



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
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Vice-President

Ed Rea, Jr.
- Kidd Krystin

Treasurer

John Stubbe
- Johnny Eight Toes

Secretary & Membership

Rhonda Peltier
- Bobbin' Along Daisy
(253) 258-1105
Rhonda5647@hotmail.com

Match Director/Range Officer

Rick Smith
- Bear Bone Smith
(541) 582-4144

Territorial Governor

Gary Hanson -
- Sweetwater Jack
(541) 479-6021

Past President

John Hudick
-Rogue Rascal
(541) 472-8585

Directors

Martha Warr - Gaye Abandon
Chuck Pool - Imnaha Chuck
es Fver -

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:

WOW – such excitement. As you will read later in this Newsletter, the **Merlin Marauders won the 2011 SASS Wooly Award for Best Affiliated Club.** That is quite an achievement, and could not have happened without the support of each and every one of you who helped to build this club over the years. Yes, we have come a long way, and it's only going to get better. My thanks to Sweetwater, our wonderful TG, Gaye Abandon, Mountain Grizz and Bobbin' Along Daisy for being there to accept this award. A huge kudos to all of our members for your continued support.



Well, our election results have been tallied. Our incumbent Vice President, **Kidd Krystin**, remains in Office, as does our Incumbent Treasurer, **Johnny Eight Toes**, Incumbent Director **Imnaha Chuck**, and Incumbent Secretary **Bobbin Along Daisy**. Newly

elected Executive Board Members include Match Director **Jed I Knight**, and Director, **General Lee Goode**. Executive Committee confirmations were given for the appointment of Member At Large, **Merlin Maverick**, and Territorial Governor, **Sweetwater Jack**. **Kidd Krystin** was appointed by the President to serve as the JCSA Representative. OK Kidd, now you'll definitely have to give a report. I would like to congratulate each and every one of you. Welcome to the Executive Board, and yes, we definitely have our work cut out for us. We're 88 members strong now, and we rock! **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.** Ride tall and shoot straight. Yer Prez... Molly b'Dam

Match Winners-Dec 3rd, 2011

1. Royal Flush
2. Bloody Bill Anderson
3. Purgatory Smith
4. General Lee Goode
5. Bear Bone Smith

NEXT GENERAL MEMBER MEETING

Tuesday, January 10th @ 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, January 7th, 2012 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 88 folks. Welcome to the Marauders PaleWolf Brunelle, Oregon Outrider, Shootin' Silver Star, and Lithia Star!!!!

It's Official! The Merlin Marauders have been selected by the SASS Wild Bunch as THE SASS CLUB OF THE YEAR for 2011 !! The "Wooly Award" was presented by Tex (SASS #4), to the Marauders at the 2011 SASS Convention in Las Vegas. The "Wooly Award" Statuette was accepted by Marauder Territorial Governor Sweetwater Jack, accompanied on the stage by Gaye Abandon, Bobbin' Along Daisy and Mountain Grizz. In a phone call to Sweetwater, Tex stated that it was not just the Marauders fine shooting program that tipped the scales our way, but our overall support of the community via donations to cancer research, The Young Marines and the USMC Toys for Tots Program as well as efforts in keeping "the Old West" alive by our members' participation in re-enactments with the "State of Jefferson Vigilance Committee" in Southern Oregon and Far Northern California. I had submitted a letter of request and support documents to be considered for the Wooly Award for club-level Annual Match of the year. The Wild Bunch apparently felt that the upgrade to SASS CLUB of the year **was** more in order. I counted 649 SASS-Affiliated Clubs listed in the current Cowboy Chronicle, so pat **yourselves** on the back for an OUTSTANDING job securing this AMAZING honor!! A deeply heartfelt THANK YOU to all of you who have gone the extra mile to help the club to capture this award, and this includes the folks from other clubs who give so much support to us, not only for our annual Battle of Rogue River, but throughout the year! SWJ



TEX, SASS #4, Presents the Wooly Award to the Merlin Marauders at the SASS Convention in Las Vegas, at the Riviera Hotel

MARAUDER CLUB OFFICER ELECTIONS: The ballots were counted at the December club meeting on 13 December, and the results of the voting are as follows: **Vice President: Kidd Kristin; Match Director: Jed I. Knight; Treasurer: Johnny 8-Toes; Secretary: Bobbin' Along Daisy, Directors (2): Imnaha Chuck and General Lee Goode.**

Appointed Officers: Member at Large: Merlin Maverick, Territorial Governor: Sweetwater Jack. All officers will be sworn in at the January General Meeting. Congratulations to our new (or continuing) Club Officers for 2012!! A lot of work looms as we prepare for the State Match.

