

KINGS RIVER GAZETTE

Volume 22 Edition 7

The Monthly Rag of the Kings River Regulators

Stogie Johnson, Editor

There's a New Head Honcho for the 2022 Fort Miller

The call went out, and one brave soul answered it – Big Bad Blaine was unanimously elected (after he volunteered) to be the Match Director for the 2022 Fort Miller Annual. If you are a member of the KRR (and if you are reading this then that would indicate that you are) then figure out how you're going to contribute because it will be all hands on deck! Let's help BBB put on the best annual yet!

Snakebite, You've Done it Again!

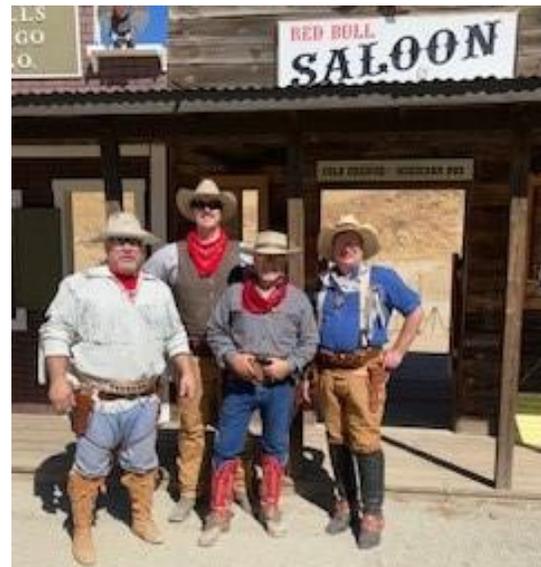
Once again Snakebite has shown us that he really knows how to write great stages! We were able to shoot at some of our more unique targets, and there were definitely some surprises – I bet you can count the number of people who hit the bonus clays on the fingers of one hand!! And having the chance to hit 2 shotgun knockdowns simultaneously was a trick! Coyote Carson earned top honors Sunday, and there were 3 clean & smooth shooters: Badman Bob, Snakebite, and Two-Fingers Slim. Thanks for a great and fun match Snakebite!

Josie Albuquerque has the right idea, saying, "I just want to be safe" – Then she cleaned the stage!! She's safe AND accurate!



Spotters show another clean shoot for a fast-drawing regulator

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The Deplorables Ready for Action!

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In the Noose

I don't even like to write that I'm putting Fannie Oakley In the Noose because she is such a sweetheart! Let's just say that I had the pleasure of chatting with her and finding out a little bit about her and Cowboy Action Shooting.

Fannie got started in our sport through her husband Snakebite, of course. Although for years she preferred to support Snakebite and the club being in the background, about five years ago she started shooting. That gave Snakebite another reason to keep shooting!

Outside of Cowboy Action Shooting Fannie says she "hates housework but loves gardening". I think that means she has a trigger finger and a green thumb... 😊

The social aspect of the club is what Fannie enjoys the most about the KRR, stating, "Everybody is so wonderful" (she probably meant "everybody except Two Fingers Slim" but she's too nice to say it...)

Fannie Oakley and Snakebite have done quite a bit of travelling over the years – End of Trail, Winter Range, Senior Games in Utah, and even North Dakota.

Fannie, it was a pleasure getting to know you a little bit better, and thanks for

chatting. We sure appreciate that you are a wonderful member of our club!



Fannie Oakley sitting pretty!

The line to start the stage was, "It's a badger!", but that wasn't eloquent enough for Tall Tale Todd, who exclaimed, "I spy a member of the brawny weasel family!"

Smartass...

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They look like they're facing a firing squad...

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Out On The Range

by Sheriff DDD

"Cowboy Logic" Applied to Target Handling.

Do you remember the Michael Martin Murphy song from the 80s, "That's Cowboy Logic". It ends with:

"The real cowboy's the one in the middle [of the truck seat]"
"He ain't there just by fate"
"Cause first he don't have to drive"
"And then he don't have to mess with the gate"

Cowboys will work hard, but they'll spend hours trying to find the easiest way to do a ten-minute job. That's what this story is about.

For every match there are some jobs that are inescapable. Target stands need to be set out and staked down. Props need to be set up, water and ice need to be distributed, scoring tablets must be pre-charged, and there are many other tasks. The heavy steel target plates also need to be set out and taken in, and that last job involves some heavy lifting and carrying. It has potential for injury, considering our aging membership. So, I've spent considerable Cowboy Logic time looking for the easiest way.

Historically, I understand early KRR shooters moved targets by wheelbarrow before and after shooting-- wheeling the heavy plates all the way from the Corral to the various shooting bays. Then at some point a trailer was donated, and targets were carried the longer distances by driving the trailer around. Then, at each Bay, shooters hand carried the heavy plates to and from their placements. After shooting in each bay, the "steel" was removed by the shooters and stacked on the ground near the access road, and the trailer was again pulled around and loaded up. Most of us remember this as the standard way to handle the targets. The trailer was a definite improvement over long wheelbarrow hauls.

This last year, with the Pandemic risk, we had mask-required and mask-optional posses. It became important to keep the two groups separated inasmuch as

possible, including reducing their interface at the trailer. So yours truly began setting out the steel the day before the match and picking it up the day after. I used the wheelbarrow technique, working in the cool of the morning or evening and enjoying the aerobic workout. Then as we progressed into summer, the pandemic risk was perceived to be lower, but then due to the excessive heat, we wanted to finish the matches as early as possible before the range heated up. So, we decided to continue the same process for setting out the targets in the cool morning, rather than everybody burning their hands on hot steel and staying longer in the heat after the matches. We decided to continue doing it that way for matches where temperature predictions exceeded 100 degrees. I very much appreciated the help of Hardpan Cremudgeon who drove from Madera to assist. Others helped as well, at times.

"Cowboy Logic" and experience have taught us that using both the wheelbarrow and trailer together makes things much easier. In setting out the steel, we can drive the trailer to a bay and simply pull the wheelbarrow up beside the trailer, load in most of the steel for a stage, then wheel the plates right up to the target stands. On picking up the plates afterwards, we could simply pull the wheelbarrow up next to the targets, drop the plates into the wheelbarrow, wheel them a few yards to the trailer and easily rehang them, without ever having to bend over and lift the heavy plates from ground level or carry them long distances. Believe me, it is MUCH easier this way. The greatest risk in doing these two jobs has been in carrying the heavy steel past props, gun carts and people to and from the trailer, and especially in deep lifting the plates up from ground level with our aging backs.

So, for our future matches, the trailer will be equipped with wheelbarrows. By using them we can save work and avoid injury risk. We will wait until the trailer is pulled around to pull the steel after shooting and use the wheelbarrows to collect the target plates. It's a small change, but as you will see, it really is MUCH easier and safer. We will be doing it in this way until Cowboy Logic comes up with something easier yet.

Dusty Devil Dale

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And speaking of Tall Tale Todd, he is sporting quite the dashing moustache these days. I hear his wife hates it...



Great Speckled Body Takin' Care of Business!

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So a certain member of the KRR acquired a slicked-up shotgun and commented that it should help his scores, to which Bull Calahan replied, " Sure it will. I mean, I'm sure it will..."

I get no respect!

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Wyoming Rambler takes aim



And One-Eyed Smith shows us what he's got

