



# MERLIN MARAUDERS Cowboy Gazette

[www.merlinmaraudercowboys.com](http://www.merlinmaraudercowboys.com)

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

## Merlin Marauders Officers for 2015

**President**  
Art Ferranti  
- Britt Ponsett  
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**Vice-President**  
Ron Dreher - CHPShot  
(541) 592-6994

**Treasurer**  
John Stubbe  
- Johnny Eight Toes

**Secretary & Membership**  
Joe Peters - Long Henry  
Thompson (541) 218-3137

**Match Director/Range Officer**  
Chuck Pool - Imnaha Chuck  
(541) 474-7677

**Territorial Governor**  
Gary Hanson  
- Sweetwater Jack  
(541) 479-6021  
[Sweetwater@uci.net](mailto:Sweetwater@uci.net)

**Past President**  
Rhonda Peltier  
- Bobbin' Along Daisy

**Directors**  
Rick Peltier - Mountain Grizz

Heike Arnold - Molly b'Dam

Karen Crume - Queen 'O Clubs

**Member-at-Large**  
Rick Smith - Bearbone Smith  
(541) 582-4144

**Webmaster**  
Christy Kiltz  
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## The Prez Sez:

Yikes, my first column! Hopefully you'll find something of interest in my musings. And, if not, you'll at least have a good birdcage liner.

First and foremost, a formal recognition on behalf of the club and anyone who has attended a match the past few years for the efforts and contributions of our outgoing President, Bobbin' Along Daisy, and our Match Director, Mountain Grizz. Their dedication and hard work — along with the past and current board/officers — have led and improved the club both in membership and facilities. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Next, my appreciation to the wonderful slate of new/current officers/board who have volunteered to help guide and serve the club into 2015 and beyond. It is with great anticipation I look forward to serving and partnering with them (and you) to produce the most fun — and safe — monthly matches as well as a real cowboy-and-cowgirl shootin' annual match (May 15-17), aimin' to be a highlight bullseye for all.

Lastly, please join us at our monthly meetings for not only a fun, social get-together over delicious food but to contribute to the subsequent lively, focused, and productive agenda. We've moved to a new day (the second Thursday of each month) and into the more conducive and larger Black Forest restaurant meeting room.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next monthly match, February 7, and the next club meeting, February 12. Okay ...now to the birdcage!

Cheers!  
— Britt

**FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday, February 12<sup>@</sup> 6:30 PM,**  
at the Black Forest Family Restaurant  
at 829 NE "E" Street, in the Grants  
Pass Shopping Center near Staples.  
Come early for dinner!

**NEXT MONTHLY MATCH**  
**Saturday, February 7.**  
Stage set-up is typically on Friday  
(watch for an e-mail notice). Sat.  
Sign-in is from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m.  
Shooter Meeting is at 9:30 a.m. I-5  
Exit 61 and North on frontage road  
to Josephine County Sportsman's Park

# MERLIN MARAUDER CLUB NEWS

**Membership:** Paid-up Membership now stands at 56 per the latest roster.

**CLUB Officer Elections:** All Officers for 2015 were sworn in during the January General Member Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>. All "President-Appointed officers" — Territorial Governor, Member-at-Large, and one Director (to finish a term) — accepted their appointments for the 2015 membership year. FYI: All club officers are required to be members of Josephine County Sportsman Association in order to comply with JCSA Rules and Regulations. Congrats to our new President, Britt Ponsett!

**THE Merlin Marauders' 2014 Christmas Party** was held at the JCSA range (Indoor Range) on Friday, 12 December. With lots of Ham, Turkey, BBQ Weenies (one of my favorites), and a slew of Deviled Eggs (my other favorite, as well as Barbarosa Mike's) great potato dishes, salads, macaroni casserole, and many desserts ... Gaye Abandon's traditional Chocolate Cheesecake didn't survive very long, as is ALSO a part of the tradition. The sixteen of us enjoyed the family feeling of the party and exchanged Christmas Gifts in the usual manner. The cowboy "Steal-a-Gift" tradition continued, although everyone seemed to be reluctant to start the "stealing" until about half-way through the event. Then-President Bobbin' Along Daisy announced and presented the 2014 Merlin "Ranger Awards" and Badges to CHPShot, Queen 'O Clubs, and Ima Loden; and was surprised as Sweetwater Jack presented **HER** with the 2014 Merlin "Regulator" Badge and Award! **Happy New Year to you all!**



Picture by Mountain Grizz, who didn't run fast enough to get into the photo himself...

