



MERLIN MARAUDERS

Cowboy Gazette

www.merlinmaraudercowboys.com

Merlin Marauders, P.O. Box 202, Grants Pass, OR 97528

Merlin Marauders Officers for 2011

President

Heike Arnold
- Molly B' Dam
(541) 479-2928
haha@budget.net

Vice-President

Ed Rea, Jr.
- Kidd Krystin

Treasurer

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- Johnny Eight Toes

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- Bobbin' Along Daisy
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Rick Smith
- Bear Bone Smith
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- Sweetwater Jack
(541) 479-6021

Past President

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-Rogue Rascal
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Martha Warr - Gaye Abandon
Chuck Pool - Imnaha Chuck
Wes Fauver -Sgt. Buffalo B.S.

Member-at-Large

Kathie Stubbe
- Fairweather Kate
(541) 479-3718

Webmasters

- Johnny Dingus & Library
Babbage

Newsletter Editor

- Sweetwater Jack
sweetwater@uci.net

THE Prez Sez:

Good news on the recovery front. Both Two Tone and Mary Rea came through their surgeries with flying colors. We wish them both the best for a speedy recovery.

On a sad note, we have lost fellow cowboy shooter Mustang Sal. She will be greatly missed. Our condolences go out to Painted Ponies and his family.

A big thank you goes to General Lee Goode for all of his efforts in obtaining steel and new targets for our upcoming OR State Match. Good job Lee.

In conjunction with the target purchase, delivery of said targets is scheduled for delivery Wednesday, October 19th at JCSA (time to be determined). The JCSA shot gunners have graciously offered the use of their fork lift to facilitate unloading and moving them to the target storage area. The targets will then need to be painted. We have also scheduled a target inventory at the same time, and would appreciate some help from the membership. If interested in assisting, please contact Bear Bone Smith or General Lee Good.

Our Annual Match Meeting is scheduled for the evening of October 19, at the Black Bear Diner at 6:30 p.m. Come early if you plan to eat. Please try to attend, as this meeting is critical when it comes to making some major decisions, and we need your input.

Please look for the forthcoming agenda for specific issues to be discussed.

This is a busy week, as our Spook and Shoot is scheduled for October 21st. Hope to see everyone there in their "original" costumes.

We are currently taking nominations for some of our Board positions. If interested in serving on the Board, please contact the Nominating Committee. If you wish to be a part of the decision making process, here is your opportunity. We welcome and encourage members to participate.

Yer Prez...Molly b'Dam

Match Winners-Oct 1st, 2011

1. Purgatory Smith
2. Royal Flush
3. Deputy Ray
4. Bloody Bill Anderson
5. Bear Bone Smith

NEXT GENERAL MEMBER MEETING

Tuesday, November 8th @ 6:30PM

At the Black Bear Diner in Grants Pass.
Take the Second Grants Pass exit and head south on 6th Street - you'll see it on the right at 1900 NW 6th Street.

Our Next Monthly Match will be on:
Saturday, November 5th, 2011 We will shoot our monthly matches EVERY month at these times: Arrive early to help set up stages @9:00 a.m. Sign-in is from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. Shooter Meeting is at 9:30 AM, with first shots downrange right afterward.

MERLIN MARAUDER CLUB NEWS

Membership: Our Merlin Marauders membership now stands at 86 folks. A big Welcome Back to Knightress (Jessica Bell/Mrs. Jed I Knight) , and welcome Kookanadude (Kira Bell) and Padawan (Logan Bell)

More Club Notes...

Last month's SASS Cowboy Chronicle featured the article that Palaver Pete wrote on our Battle of Rogue River VII. If you haven't read it yet, you really should. Pete did a great job and couldn't have praised the match any higher, stating that it was the best club annual he'd shot in eighteen years! High praise, indeed! He also praised the JCSA Range as the best he'd ever seen. Good publicity for JCSA! A publication that reaches 97,000 readers every month! Thank You, to ALL of you who made the match the great success it was. (I felt our match was a real contender for SASS's "Wooley Award" for Best Club Annual Match, and submitted an application and supporting docs to the Wild Bunch. We'll find out at the SASS Convention in December,... Sweetwater Jack

MERLIN MARAUDER Board Elections:

Send in your nominations to the committee, (Sgt Buffalo B.S., Merlin Maverick or Rogue Rascal) whether it be your own name for one of the open positions (VP, Treasurer or Director (2 positions open) or to nominate someone else. (Please check with the "nominee" to be sure he or she wants to be nominated first) E-mail, face-to-face or phone contact with the committee members is fine. So far our nominations list is as follows:

For VP: Kidd Kristin and Sgt Buffalo B.S. **For Treasurer:** Johnny 8-Toes; **For Match Director:** Bear Bone Smith and Jed I Knight; **For Secretary:** Bobbin' Along Daisy; **For Director (2 Positions):** Lonesome Rose, Imnaha Chuck, Fairweather Kate, Mountain Grizz, General Lee Goode.

