

# KINGS RIVER GAZETTE

Volume 22 Edition 3

The Monthly Rag of the Kings River Regulators

Stogie Johnson, Editor

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## **This is the Fort Miller Annual Shootout and Johnson Family Reunion Preparation Edition!**

I know, the paper is a week late, but I blame it on all of the preparations for Fort Miller and Easter Vacation – That’s my story and I’m sticking to it! Besides, to make up for it this edition is 6 PAGE LONG!! There are several articles about everything the KRR is doing to get ready for this event, which looks like it’s going to be the best ever!! Hope to see you there! SJ

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## **IT IS COMING!**

### **The Fort Miller Annual Shoot and Johnson Family Reunion**

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We’re almost there! This is shaping up to be one of the best annuals ever, even with the darn covid! Only a couple of spots left if you’re still on the fence, so you better sign up quick. Thanks to everyone who has signed up to help – that’s what is making this one so great! I know that High Cotton could still use a little more help, especially with the side matches on Friday so be sure to sign on.

Speaking of which, don’t forget that in addition to the main match days (April 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>) we have plenty of side matches, including Speed Pistol, Speed Rifle, Speed Shotgun, Cowboy Trap, and a poker run on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Don’t worry if you haven’t practiced those much – no experience necessary!! Give it a try – it’ll be fun!

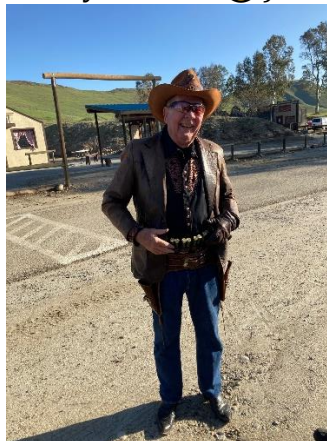
I don’t know about you cowboys and cowgirls, but I am really looking forward to seeing what Snakebite has cooked up for us this

year, because he always goes all out with the stages (remember picking cockroaches out of rice with chopsticks? Or pouring “whiskey” into shot glasses? And the moving targets!) This is going to be one great shoot!! Let’s saddle up cowboys and get ready for a great time!

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## **New Faces?**

Well, not exactly new, but we haven’t seen them in quite a while. It was great to have Pokie Okie and Tucson Smith back shooting with us!! (and it was nice to see that Tucson was just as ornery as ever! 😊)



## **HEARD ROUND’ THE CAMPFIRE:**

And speaking of Tucson, he had an epiphany this month, “If you look at the target and not the front sight, you miss...” that’s okay Tucson – you haven’t shot in awhile!

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## **SNAKES! WHY’D IT HAVE TO BE SNAKES?!**

The weather gods smiled upon us yet again as we had a fantastic weekend for a shoot. Dusty Devil Dale put on the match for us, and what a match it was!

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Match Director Dusty Devil Dale

Yes, there were snakes - lots of em'! - as well as victims lying on the ore cart tracks, popper targets and the Texas star.



Pinebox Filler found a huge rattler!

No one shot clean and smooth on either day, and Coyote Carson came in on top both days. Good shootin' Coyote! Thank you Dusty Devil Dale for putting on a great match!

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**HEARD ROUND' THE CAMPFIRE:**

## Stay Clear of Snapshot Dualin...

Marshall Snapshot mentioned after the March shoot that he had killed 120 bad guys - shot 118 and the other 2 dropped dead of fright!



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When we got to the stage with the Texas star Pokie Okie commented, "I don't like anything that moves..." We know what ya' mean Pokie!  
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Sagebrush Bob takin' care of the buffalos!



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## In the Noose

Red Dead Rob is hanging in the noose this month. He's fairly new to cowboy action shooting and hasn't missed a match since he started!