THE ANNUAL JEFFERSON COWBOY CLUBS CHRISTMAS PARTY was held on **December 10th**, at the **Rogue River VFW Hall**, We continued 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. The food was great, as was the usual camaraderie. The "steal-a-gift" program is alive and well, and this year we didn't pick on poor Wales Holiday (as much as usual anyway), and it looks like Merlin Maverick was the target this year, and couldn't seem to keep a gift very long... (I'm going back to the Grange to get another "Redneck Wine Glass" for MYSELF)

THE NEXT ANNUAL MATCH/STATE MATCH PLANNING MEETING: will be held on **Wednesday, 21 December at Black Bear Diner in Grants Pass.** Arrive between 5:30 and 6:00 PM if eating, 6:30 PM if not.

SPRING FUNDRAISER: As we did last year, we'll be holding a "family yard sale", so start putting aside those things you want to donate! Sale will be March 30-31 in the indoor JCSA range. Setup on Thursday March 29. Proceeds will go toward the annual match expenses.

JCSA NEWS : Imnaha Chuck: The Marauders now have 4 members on the JCSA executive board: VP; Imnaha Chuck, Treas; Lonesome Rose, Director; Johnny 8-toes and Sheri Pool.

Monthly Match Stage Setup for Saturday, January 7th:

- Stage 1– Bear Bone Smith
- Stage 2- Molly B' Dam
- Stage 3- Britt Ponsett
- Stage 4- Jed I Knight
- Stage 5- Bear Bone Smith (Double up at Stage 1)

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) 479-29280

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	[541-990-7816	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 DECEMBER MATCH

	Alias	Category	TIME	Misses	Stage 1t	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
1	Royal Flush	Forty-Niner	108.20	1	19.83	23.88	23.38	22.68	18.43
2	Bloody Bill	Elder Statesmn	117.41	0	27.50	20.99	21.24	27.03	20.65
3	Purgatory	Gunfightr	121.62	2	35.85	25.74	18.08	24.02	17.93
4	Gen. Lee Goode	Cowboy	141.59	4	37.20	27.07	18.27	22.03	37.02
5	Bear Bone	Silver Senior	145.01	0	28.58	35.95	28.78	28.65	23.05
6	Riverdog	49'er	169.51	2	40.70	37.35	25.14	37.99	28.33
7	Johnny 8 Toes	Elder. Statesmn	169.61	1	36.90	33.93	32.40	37.59	28.79
8	Kidd Krystin	Senior Gunfightr	178.57	0	35.01	33.37	39.42	37.08	33.69
9	Esther-Jen	Lady Wrangler	203.34	8	30.41	34.10	33.44	72.21	33.18
10	Wales Holiday	Wrangler	204.26	0	39.83	33.42	25.96	38.36	66.69
11	Britt Ponsett	Gunfightr	210.05	3	37.48	38.07	46.74	56.81	30.95
12	Nick L Ante	Gunfightr	214.58	2	37.72	53.92	49.57	43.76	29.61
13	Barbarosa Mike	Senior Duelist	226.73	0	48.19	45.58	43.16	48.10	41.70
14	Fairweather Kate	Grand Dame	224.77	2	48.44	43.95	48.78	43.09	40.51
15	Wichita Belle	Lady Senior	239.25	9	51.88	50.70	39.50	62.45	34.72
16	Ruby Jim	Silver Senior	242.24	0	51.83	44.59	42.46	47.47	55.89
17	Line Century	Merlin Cowboy	280.15	11	52.21	87.94	37.62	54.23	48.15
18	Checotah	Cl Cowboy	310.13	10	61.84	50.25	50.14	69.71	78.19
19	Rogue Rascal	Elder. Statesmn	401.45	22	87.83	68.63	56.57	126.53	61.89

Designates a Clean Match (No Misses, Procedurals, or Safety)

Dispatches From the Territorial Governor

This year's SASS Convention and Territorial Governor Summit, held as it has been for the past ten years at the Las Vegas Riviera Hotel, had all the glamour and excitement that has made it a great part of the Cowboy Action Shooting year for so many of us in the past. There were more seminars this year than ever before, and the entertainment was lively as usual. What was missing was YOU! I believe that attendance was down again this year, and I sure saw a lot more empty spaces in the vendors rows than previous years. Gaye Abandon and I have attended every Convention since the first one in 2002, and it looks like we MAY have attended our last one. As you know by now there will NOT be a SASS Convention in 2012. We hope it is just a temporary pause until a new contract with possibly a different hotel can be secured. As your Territorial Governor,, most of my **days** were taken up in the T/G summit discussing or cussing the agenda items, and I hope that the voting on the 5 items this year went the way you all hoped they would. Believe me, there was a **LOT** of "lively discussion" on some of the items. (No blood on the walls this year, though).... As you know, the results of this year's voting were as follows:

Item #1 (Changing the scoring program so that a shooter that DNFs 2 or more stages in a match cannot win any main match awards) **PASSED**

All other items FAILED to gather a 2/3 majority for acceptance and went down to defeat. Item #5 which removed 8 of the Ladies Categories from the list of "Approved/Official" Categories (even though they were reinstated in the modified form finally voted upon) was still defeated. You may put down your carving knives, ladies,,, and please remember that I was just the "messenger" if it HAD passed.....

