plainsman into two categories this year. East Coast which allows rifles with ejectors. And West Coast which doesn't. We had around 16 shooters and the area was filled with a lot of smoke. Jasper and yours truly set up the stages. It takes a twisted mind to think up stages for Plainsman. I would think you would all agree that Jasper and I cover that pretty well.

### **Main Matches**

Friday began the first 6 stages of the 12 stage main match. If you have ever written a stage and know how difficult it is. Then add in a 12 stage match to complicate things.

You need to avoid procedurals, accommodate left and right-hander's, and oh yeah those weird gunfighters. You'd think they could make up their mind which hand to use! Based on the comments from the shooters during and after the match, Denio accomplished that.

### **Wild Bunch**

Wild Bunch had a great turnout. It was nice to see a few shooters in full World War 1 military clothes and hardware. If you haven't shot Wild Bunch yet you need to give it a go. Different gun and the thinking on how to shoot its different than cowboy shooting.

And it's another excuse to shoot some more. Again, Denio set up the stages, and again the shooters walked away very happy.

Saturday was pretty much the same as Friday. Great weather, great stages, and a bunch of people with smiles on their faces. We heard from several shooters that the props and the way the stages were written really made it a fun shoot.

The day ended with our traditional wind blow through the range. Taking our dinner and awards to an enclosed venue has really saved our bacon. As we all know our weather is whatever it will be from minute to minute. I told a few people that we had snow flurries about 2 weeks before our shoot. It's Nevada. You're either putting on a coat or putting on sun block!!! Sometimes in the same day.

Our Scouts had lunch available every day. The pricing and the menu were well received. They also did the rounds selling drinks all day.

This year we eliminated the lost brass component of our match. This was well received and commented on by many shooters. To help the Scouts raise money they put a scout on each stage to pick up brass. We asked the shooters to open up their wallets and donate for their efforts. After it was all said and done Saturday night they collected \$682 in donations for their brass efforts. Thanks to everyone for their generosity.

### **Awards Banquet**

For the second year we held our dinner and awards at the Fernley Community Center. Diner was included with the registration. A many a shooter commented on that helping make up their mind to come. Cowboy basics

were served. Tri-Tip, Chicken, Beans, Salad, and homemade pies with ice cream. We held our raffle during diner to save time and we gave away some great raffle prizes. If I try to remember all of our members who gave a prize for the raffle I'll miss someone. So instead, thank all of those who donated something. It helped to elevate the success of the shoot.

During the awards Stormy Mernickle came up on stage and reminded us of her families commitment to the sport of shooting, our community, and the Scouts. She represented the Mernickle family very well.

Again this year they donated a custom holster made to the requests of the winner of the auction. Whatever the final bid is for a custom holster is, Mernickle always doubles the value he'll put into the holster. This year, our very own Dutch Dalton won the auction with a final bid of \$1,100. Which means he'll be getting a holster set worth \$2,200 from the Mernickle family. *Thank you Dutch for your generosity.* And thanks again to the Mernickle family. If you see one of the Mernickles anywhere, be sure to give them your thanks.

After it was all said and done we awarded top Cowboy and Cowgirl to Wild Root, and Charlie Parkhurst. Great shooting and two of the nicest people one could ever meet. Even though one of them can't make up their mind on which hand to use.

We ended the night with our traditional Fernley watch your speed warning on the streets and thanks to all who came. 2 ½ hours of good food, good friends, and recognition for some great shooting. And I need to confirm this but, I don't think I offended too many with my Master of Ceremony efforts.

### **The Many, Many Thank Yous**

And now an attempt at recognizing the wonderful people who made the event a great one.

First, Our Boy Scouts from Troop 408. All around grunt help. Jasper tried to wear them out but couldn't. Lunches, Brass pick up, drinks, diner, and whatever else we asked of them.

Registration, Shooters book, flyers, registration forms, TV ads, awards, and awards organization, prizes etc, etc. Dutch Dalton and his remarkable partner Mary. This is no small effort folks.

Stage Props, Long Range, and generally being everywhere, Deadeye Dick.

Writing all of our stages, set –up and busting his backside, Denio.

Re-building Stage 1, Drifter John and Rotten Robin.

Check in, raffle tickets, and watchful eyes, Mary Mueller, Hot Babe, and Miss Rickey. Water tank and set up, Grey Eagle and Fernley.

Scoring, Footloose Phil and Aloha.

Managing and leading the Scouts efforts, Jasper Agate. That's another way of saying corrupting America's youth.

Speed Side Matches, CC Dollar.

Wild Bunch, Reno Slim

Cow person on Cow person shoot off. Reno Slim, CC Dollar, and Jasper

Doing what they could and being everywhere they were needed, Brazos, JJ,

Big Pete, Fanner Fifty, Drifter John,

Domingo, Winchester, Fallen Grace, Hellfire Preacher, Barb, and South Paw.

