

KINGS RIVER GAZETTE

Volume 23 Edition 2

The Monthly Rag of the Kings River Regulators

Stogie Johnson, Editor

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**FORT MILLER 2023:
SUCCESS!!**

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What a great time at the 28th Annual Shootout at Fort Miller!! The weather couldn't be better, and the shooters couldn't be any better looking! Big Bad Blaine, Dust Devil Dale and the rest of the KRR head honchos, you outdid yourselves. Everything from the ice cream social to the ore car was wonderful. And challenging? I don't know whether to love you Dust Devil Dale for all of the fantastic props and setup or hate you for those stages! Honestly though there was something for everyone from weird patterns (where did you get those from?) to flying flags. We in the KRR salute you sir!

Great events like this don't just happen by themselves, and we want to thank everyone for all of their hard work in putting together a fantastic annual. There is so much behind-the-scenes work that goes on to make this event successful, and although we don't have enough space to list everyone, please know that you are appreciated. Thanks again for a great time!!

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Badman Bob was heard to remark as his posse approached Bay 5 "What evil lurks here?" Heck Bob, that could have applied to any of the stages!

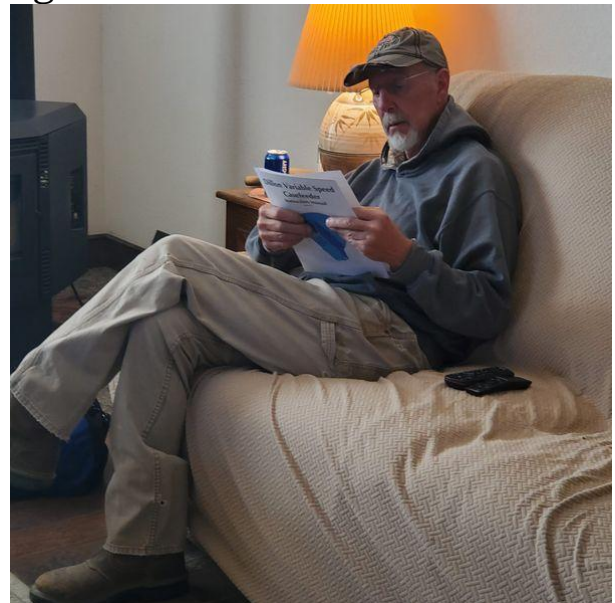
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AND THE WINNERS ARE

Well you know that in the eyes of this editor you are all winners, however we had plenty of shooters who really stepped up and showed us how its done.

When the smoke cleared it was Nevada's own **Lash Latigo** who walked away with top overall honors. Congratulations on some fine shooting!!! Lash was followed by our own Big Bad Blaine and Coyote Carson in 2nd and 3rd respectively. Way to represent fellas!

In addition there were plenty of happy campers who won raffle prizes including yours truly (stogies!!Woohoo!!). That super-duper Dillon extra fancy reloader grand prize went to none other than Pinebox Filler. Now if he can only figure out how to make it work...



Here's Pinebox pretending he knows how to read the instruction manual

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Sheriff Dusty Devil Dale is

OUT ON THE RANGE

I hope that everyone had a great time at the 28th Annual Fort Miller Shootout. There were lots of shooters, side matches, food, camaraderie, and fun shooting stages mostly built around actual historical events. If the match was as fun for everyone to shoot as it was for us, then the match was surely a success!

In the two months prior to the fun, there were some obstacles that were less than fun to deal with. California's wettest spring of record meant that day after day the relentless rain pounded us; first depositing a record snowpack and then washing much of it out, creating huge flooding issues. For three periods of more than a week during early March we were unable to cross the flooded Dry Creek bridge to enter the range. At times more than two feet of white water flowed over the top of the bridge. During all that time we could not get anywhere near our range to prepare for the shoot.