## PERPETUAL MERLIN MARAUDER REGULATOR AND RANGER AWARD PLAQUES

We now have two LARGE and handsome perpetual plaques to honor those members who have been awarded Merlin Marauder "Regulator" and/or "Ranger" status. These plaques are red wood, in the shape of the State of Oregon, and have the two *original* badges affixed on them. All names are on separately engraved plates and will be added to the plaques each year. The idea of perpetual plaques was a joint brainstorm of Molly, Daisy, and Grizz. These beautiful plaques were created by Rogue Valley Engraving in Grants Pass, and will be kept/displayed in the Range House.

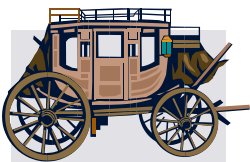
**KUDOS TO SWEETWATER JACK...and a huge thank you for being the benefactor of the above noted plaques. They are beautiful. An additional thank you also is extended to him for purchasing the state-of-the-art heater for the range house (the scorekeepers are forever grateful), and we appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness. — Molly b'Dam and Gang (I'm embarrassed ... SWJ)**

**BATTLE OF ROGUE RIVER 2015 — MAY 15-17: FYI Get Your Application from the Website!** Meetings of the Annual Match Committee continue and the Saturday Banquet at the annual match will be a special treat for all, as we have found a GREAT caterer!

**WORK PARTIES:** Next project will be the addition of new gravel to the shooting areas. **More info later.** This project has been "tabled" until the warmer and dryer Spring.

**REMINDER: The 2015 Oregon State SASS Championship Match, "Shootout at Saddle Creek"** The OOWSS Annual Match for 2015 will be presented in Shedd (just south of Albany) on July 17-19. Per Match Director Tuffy Tumbleweed: "The State Match theme will be *Women of the West.*" **Save the dates: July 17, 18, and 19. More to come.**

## Merlin Stage Setup for February 7th



Stage 1: (Berm 1) Innaha Chuck  
Stage 3: (Berm 2) Molly B'Dam

Stage 2: (Berm 1) Innaha Chuck  
Stage 4: and 5: (Berm 3) Britt Ponsett

***Help with set-up on Friday will be much appreciated, as usual.***

## MARAUDER MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND MATCH FEES:

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>		<u>SHOOTING FEES</u>	
Individual Membership	\$25	Individual MM Member	\$10
Family* Membership	\$35	Additional MM Family Adults	\$5 each
<i>*Family is defined as all living under one roof</i>		Individual Non-MM Member	\$13
		Additional Non-MM Family Adult	\$5 each

For membership issues and information call: Molly b'Dam @ (541) 479-2928  
Complete new/renewal application and mail to: Merlin Marauders, P.O. Box 202, Grants Pass Oregon 97528  
**Merlin Marauder Badges – We are currently looking into finding a new source for club badges, as Lindholm Spurs is no longer in business.**