JCSA NEWS : Imnaha Chuck:

Reminder: MARK YOUR CALENDARS! **JCSA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOVEMBER 12TH**, 2011 @2 pm @ JCSA. Let's have a full turn out from the Merlin Marauders if you are a member this is your opportunity to vote on By-Law Changes which will be published in the Sport Shooter. Also to vote on the Board Members. If you aren't a member please consider joining. It costs us less for shooters who are Members which in turn helps the Merlin Marauder budget. We currently have three "cowboys" on the board! Yahoo!

If anyone has anything they would like to put on the JCSA website or on-line calendar contact President Scott Shearer----- scotworks@yahoo.com He is the Webmaster for the New Website and it is really looking good !

OCTOBER SPOOK 'n' SHOOT: This fun shoot will be held this year on Friday Night, October 21st. Get ready to break out your Halloween Costumes and chili recipes! The food will NOT be a potluck this year as I erroneously reported last month!. Lonesome Rose and Kate Brinning will be the food mavens this year..... The 2-stage, "squint yer eyes and hope ya hit something" match will follow the feed and costume contest. This year I plan to wear some sort of costume that I can SEE out of! (Anyone wishing to dress as a Franciscan Monk; or Druid Priest, the robes are available for a very nominal fee...contact Sweetwater.

THE ANNUAL COWBOY CLUBS CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held on December 10th, at the Rogue River VFW Hall, as we did last year. We will continue the tradition of the popular "Steal-a-Gift" program as well as requesting that you bring an unwrapped gift

for the Marine Corps “Toys for Tots” Drive. All Cowboy Action Shooting Clubs in Southern Oregon/Northern California (State of Jefferson) are invited to attend in their Christmas Finery.

THE NEXT ANNUAL MATCH PLANNING MEETING: will be held on Wednesday, 19 October at Black Bear Diner in Grants Pass. Meet at 6:00 P if eating, 6:30 P if not. Our match dates have been accepted by JCSA, and there is a lot to be decided. We need input from all of you!

Monthly Match Stage Setup for Saturday, November 5th:

- Stage 1– Molly
 - Stage 2- Bear Bone
 - Stage 3- Britt Ponsett
 - Stage 4- Jed I Knight
 - Stage 5- Bear Bone
- (We’ll shoot Bear Bone’s Stage twice, with a few changes)

MERLIN MARAUDER MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND MATCH FEES:

MEMBERSHIP

Annual Individual: \$25, , Family* Membership \$35

**Family is defined as all living under one roof*

MONTHLY MATCH SHOOTING FEES

Individual M/M Member	\$10
Additional Family Adults	\$5 each
Individual Non-MM Member	\$13
Additional Non-MM Family Adult	\$5 each

For membership issues and information call: Molly b’Dam @ (541) 479-2928

OREGON & Northern CALIFORNIA MONTHLY MATCHES

1 st Saturday	Grants Pass	Merlin Marauders	Molly B Dam	[541] 479-2928	haha@budget.net
1 st Saturday	Canby	Mollala River Rangers	Gold Dust Bill	(503) 705-1211	
1 st Sunday	White City	Table Rock Rangers	Jed I. Knight	(541) 944-2281	jed@theincredibells.com
1 st Sunday	Bend	Horse Ridge Pistoleros	Big Casino	(541) 389-2342	
1 st Sunday	Florence	Siuslaw River Rangers	Johnny Jingos	(541) 997-6313	johnnyjingos@yahoo.com
2 nd Saturday	Medford	Table Rock Rangers	Jed I. Knight	(541) 944-2281	jed@theincredibells.com
2 nd Saturday	Burney	Shasta Regulators-Hat Creek	Cayenne Pepper	(530) 275-3158	modocsass13826@sbcglobal.net
2 nd Saturday	The Dalles	Fort Dalles Defenders	Frisco Nell	(541) 835-5630	
2 nd Sunday	Myrtle Creek	So. Umpqua Vigilantes	Dr. Ecchymosis	(541) ???-???	deputyanimal@yahoo.com
		(Note: So. Umpqua Vigilantes are NOT SASS-Affiliated as yet)			
2 nd Sunday	Bend, OR	Pine Mountain Posse	Juniper Butch	[541] 416-0361	
2 nd Sunday	Klamath Falls	Klamath Cowboys	Tule Spud	(541)	
3 rd Saturday	Ashland	Jefferson State Regulators	H. Apple Bob	(541) 826-9140	
3 rd Saturday	Redding CA	Shasta Regulators	Modoc	(530) 365-1839	modocsass13826@sbcglobal.net
3 rd Sunday	Shedd (Albany)	Oregon Old West Shooters	Deaf Eagle	[541]	deafeagle@centurytel.net
3 rd Sunday	Bend	Horse Ridge Pistoleros	Big Casino	(541) 389-2342	
4 th Saturday	Klamath Falls	Klamath Cowboys	Tule Spud	(541)	
4 th Saturday	Shedd (Albany)	Oregon Old West Shooters	Deaf Eagle	[541] 259-2774	deafeagle@centurytel.net
4 th Saturday	Eureka/Arcata	Mad River Rangers	Kid Knee Stone	(707) 445-1981	clsnowden@aol.com
4 th Saturday	Yreka CA	Hawkinsville Claim Jumpers	Humbug Hank	[530] 598-6969	mpine@snowcrest.net
4 th Sunday	The Dalles	Fort Dalles Defenders	Frisco Nell	(541) 835-5630	
4 th Sunday	Roseburg	Umpqua Regulators.	Oregon Gustaf	(541) 430-1021	swansonville@charter.net