The City of Reno Visitors and Convention Bureau.

My old age memory will cause me to forget someone. If I did be assured it was my error and thank you for your help.

Well, that's about it. Our initial assessment is the shooters thought this was the best Western States in a long time. They will be back. Our numbers are down, but as we all know, there are more shoots to chose from. And the dreaded economy and the high cost of fuel have had its impact on all shoots. Why do we do this? For me it's beyond the ability to raise some money for our club. It is the chance to spend a few days with people who I am fortunate to call my friend. Enjoying the ribbing, the shared experience of seeing some great shooting, and just being around people who live life in the cowboy way. Work hard, enjoy all that you can, and give everything you have if a friend needs you.

Your Humble and most appreciative

El Heffe Supremo

*Irish Ike*

**From the Editor:**

***I would like to apologize to Jasper Agate as well as each and every person who reads this. As I was preparing Irish Ike's Western States article, I came across this article previously submitted by Jasper for the June 2011 newsletter. Jasper, I will try to be much more attentive in the future. J.J.***

**Howdy all:**



I'm Irish Ike this month (*June - Ed.*) as he had other things to do! We had 22 shooters join us, we had a great time and the weather was

almost great! When I left the Washoe Valley I had conceded to myself that if was as ugly at the range as it was at home I'd just set by

the fire and hang out. It stopped raining as soon as I left the valley and was pleasant all the way out to the range. By mid morning folks were removing heavy clothes but keeping them close. By the end of the match it was time for warmer clothes again!

Brazos setup the match and he did a wonderful job as usual! Be sure to thank him because we need to keep him happy and working hard for us! Remember if you don't like the way the stages are set up volunteer to do them for a month or two to see what the challenges really are. You think shooting them is tough? Try writing and implementing them. ***My hats off to Drifter John and Rotten Robin for the outstanding job they did rebuilding Stage #1. It looks GREAT!!!*** It ended up costing them a little more than they had planned on to bring their rig out to the range and get it back home, but you will have to ask him about that.

Fernley Stock 3™ is upon us and Turtle will be giving R.O. classes. He really does a great job on keeping you entertained while teaching you everything you will need to be a great timer operator. I'll send out a schedule via email as soon as I get together with El Jeffe Grande Supremo. If you haven't been out to join us you are in for a real treat, we have a ball!! Lets us know what you would like to do shooting or other wise and we will add it to the list! 22's and 410's are a hit and Wild Bunch is always a favorite too! How's about a man on man tournament on Monday?

We are planning our picnic at Mormon park outside of Genoa at the end of August and would like everyone to come and have a great time. We have a dessert contest in the works and Fallen Grace and Hellfire Preacher have one game planned. BeeBad, who majored in Parks and Rec at Davis is putting on her thinking cap. I told her to

keep it clean! If you have an idea let us know!! Irish Ike said something about squirt guns and lawn darts, which got my attention. We will provide the entrée and maybe some cut up melons, the rest is up to you. Lets be creative and have some fun. I'm thinking about a big basket of fried chicken to munch on!

That's all for now,

*Irish Ike jr. (A.K.A. Jasper Agate)*

### **Picnic**

**The picnic at the Mormon Station in Genoa is a big "GO!"**

**It will be held on August 27th.**

**The club's are supplying the meat and everyone else just brings a side-dish. Just like our regular potlucks!! We have reserved the pavilion, which has a big bbq, sink and electric outlets for things like crock pots.**

**Cost - only \$5 per person!! There will be a sign-up sheet at the June, July and August shoots. You can pay at that time.**

**Check out the park at [parks.nv.gov](http://parks.nv.gov).**

### **FOR SALE:**

NEW HENRY YELLOW BOY .357	\$700.00
NEW UBERTI .357 BIRDSHEAD WITH 3 ½" BARREL	\$300.00
NEW UBERTI CIMMERRON .357 BIRDSHEAD WITH 3 ½" BARREL	\$300.00
MODEL 97 SHOTGUN	\$300.00
1 SET OF HOLSTERS	\$100.00

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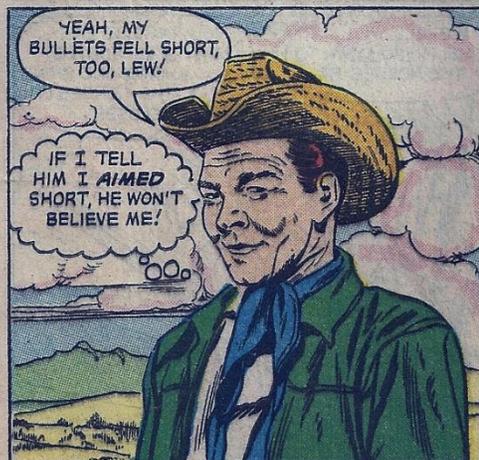
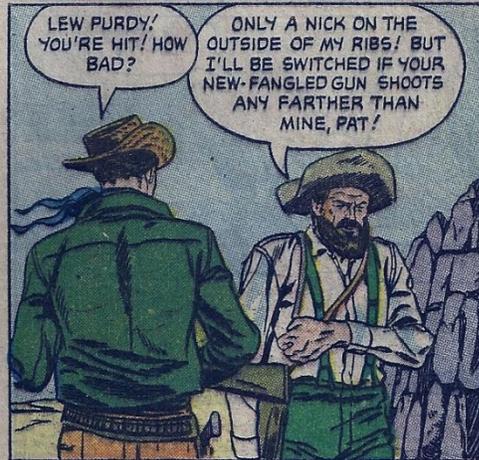
**(FORMER COWBOY SHOOTER)**

