

KINGS RIVER GAZETTE

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March 2005

Junebug Shines when the Sun Doesn't

by Slick Rock Rooster, Mayor

No rain drops fell on Junebug McCaffrey's parade. Even with the threat of rain all day none fell until all of the cowboys had left the range. There were some muddy areas from the Saturday rains to navigate around but Sunday's weather was just right for a good shoot.

It was a great fun even if she made all of the shooters wear pink hats and the "lady regulators" saved Hell town. All of her stage designs were themes from a woman's point of view. Somebody muddies the floors on stage one. (I think it was Mother Nature.) Stage two had a pit full of snakes that gave some of the shooters a hard time to eliminate when starting from a position of hanging clothes on the clothes line. Snakebite had a surprise when Wildcat John nailed one of the snakes to the ground with a spike. The snake just spun around and would not be blown away like his brothers. Sister Sara was pulling an arrow from a drunken Clint Eastwood on Stage three. Great job Cowgirl!

Posse leaders Mariposa Slim, Wildcat John and Slick Rock Rooster led the three posses through the course of fire. Three shooters shot clean matches. They were El Maestro, Wildcat John and Slick Rock Rooster. Judge Jeremiah Steele had only one miss on his last pistol of the day. Sudden was overall match winner with Snakebite finishing second.

Toeless Joe came by to visit for a few minutes. It was good to see him. He brought some prizes for the annual Fort Miller Shootout. Thank you, Joe.

We had two new shooters brought in by Stubby 9 Fingers. They were his nephew Roy Boy and his friend Jessica Misfire. They seemed to have a great time. The Solvang Shootist showed up from the south land. Harry Luck joined us too. Harry is from Texas and is working in the Santa Clara area and is trying to attend a different shoot every weekend. I shot with him last weekend at Chorro Valley in San Luis Obispo. He shot Frontiersman last week and Senior at our match.

This year's parade in Raymond will be on April 16. Anyone interested in dressing up and riding on a KRR float, contact Wildcat John (559 689-3000) as soon as possible so he can get the right size trailer. We were very popular last year and got a lot of questions about Cowboy Action Shooting.

Saturday May 7 is a work day planed by Sierra. We will have much spring clean up to do in addition to the addition to the corral.

- SRR

CHANGE TO SUMMER HOURS!! SHOOTING TIME

SHOOTERS' MEETING
8:30 A.M.
SHOOTING STARTS
9:00 A.M.



Match Director Junebug McCaffrey designed a great match this month with all the KRR ladies in mind. Way to go, Junebug!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Fort Miller '05
October 13-16

Long Range & Silhouette 10/13
Main Match 10/14-15
Side Matches & Awards 10-16



Judge Steele's Court Docket – March 1885

SHERIFF RAMROD — FINED \$20 FER SHOWIN' UP AT TALON HAWKE'S BURTHDAY PARDY INNA SKURT...AN' SKEERIN' DA BEJEESIS OUTTA ALL DA LIDDLE CRITTERS WHAT WALKT UNNER 'IM!

TALON HAWKE — FINED \$10 FER SHOWIN' UP AT 'IS OWN BIRTHDAY WIT OUT AGIN' WUN BIT, YEER AFTER YEER.

ROGAN STEELE — FINED \$20 AN' GIVIN 20 HOURS O' COMUNNITY SERVUS (DA COMMUNITY BEIN' DA JUDGE AN' MA) FER CHEERIN' WHEN HIZ OL MAN, ON DA LAS' STAYGE, MIST DA WUN SHOT DAT WOODA GIVIN 'IM A KLEEN MATCH.

EL MAESTRO — FINED \$10 AN MUS SUBMIT TA A Y KROME-IS-HOME TEST FER' LOOKIN' WAY TOO KEWT IN DAT PINK HAT. (MA PROMISED HIM SHE WUDDNT PRINT THE PIKTUR THO, SO YOU ALL DON'T GIT TO SEE IT.)

MICHIGAN BOB — FINED \$5 FER BUSTIN' TWO GUNZ IN WUN MATCH.

ADDITION TO THE JUDGE'S DOCKIT BY MA STEELE, RECORDER — **JUDGE JEREMIAH STEELE** — FINED \$5 AND SENTENCED TA WASH OUT HIS MOUTH WITH SOAP FER CRUDE AND LEWD COMMENTS ABOUT MARIPOSA SLIM PLAYIN' WITH THEM PURTY PINK UNDERDRAWERS.