MERLIN MARAUDER MERCANTILE

Got something to sell that you don’t need or want anymore? Like this: 1 pr of Brown “Oak Tree” Boots, size 10D, Square toe, 18”, like new, worn twice. \$50 ctc Sweetwater at sweetwater@uci.net or 541/479-6021

OCTOBER MONTHLY MATCH

RESULTS

Alias	Category	Time	Miss	Stg 1	Stg 2	Stg 3	Stg 4	Stg 5
1 Purgatory Smith	Gunfighter	96.33	1	16.76	18.58	20.84	21.33	18.82
2 Royal Flush	Fortv-Niner	102.40	3	17.86	22.86	23.55	19.88	18.25
3 Deputy Ray	Forty-Niner	105.86	2	19.37	21.62	25.52	20.70	18.65
4 Bloody Bill Anderson	Elder Statesman	106.83	1	20.42	21.25	27.64	20.79	16.73
5 Bear Bone Smith	Silver Senior	121.03	0	26.16	25.47	27.45	23.05	18.90
6 Jed I.Knight	B/P Gunfighter	135.36	1	30.31	26.39	32.29	27.19	19.18
7 Esther Jen Overload	Lady Wrangler	135.70	1	28.69	24.89	31.66	25.75	24.71
8 General Lee Goode	Gunfighter	150.58	7	29.84	33.23	24.58	29.85	33.08
9 Charlie Parkhurst	Lady 49'er	156.55	3	43.83	28.78	32.79	25.70	25.45
10 Lethal Les L'Amour	Senior	161.27	1	31.14	28.36	39.35	36.81	25.61
11 Kidd Krvstin	Sr. Gunfighter	162.37	1	33.68	28.49	34.13	32.12	33.92
12 Johnnv Eight Toes	Elder Statesman	174.50	2	30.48	36.60	33.26	30.16	44.00
13 Riverdog	49'er	179.72	6	25.12	58.20	40.23	35.57	20.60
14 Sgt. Buffalo B.S.	Wrangler	182.29	4	37.11	59.10	31.30	35.72	20.20
15 Vendetta	Lady Gunfighter	182.82	7	31.87	25.11	42.90	38.71	44.23
16 Wichita Belle	Ladv Senior	198.93	8	26.59	51.91	44.64	39.09	36.70
17 Missouri Rogue	Sr Frontier Cart.	204.01	1	38.75	40.78	39.68	56.81	27.99
18 Checotah	Sr Gunfighter	205.02	7	35.88	46.77	36.28	38.91	47.18
19 CHP Shot	Elder. Statesman	208.24	3	37.94	50.59	38.43	49.33	31.95
20 Ruby Jim	Silver Senior	210.63	4	33.17	63.26	33.80	46.39	34.01
21 Fairweather Kate	Grand Dame	216.01	2	40.78	38.98	40.09	51.72	44.44
22 Westerly Wind	49'er	223.43	3	41.78	49.80	46.12	51.01	34.72
23 J. D. Walker	Cattle Baron	228.79	4	41.46	48.78	53.50	43.19	41.86
24 Lucky Rick O'Shay	Cattle Baron	230.03	2	49.42	54.80	47.76	45.34	32.71
25 Rogue Rascal	Sr Frontier Cart	231.52	2	41.03	42.23	49.35	52.52	46.39
26 Line Century	Merlin Cowboy	240.13	7	61.37	47.86	40.92	56.47	33.51
27 Barbarosa Mike	Merlin Cowboy	241.74	6	52.86	47.08	59.90	45.07	36.83
28 Sweetwater Jack	Elder Statesman	242.69	3	41.06	42.07	45.97	44.22	69.37
29 Booty Who	Elder Statesman	248.83	7	46.31	50.46	58.91	58.27	34.88
30 Badlands Benny	Wrangler	252.34	4	63.73	56.39	46.20	50.28	35.74
31 Lonesome Rose	Lady Silver Sr	255.60	2	53.27	55.81	55.49	54.20	36.83
32 Treacherous Jack	Senior	308.01	27	43.13	32.78	39.12	32.98	160.00
33 Alacrity Belle	Lady Wrangler	460.32	15	80.28	76.64	104.63	97.89	100.88