The heavy rain and high winds caused a lot of damage. The rain worsened pre-existing leaks in our KRR office roof. The FRPC (our awesome host range) generously granted us \$5000 to re-roof the building. Unfortunately, the work could not be done in time for Fort Miller. Serious water damage and mold issues resulted in the office and storeroom. The main office re-roof was recently completed, but the outside porch area was excluded from the contract, so we will need to re-roof that portion in the upcoming weeks, hopefully with membership help.

The heavy rain also created major erosion damage in our shooting bays, access roads, and parking areas. It deeply rutted the surface, making a muddy mess. Thankfully our FRPC partners once again came to the rescue with another grant of \$8000 to buy road base material for repairs. Grading of the 200+ tons of material consumed several full days of our dwindling work time, but the grading was completed on time.

60+mph winds in February and March tumbled away portable toilets, ripped away our office roof tarp, damaged our wifi antennae, and demolished the perimeter fence around our headquarters. By then our work time had become extremely limited. The fence had to be replaced to prevent high winds from blowing through the raffle

tent, dinner tables, and general gathering area. With the help of a KRR weekend work party and a helpful FRPC range staff we patched the fence back together.



Flood Stage Over Dry Creek Bridge

All of these surprise repairs consumed 20+ days of our vanishing time. By early April we had not yet begun the groundwork for the match itself – then just 13 days away... Targets had to be repaired and set up, props constructed, bays graded, repairs made to Main Street, the wifi repaired, procurement of ice/water and a myriad of other jobs had to be done on short notice. IN addition forming posses, reviewing the stages, printing the shooters booklet, making signs, planning the dinner, and a million other tasks all had to be done.

Early in the second week of April our 79 cowboy and cowgirls guests began to arrive in the camping area. By then, except for a few hectic final touches, the main match and side matches were ready. In this extreme year it could never have happened without a small posse of devoted KRR members, helpful FRPC range staff members, and able help from our friends at CCPL. On the morning of March 13th, the side matches began popping away on schedule and the 28th Annual Fort Miller Shootout became a reality. **MAJOR** **MAJOR thanks to all of you who gave so generously of your time and effort.** Working together we made it happen, despite all of the challenges.

Dusty Devil Dale
KRR Sheriff

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AND NOW FOR SOME PICS!

The Gazette would like to thank our intrepid photographer Sagebrush for his assistance.



Now here's a pair to watch out for! Dustbowl Debbie and Miss Chievous



Tall Tale Todd & Tollhouse Tracker looking sharp



What did you say I have to do?!!



Straut Shot Owen at the long range



An ornery bunch to be sure

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CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!
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Two very special awards were given out at the awards dinner Saturday night; The Founders Award and the Top Hand Award.

Snakebite, KRR#1 was proud to present this year's coveted Founders Award to Manny's Granny.



We know that Manny's Granny prefers to stay in the background, but we're gonna toot her horn anyway. She's always there. She's always helping. She's always ready to support the KRR any way she can. And she's our School Marm!! Manny's Granny we are so proud of you and thankful for everything that you have done for the Kings River Regulators. A well-deserved honor for this long-time member!!!



And she can shoot while driving (a wagon)!

The next award was the Top Hand Award, presented by our Mayor Big Bad Blaine. For all of their help, work, and devotion to the Kings River Regulators, this years Top Hand Award was presented to a special couple; Poison Oakley and Calamine.



In addition to both being excellent shots, these two have been a fixture around the KRR for quite a while. They step up when something needs getting done and are always willing to help out wherever they are needed. To this lovely couple, thank you so much for all that you have done for our club. With Top Hands like you the KRR will be going strong for years to come!



And speaking of founders, how great is this pic of Snakebite and Fannie Oakley???

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AWARDS! AWARDS! AWARDS!

So many awards, so little space! Here's some pics of our many medal winners.



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That is one gray-haired 17 year old in the middle!



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Limpin' Leroy takes out those banditos!

Crazy Ladies!!



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