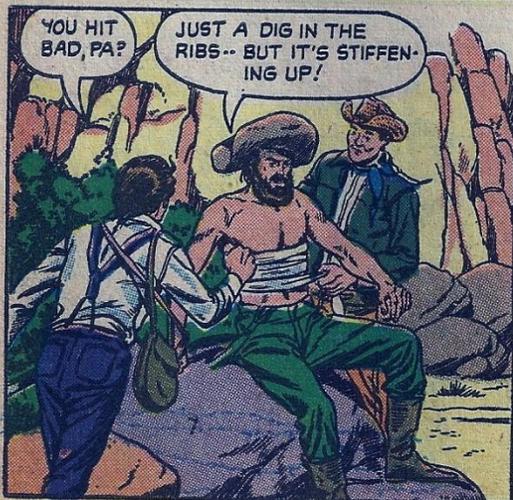
**That's all for this month. Comments ??  
email me at: [jj50325@yahoo.com](mailto:jj50325@yahoo.com)**

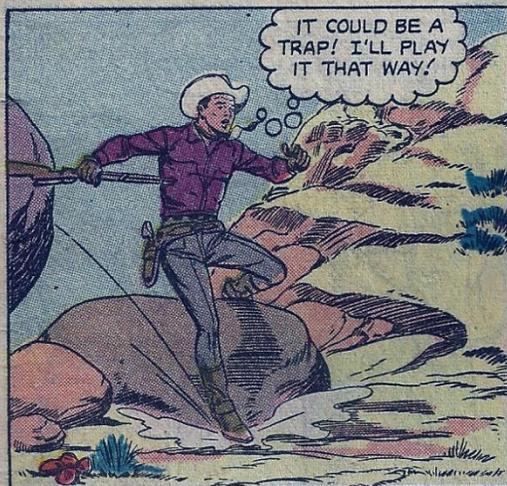
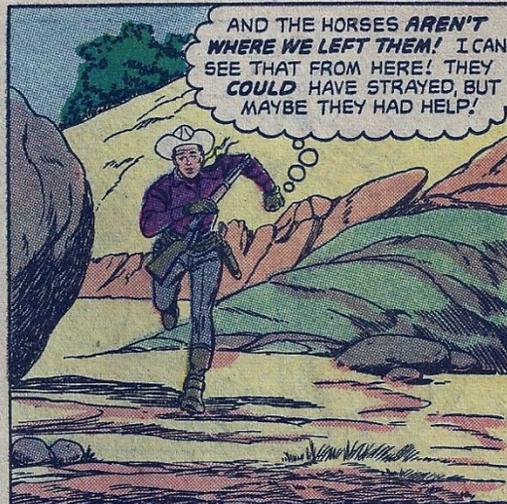
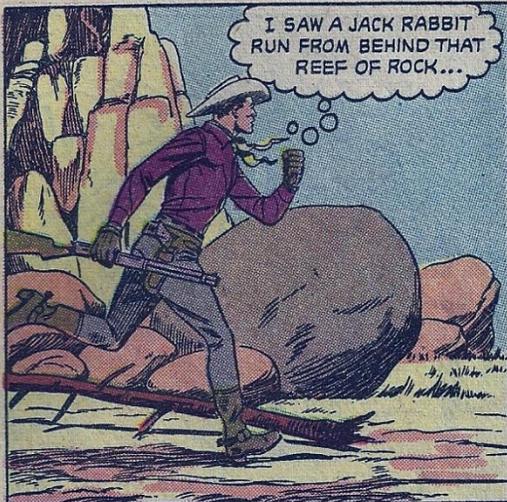
And now the exciting conclusion of 'Flintlock Feud',  
the story of the man from long ago with Roy Rogers & Trigger



FROM FARTHER ALONG THE RIDGE, MORE BULLETS COME--TO KICK UP DUST AT THE BANNERMANS' HEELS!









AT THE FIRST MAN'S YELL, THE OTHERS WHIRL, FLINTLOCKS COCKING...



SNAP-SHOOTING FROM THE HIP, ROY SCORES WITH THE WINCHESTER.



THEN WITH EACH PISTOL...