NOTE: Yellow Highlighted = Clean Match

Dispatches From the Territorial Governor

The talk on the T/G wire at the moment is about adding new shooting categories or making some that are being used by some clubs now, “official” for folks in the OVER 70 age groups. Palaver Pete has submitted a suggestion that seems to be favorable to most of the T/Gs that have responded. We should receive the agenda for the 2011T/G Summit this month so that I can pass the items on to you and get YOUR response to them. I really do need and want your feedback as regardless of how I personally feel about an item, I WILL vote it the way YOU want it voted. The SASS Convention is once again being “hosted” by the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas from November 30th through December 4th, and Gaye and I will be driving down as usual, Leaving on November 28th.

Continuing with what I started last month, I’ll talk a little about reloading black powder cartridges for rifle and revolvers. One of the first things I’m usually asked is whether or not you can reload black powder cartridges with the equipment you already have, and not mean buying another press, etc.? And the answer is, for the most part..yes. You don’t need a new press, although you might need to do something a little differently during the powder measuring step. The primary safety consideration when using black powder is to avoid the possibility of creating a static spark that might ignite the powder. There is very little difference in the loading procedures for smokeless and black powder. Case prep is the same, as well as re-priming and case neck belling. Some people feel that you should use magnum primers, but I’ve never found that to be necessary to ignite the powder. I use Dillon presses with their regular powder measures modified by exchanging the clear plastic powder hopper and plastic bushing for an aluminum hopper and bushing that I bought from Black Dawg accessories. The aluminum hopper eliminates the chance of static buildup and even comes with a grounding lug on it that you can attach a grounding wire to. The bullet seating and crimping stages are the same as smokeless loads. Ah, then... the biggest difference is in the powder drop and measuring? Yep, you got it.. Some will tell you that you must measure your powder by VOLUME and NOT by Weight. If you are using less than full-case powder loads and using a “filler” to fill the case this is correct. However, most of us shooting the “Holy Black” are doing it for the smoke, flame and boom, and are not too concerned about building “light load” black powder cartridges. The **SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT THING HERE** is to drop just enough powder into the case **THAT THE BULLET WILL SEAT ON THE POWDER WITH JUST A BIT OF COMPRESSION. THERE MUST BE NO “AIR GAP” BETWEEN THE BOTTOM OF THE BULLET AND THE POWDER.** If there is a “gap” you may get an explosion instead of propulsion. What powder granulation? Most folks agree on **FFFg** for rifle and pistol cartridges and **FFg** for shotguns. The **FFFg** burns slightly hotter than **FFg** (smaller granulation and thus more exposed surface) and gives just a bit more power. Several manufacturers produce a “Cowboy” granulation (GOEX for instance), but at the ranges we shoot, it doesn’t really matter. What about “lighter” loads? Can I use a “filler” and reduce the amount of black powder? Yes, and some shooters use corn meal, cream of wheat or other non-combustible matter to do that. Now you are making the powder-filling step a lot more difficult, plus being kind of a “wuss”... (After all, the main reason we shoot black powder is to show how rough and tough we are.... Right?) If you are using a black powder substitute instead of the real thing, use the same granulation as for real black powder. Seat the bullet as usual and give it a good crimp. Bullets? A softer alloy is generally better than the harder ones, but the primary concern is LUBE. The usual commercial bullets we use such as Oregon Trail, etc., have a blue “crayon” lube in the grooves and will not prevent fouling your bore. Look for a brand that is designed for black powder, such as **Bonus with SPG lube**, or Desperado Bullets, which uses a soft lube that works just fine with either black or smokeless powders. In general, you know you have enough lube when there is a “star” of lube at the muzzle face after shooting a stage. No “star”, probably not enough lube.. Hint: “Google” SPG bullet lube. (Primary ingredients are beeswax and Murphy’s Oil Soap and/or Olive oil... but look the formulas up on the Internet if you want to start casting your own bullets and making your own lube.) I’m getting too old and lazy to “roll my own” bullets.. Next month we’ll talk about B/P shotgun shells....

SWJ