A little cowboy humor

A cowboy rode into town and stopped at a saloon for a drink. Unfortunately, the locals had a habit of picking on strangers. When he finished his drink, he found his horse had been stolen. He went back into the bar and with a quick move of his hands, he flipped his guns into the air, caught them above his head without even looking and fired at the ceiling. Which one of you sidewinders stole my hoss!?" he yelled. No one answered.

"Alright, I'm gonna have anotha beer, and if my hoss ain't back outside by the time I finnish, I'm gonna do what I dun in Texas! And I don't like to have to do what I dun in Texas!

Some of the locals shifted restlessly. He had another beer, walked outside, and his horse was back! As he swung up into the saddle and started to ride out of town, the bartender ran out of the saloon and asked, "Say partner, before you go... what happened in Texas?" The cowboy turned back and said, "I walked home."

Welcome to Western Warehouse Job Site

Just identify yourself to the cashier as a member of the Kings River Regulators, show your SASS or Kings River Regulator card and receive 15% off on all your purchases at Western Warehouse.

Be sure to sign up for the VIP Club when you're there also. You'll get additional discount offers through the mail. The store is located on Shaw Avenue in Clovis.

Herb Bauer Sporting Goods 6254 N. Blackstone Avenue

is now giving
10% Discount
on all shooting related
merchandise to all SASS
members

Just show your SASS Card

PLACES TO SHOOT

1st Saturday-Sunday of Month FRPC

Silhouette Range
Long Range

Shooting starts around 9:00 a.m. and goes all day.

1st Sunday of Month 5 Dogs Creek Bakersfield

Contact: Ten Bears
(661) 589-6838

3rd Saturday of Month Kings River Regulators Setup day for Sunday match

Start time 8:00 a.m.

New shooters' orientation starts around 8:30 a.m.

3rd Sunday of Month Kings River Regulators FRPC Range

15687 Auberry Road, Clovis, CA

Shooters Meeting 8:30 a.m.

Shooting starts at 9:00 a.m.

Contact: Mayor Slick Rock Rooster
(559) 299-8669

4th Sunday of Month Two Rivers Posse Manteca, CA

Contact: Cherokee Knight
(209) 477-8883

OFFICERS

Mayor: Slick Rock Rooster (Mike Cuneo)
(559) 299-8669

SASS #41875 KRR #195

Sheriff: Ramrod (Wayne Edgin)
(831) 637-8872

SASS #40599 KRR #221

Blacksmith: Sierra (Tom Ford)
(559) 255-7865

SASS #3229 KRR #16

Banker: Talon Hawke (Dick Smith)
(559) 322-8248

SASS #41641 KRR #193

Secretary/Editor: Ma Steele (Carol Moll)
(559) 439-6889

SASS # 48200 KRR #214

Territorial Governor: Snakebite (Doug Gilmore)
(559) 787-2943

SASS #4767L KRR #01

The Great Raymond Stage Holdup

The Black Kid certainly wasn't the first hold-up man in this vicinity. Four years before he struck, the town of Raymond was shaken with the cry, "The Yosemite stage has been held up." "Somebody held up the stage," lamented postmaster John Wood as he ran to the Sentinel Hotel on June 18, 1896.

The news put the little Madera County town in a dither, and within minutes of receiving the word, a posse headed out from Raymond toward Willow Creek, the scene of the robbery. When the men got there, they found the driver, John F. Stevens, and nine passengers all unharmed but in something of a state of shock.

This historical event, over one hundred years old, has been well preserved, and it makes for compelling reading. It was reported in all the local newspapers, especially when John Tatum was arrested and tried. Even the aging trial transcripts survive, providing a detailed description of the crime.

There is one major piece to the puzzle, however, that is missing, and this forces the historian to seek more help. We know what happened. We know who was accused of the robbery, and we know why. What we don't know is, was he ever found guilty or not? The newspapers are silent, and the official record doesn't say.

The day apparently had begun quite normally. Stevens, who had been driving the Yosemite stages for 13 years left Raymond in one of those huge, covered coaches. Four horses pulled the vehicle, while seven men and two women took their places inside. In addition to the personal possessions of the passengers, the stage carried the ubiquitous Wells Fargo strong box.

At precisely seven o'clock A.M., Stevens whipped the reins and the stage pulled out. The route would take the group past Grub Gulch, Awhanee, Fish Camp, Wawona, and on into Yosemite Valley, but on this particular day, fate would change things a bit.