The Banquet and Yesteryear Ball was a Masquerade this year, as it was a few years back. The costuming was something to see..... I'm not sure if the guy in the gold cape, Roman-type helmet and short sword was Mark Anthony or Spartacus (His female companion's make-up appeared to make her "Cleopatra", so I guess my first guess was right.) The GAF provided the color guard for the opening ceremony of the ball and I guess we did OK though they added a third flag on us at the last moment..... Canada was represented this year... so I grabbed a "volunteer" dressed as a "Mountie"... (Hope nobody noticed that the maple leaf was upside-down... I didn't.....until we'd retired the colors.....)

As a final note, here are the R.O. Committee's "Clarifications and Discussions" that will be edited into the Shooter's Handbook and R.O. 1 manual in the near future:

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1. **Clarification of rules re: DECOCKING** (as posted on SASS Wire 11/26/11)

Decocking may not be done to avoid a penalty if cocked at the wrong time, position, or location once a round has gone downrange. NO gun may be decocked on the firing line except by pointing it downrange and pulling the trigger or while under the direct supervision of a stage officer/Timer Operator. The penalty for de-cocking is a Stage DQ.

SHB p23 / RO 1 p16

"Under the direct supervision" requires the TO's acknowledgement in an instructive or affirmative manner. In other words there must be a positive indication to the shooter that the TO is giving his approval for the shooter's action.

2: **Re: NAVY PEPPERBOX REVOLVER** Noting that it is assembled on a "Colt Navy frame, it qualifies as a **MAIN MATCH** revolver, and thus is disqualified as a "**Pocket Pistol**" (regardless of barrel length.)

- 3 **Re: 38 S&W Spl. Is LEGAL for PLAINSMAN sidematches.** (originally introduced in 1899 as a blackpowder round.)
4. BASIC RULES FOR THE LONG-RANGE COMPETITIONS (SHB p18 bullet #4) *Optical and receiver sights are not allowed* **EDIT FOR CLARIFICATION: Receiver mounted sights are not allowed. OPTICAL sights are only allowed in that category.**
5. ROC Ruling: NO to the use of a 12ga/.70 Cal. “slug gun” in SASS Long Range Rifle sidematches. Shotguns using slugs are NOT legal as a RIFLE.
6. There is a mobile app being used DURING Long Range Sidematches to calculate info for sight adjustment (Real-time info, including elevation, temperature, humidity, etc. inputs combined with preset individual firearm/ammo data.) One person punches in the numbers & provides sight adjustment info to the shooter. In addition to rangefinders, the use of this or any similar device is a sidematch DQ.
7. BISLEY HAMMER on a Ruger OLD ARMY percussion revolver? Super BlackHawk hammers on a ROA are OK under the current “Firearms Covenants” Lower and/or wider hammers on percussion revolvers fall under the same allowance as for cartridge pistols. BISLEY hammers (modified or not) installed on ANY revolver without the BISLEY Gripframe are still NOT ALLOWED.
8. Clarification re: Ammunition-related “Outlawed/Illegal” items will be covered under: The “Use of illegally-acquired ammunition” penalty.
9. There is no prohibition re: wearing a rifle/pistol ammo slide over SG loops on an ammo belt (as there IS in regard to a SHOTSHELL ammo slide.) Sewing the rifle/pistol loops directly to a shotshell loop on either a slide or belt is acceptable.
10. HANDBOOK EDIT: (due to oversight) ADD single-shot shotguns to PLAINSMAN sidematch rules SHB p17
11. HANDBOOK EDIT: (Clarification) Re: OCTAGON BARRELS on REVOLVERS: BARRELS: Original barrels may be replaced with new barrels of correct styles (eg. round, octagon, half-round) for that particular TYPE firearm. (Original wording said: MODEL of firearm)
12. EDIT: Dropped Firearm **Definition:** *A firearm that has left the shooter’s control and come to rest at a location or position other than where it was intended.* RO1 “Glossary of Terms” p 30
- 13 Clarification: What is meant by “in-hand” as applied to loaded revolvers? (This will be added to the next edit of the RO1 “Glossary of Terms”) REVOLVER IN HAND is defined as it applies to:

Holstered = Muzzle clear of the mouth of the holster (ie. “out of leather”)

Staged = Muzzle no longer in contact with the surface of the initial staging point.

This provides the same allowance for a “full grip” on the second (loaded) revolver while firing the first no matter how/where the revolver(s) start on the stage. Once the muzzle clears the holster or all contact is broken with the prop, the shooter is in violation if not registered as a GF or BW competitor. Discussion at the T/G Summit was also conducted regarding “spare” percussion cylinders being charged AND capped while OUT of the revolver’s frame. It is allowed to have a “charged” cylinder (powder, ball and any wadding used loaded into the chambers) out of the frame, but none of the nipples may be “capped”. A charged and capped cylinder is much the same as a hand grenade...

MERRY CHRISTMAS !!!! Sweetwater Jack