Red Dead Rob has always liked shooting and was introduced to cowboy action shooting by his uncle, Shepherd Book. He began shooting last October and is an enthusiastic cowboy who obviously loves the sport, stating, "If I had checked out CAS earlier, I would have been involved earlier!". Rob really appreciates that everyone in the KRR is friendly – he has shot in other venues where that was not the case. When he is not

cowboy action shooting, he is training to be a firefighter. For new shooters Rob says, "Don't compare yourself to others, just try to shoot better today than you did yesterday." Great advice from this humble cowboy. Thanks Red Dead Rob, we're glad you're part of the KRR!



Oh no! Bandits put Gene Shalit on the ore cart tracks! (for those of you under the age of 40, look him up... 😊)

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If you're having trouble shooting a clean stage, just make sure Red Dead Rob is the scorekeeper - and give him \$10. He says he'll take care of you!

(no, he didn't really take a bribe – but he joked about it!)

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## FORT MILLER WORK DAY A HUGE SUCCESS!

Well the Kings River Regulators home town (Johnsonville?) is spiffed up and ready to show off! About 18 volunteer members arrived for the workday last Saturday and put our range into tip-top shape for the Fort Miller Annual. Bays were set up, the whole area was raked and groomed, and the headquarters and raffle area were cleaned up. And look at the pics to see how much fun everyone had! Thanks to all of the cowboys and cowgirls who volunteered their time to help make this event an impressive one!



You show em' where to put those targets Rusty!



Uh-Oh! Looks like we maybe shooting through laundry!





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Eagle Eye Joe is ready to work!



The finished product – looking good!

## Out On The Range

If you were at our March Monthly match, you undoubtedly noticed the “speed bumps” that have been added along our walkways and roads. To date, speeding cowboys and gun carts have not been a problem there, so curious minds ask why the new structures are there and whether they are really needed. Here is the *rest of the story* about how they came to be.

The Fresno Rifle and Pistol Club operates under strict permit requirements issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. Their permit mandates that lead-containing sediments must be 100 percent contained within the FRPC property. Any permit violations can bring heavy fines of up to \$10,000 per day of violation and/or permanent closure and extremely expensive required stripping and clean-up of lead from the entire FRPC facility.

In the past, the FRPC staff has complied by placing those familiar rice straw wattles across our roadways. They are designed to filter runoff water and entrap sediments. At times, heavy storm runoff out of our bays has actually over-topped the straw wattles, but the wattles have slowed the water down enough to settle out the heavy lead sediments, (acting like a large sluice box). Prior to our matches, we have always removed the wattles to avoid our shooters having to wrestle heavy gun carts across them, then we replaced them the morning after our events. But in January, the FRPC Manager advised us that removing the wattles for even a short time during the rainy season places the FRPC in permit violation. So, an alternative was needed to avoid cart wrestling matches by our monthly and Fort Miller shooters.

We approached the FRPC Board with a proposal to construct the new berms. It included a funding request for \$2,000 to buy needed materials. The proposal was unanimously approved by the Board at their February meeting, and the following week we set to work constructing the new berms. In order to slope them gradually for push-cart accessibility they required two truck and trailer loads of material. FRPC’s Bobcat placed it on the roads. Tighter areas were placed by more than 60 wheelbarrow loads, followed by several days of shoveling, raking and compacting. The material used is a premium road-base material that contains 30% recycled/crushed concrete and 5% cement. It compacts tightly and becomes reasonably resistant to water erosion.

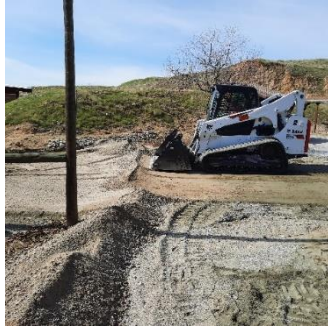
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We finished the project under-budget and returned \$500 to the FRPC, whose Board then unanimously reallocated that money to the KRR for any maintenance that we need to perform. Mayor High Cotton immediately sent them a letter expressing our gratitude. But the next time you push you cart over one of the new berms, pause for just a second to appreciate the FRPC's major help and support given to our club.



We'd like to thank Sheriff Dusty Devil Dale for the update and for all the hard work he puts in to make the KRR range one of the best!



One last work day pic:



And in case you missed it...



Sorry!!!!