By 8:15, the stage was five or six miles along the route when it came to a bend in the road at the bottom of a steep grade. As the horses slowed down and the stage made its turn, out from the bushes stepped a lone highway man.

The robber stood in the middle of the road holding a rifle. Stevens reined in his horses; the passengers peered incredulously out the window. They were actually being held up.

The robber had apparently been planning this caper for some time, for he was covered from head to toe in a special suit. No part of the man or his clothes were showing. He was wearing a two-piece, burlap outfit that hid everything but his eyes.

The driver was ordered to throw down the Wells Fargo strong box, which he did. Then the male passengers were forced to empty their pockets for the highwaymen. The two women were spared a similar indignity by the chivalrous bandit. Having fleeced his quarry, the holdup man disappeared into the sagebrush and over the hill. All hope of ever catching the desperado had dissipated. Then the posse from Raymond reached the scene, and things took a turn for the better, at least for those on the side of law and order.

The posse, following the highwayman's tracks, noticed that he was riding a horse that had only half a shoe on one foot. This trail was followed right to John Tatum's house, where the horse was found.

Tatum was arrested and brought to the Raymond Justice Court where Judge Ayers ordered him bound over for trial. His bail of \$5,000 was later reduced to \$3,000.

Tatum was defended by former State Senator George Goucher, while Madera County District Attorney, Miles Wallace, prosecuted the case. For his part, Tatum was well thought of in Raymond and had a number of character witnesses who spoke on his behalf. By October 2, 1896, the trial was over, but WE DON'T KNOW THE RESULTS! There is not a shred of evidence thus far to indicate whatever happened to Tatum. Was he found innocent or guilty, and if guilty, what was his sentence?

So there we have to leave it. It is a great story, except that it has no ending. Nevertheless, we won't give up. Maybe someone out there knows enough to put a period at the end of the sentence, after all, that's where the best history is--right in the minds of our old-timers.

- From Portraits of the Valley, a collection of stories about Madera County researched by Madera Method Students and written with the help of their teacher.

Shoot-Out at 5 Dogs Creek

April 28-May 1, 2005

5 Dogs Range, Bakersfield, CA

**12 Main Stages – 6 on Friday & 6 on Saturday
and MUCH more**

For information contact:

(661) 323-5737

**[http://www.therowdywranglers.com/Annual/
index.html](http://www.therowdywranglers.com/Annual/index.html)**

High Sierra Shootout 2005

May 26 – 29, 2005

Taylor Park, Railroad Flat, CA

Sponsored by

Murieta Posse & California Rangers

12 Main Match Stages

and MUCH more

For information contact:

Black Jack Traven (530) 677-0368 or

**[http://www.cowtownshooters.com/High%20Sierra/
HS1.htm](http://www.cowtownshooters.com/High%20Sierra/HS1.htm)**

Ambush at Durham Ferry

June 23-26, 2005

Manteca Sportsman Club

30261 S. Airport Way, Manteca, CA

12 Main Match Stages – No new shooters

For information contact:

Cherokee Knight at 209-477-8883 or

TRP@aol.com

KINGS RIVER REGULATORS

March 20, 2005

OVERALL SCORES

MATCH	FINAL	ALIAS		STAGE 1		STAGE 2		STAGE 3		STAGE 4		STAGE 5		TOTALS	
			CLASS	TIME	RNK	TIME	RNK	TIME	RNK	TIME	RNK	TIME	RNK	TIME	PNTS
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
1	SUDDEN	#12166	S	28.94	3	21.34	1	26.31	6	33.47	1	20.32	2	130.38	13
2	SNAKEBITE	# 4767	D	27.45	2	24.00	2	27.80	8	44.57	7	23.08	3	146.90	22
3	LITTLE FAWN	#41497	J	27.12	1	36.90	12	30.43	13	36.57	2	19.72	1	150.74	29
4	WILDCAT JOHN	#37182	D	33.01	5	36.47	11	26.41	7	40.54	4	26.64	6	163.07	33
5	SHILOH	#17515	T	31.25	4	31.12	7	25.59	4	50.18	11	32.64	12	170.78	38
6	EL MAESTRO	#37731	T	43.99	20	29.88	5	25.86	5	41.54	5	26.24	5	167.51	40
7	KAWEAH KID	#12024	49ER	33.96	6	26.71	4	36.89	20	38.07	3	28.59	9	164.22	42
8	SLICK ROCK ROOSTER	#41875	FC	38.53	13	49.42	19	24.59	2	50.60	13	28.12	7	191.26	54
9	HARRY LUCK	#35031	S	36.30	10	51.20	21	29.28	12	42.33	6	29.46	11	188.57	60
10	TUCSON SMITH	#21461	S	43.77	18	24.96	3	28.05	9	45.57	8	44.87	27	187.22	65
11	ROLINDA RENEGADE	***046	T	36.92	11	34.06	9	28.85	10	57.09	19	36.87	18	193.79	67
12	TALON HAWKE	#41641	ES	35.11	7	42.28	17	31.91	15	56.21	18	28.76	10	194.27	67
13	GEO KID	#27051	S	38.75	14	30.17	6	40.23	26	48.48	9	36.6	17	194.23	72
14	FANNIE MOSTLY	#41799	W	35.58	9	67.95	29	29.21	11	55.62	17	28.33	8	216.69	74
15	FLYING W RAMROD	#40599	FC	44.34	21	34.55	10	24.65	3	50.47	12	46.46	30	200.47	76
16	SMOKUM JOE	#41866	S	37.91	12	36.47	11	36.78	19	50.08	10	44.97	28	206.21	80
17	CRUSTY JIM	#54860	S	55.48	31	56.91	25	20.86	1	58.51	21	25.06	4	216.82	82
18	JUDGE JEREMIAH STEELE	#42753	49ER	42.97	16	38.93	14	30.78	14	59.01	23	41.49	22	213.18	89
19	ROGAN STEELE	#42754	T	44.64	23	31.15	8	51.59	34	55.14	14	33.09	13	215.61	92
20	HAWKEYE O'RILEY	# 6443	S	43.86	19	37.06	13	44.04	28	55.56	16	39.04	19	219.56	95
21	TWO-TOE BILL QUICK	#25358	D	43.67	17	47.97	18	50.56	33	55.24	15	36.28	16	233.72	99
22	FARGO	#18631	49ER	35.42	8	42.23	16	38.63	23	68.62	27	53.46	33	238.36	107
23	LEADFOOT	# 5535	M	50.44	29	40.28	15	44.08	29	58.81	22	35.03	14	228.64	109
24	SOLVANG SHOOTIST	***048	D	41.24	15	50.35	20	37.53	21	61.44	25	45.84	29	236.40	110
25	POCKET CHANGE	#58694	W	46.76	24	59.13	26	39.97	25	66.22	26	36.13	15	248.21	116
26	T O SLO	***049	M	49.65	28	52.03	22	38.51	22	59.33	24	44.68	25	244.20	121
27	FEARLESS FLOYD	#51889	S	47.04	25	60.63	27	42.42	27	74.33	30	40.61	20	265.03	129
28	SMOKIE IRONS	#61312	M	49.38	27	76.75	32	35.96	18	74.31	29	44.69	26	281.09	132
29	MICHIGAN BOB	#40417	D	88.39	36	102.22	38	35.78	17	57.15	20	43.08	23	326.62	134
30	MARIPOSA SLIM	#45708	ES	50.78	30	65.37	28	39.77	24	88.23	36	41.35	21	285.50	139
31	LYIN' RYAN	***044	T	59.99	33	53.51	24	34.30	16	82.61	32	70.76	38	301.17	143
32	OROSI KID	***045	T	44.37	22	52.32	23	49.32	32	123.21	40	49.81	31	319.03	148
33	TEXAS ED	#54752	D	59.11	32	68.23	30	75.45	38	85.02	34	44.29	24	332.10	158
34	KINGS RIVER KID	#63175	M	47.61	26	87.71	35	52.15	35	77.50	31	53.6	34	318.57	161

35	STUBBY 9 FINGERS	#54059	49ER	77.62	35	69.96	31	45.79	31	94.98	37	64.11	36	352.46	170
36	JUNEBUG MCCAFFREY	#51549	W	103.26	38	77.72	33	44.86	30	107.21	39	52.87	32	385.92	172
37	SIERRA	# 3229	D	98.84	37	97.74	36	60.28	36	69.62	28	60.28	35	386.76	172
38	LAREDO	***040	T	131.41	40	84.25	34	71.13	37	86.59	35	76.33	39	449.71	185
39	ROY BOY	***047	T	116.05	39	99.85	37	85.27	40	83.91	33	65.84	37	450.92	186
40	SWEETWATER RED	#63176	W	73.06	34	116.70	39	81.47	39	99.03	38	89.82	40	460.08	190
41	JESSICA MISFIRE	***043	W	224.36	41	229.94	40	134.76	41	218.24	41	169.81	41	977.11	204