# JANUARY Match Scores:

Rank	Alias	Category	OVERALL		Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage
			TIME	Misses	Net	Net	Net	Net	Net
1	Royal Flush	Forty-Niner	94.39	0	17.92	19.45	18.21	18.92	19
2	Bloody Bill Anderson	Cattle Baron	117.88	2	27.36	19.30	21.15	27.41	22
3	Purgatory Smith	Gunfighter	119.48	1	19.94	19.17	25.31	23.52	31
4	Hammerin' Hank	Young Gun	135.10	2	45.00	22.43	20.53	22.92	24
5	Bear Bone Smith	Silver Senior	136.24	0	25.77	24.89	25.17	29.43	30
6	Camp Hag	Cowgirl	156.20	5	30.37	30.65	37.43	29.91	27
7	Nick L Ante	Gunfighter	172.29	4	37.36	29.80	24.77	43.28	37
9	Mountain Grizz	Sr. Duelist	224.64	3	53.27	41.07	39.96	44.82	45
10	Imnaha Chuck	Senior	239.23	0	44.85	45.75	44.05	52.24	52
11	Line Century	Veteran	281.42	11	65.68	46.61	51.23	68.31	49
12	Britt Ponsett	Sr. Gunfighter	312.21	21	82.47	52.08	47.00	47.00	83
13	Kidd Krystin	Sr. Gunfighter	374.30	36	87.79	160.00	41.18	43.61	41

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

## Dispatches From The Territorial Governor

Well, the 2014/2015? SASS Convention in San Antonio, Texas is all over and the attendees are back home or still trudging their way toward home by now. The Territorial Governor Summit is concluded and the 6 items on the agenda voted on passed or failed on their merits. The first three items passed, and the last three failed. This was exactly the way our members voted so pat yourselves on the back for a job well done! Weather being a factor, I'm told that the attendance was down both for the T/G Summit and the Convention itself. Although I elected to stay home and enjoy the flu myself, our proxy ballot was mailed in and was counted, according to an undisclosed source who happens to be a member of the Wild Bunch. (Good thing I didn't buy tickets to fly this year as I'd have lost a bundle - I'm too cheap to buy "refundable tickets" so would have just added to the airlines coffers.) The results are also posted on the Northwest Campfire. Congrats to Jedi who has been "stumping" for the FC Gunfighter category for a long time.

### Stuff you might have never known:

#### 'A SHOT OF WHISKEY'

In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents, so did a glass of whiskey. If a cowhand was low on cash he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink.

## **PASSING THE BUCK / THE BUCK STOPS HERE**

Most of the men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker it was common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted, then "the buck stopped there."

## **SHIP STATE ROOMS**

Traveling by steamboat was considered the height of comfort. Passenger cabins on the boats were not numbered. Instead they were named after states. To this day cabins on ships are called staterooms.

## **SLEEP TIGHT**

Early beds were made with a wooden frame. Ropes were tied across the frame in a crisscross pattern. A straw mattress was then put on top of the ropes. Over time the ropes stretched, causing the bed to sag. The owner would then tighten the ropes to get a better night's sleep.

## **SHOWBOAT**

Floating theaters were built on a barge that was pushed by a steamboat. These barges played small towns along the Mississippi River. Unlike the boat shown in the movie "Showboat" they did not have an engine. They were gaudy and attention grabbing which is why we say someone who is being the life of the party is "showboating".

## **OVER A BARREL**

In the days before CPR a drowning victim would be placed face down over a barrel and the barrel would be rolled back and forth in a effort to empty the lungs of water. It was rarely effective. If you are over a barrel you are in deep trouble.

## **BARGE IN**

Heavy freight was moved along the Mississippi in large barges pushed by steamboats. These were hard to control and would sometimes swing into piers or other boats. People would say they "barged in".

## **HOGWASH**

Steamboats carried both people and animals. Since pigs smelled so bad they would be washed before being put on board. The mud and other filth that was washed off of them were considered useless "hog wash".

## **CURFEW**

The word "curfew" comes from the French phrase "couvre-feu", which means "cover the fire." It was used to describe the time of blowing out all lamps and candles. It was later adopted into Middle English as "curfeu," which later became the modern "curfew," In the early American colonies, homes had no real fireplaces so a fire was built in the center of the room. In order to make sure a fire did not get out of control during the night it was required that, by an agreed upon time, all fires would be covered with a clay pot called a "curfew."

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL, AND AS WE OLD SWASHBUCKLERS SAY:

**“Fair Winds and Following Seas to you!” Arrr!**



Sweetwater (One-eyed) Jack