



MERLIN MARAUDERS Cowboy Gazette

www.merlinmaraudercowboys.com

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

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HAPPY NEW YEAR, COMPADRES & COMPADETTES!

Hope you have not been washed away this past month. Speaking of which, as yours truly has been on the road for the past six weeks, please join me in recognizing Merlin Maverick who stepped in this month as a past president to swear in our new officers for this next year as well as run the meeting. Thank you so much!

Let me also express my gratitude for the service of those who have stepped off the board and my kudos to the wonderful slate of new/current officers/board who have volunteered to help guide and serve the club into 2016 and beyond. Again, 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, aimin' to be a bullseye for all.

Speaking of shootin' it out with a whole host of villainous varmints, please plan on attending our Annual Match May 13-15 — only a bit shy of 4 months away! The team has been working diligently on the preparations, stepping up to handle all the myriad details, and checking off all the "To Do's" on Molly b'Dam's Match Matrix at our monthly meetings.

The theme is "The Great Western Works of Louis L'Amour & Zane Grey" with esteemed expert fan club members of those respective fan clubs scribing the scenarios, so you're sure to enjoy climactic chills and action-packed scenes from two legendary western authors.

Of course, you'll also thrill to the competition of the sport. You'll be able to test your speed and accuracy skills on the

main stages and with a variety of side matches — against an array of solid target arrangements as well as a good smattering of fun gimmicks and bonus opportunities. Plus the Black Forest folks are again catering the meals — worth the price of admission alone!

So now is the time to get your applications* in and ensure a place among the ranks of your pards for a rootin', tootin' blast of an event. (*Thanks to Sweetwater for attaching the application to this newsletter — saves having to download off our website.)

Lastly, remember to please join us at our monthly meetings for not only a fun, social get-together over delicious food but to contribute to a lively, focused, and productive agenda. We now start the meetings at 6:00 pm — at the Black Forest restaurant meeting room.

— Ride easy, Britt

GENERAL MEETING:

Tues. February 9th @ 6:00 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 6th

Stage set-up is typically on Friday (watch for an e-mail notice).

Saturday Sign-in is 9:00-9:30 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: Membership stands at 54.

2016 MERLIN MARAUDER OFFICER ELECTIONS

Welcome to our new club officers for 2016! The full list of officers for 2016 is now displayed on this newsletters' masthead.

UH OH! FUNDRAISER TIME AGAIN!!

As we have in the past, the Marauders will have a "Spring Garage Sale" in March. Dates are: 17, 18, & 19 March, in the JCSA Indoor Range as usual. Setup will be on Thursday, 3/17, Sales on 3/18-19, and Tear-down after last sale on 3/19. More info as the dates draw nearer, but start thinking of items you'd like to donate to the cause. (Used husbands are not acceptable.)

This year we will have tables sorted by price range, so please sort your items accordingly. It will be a great help if you can tag/mark your items with a "ballpark" price you'd like to see us receive.

2016 Merlin Marauder Annual Match dates: Our 2016 Annual "Battle of Rogue River" will be held on the weekend of 13-15 May. It will be a ten-stage main match with the usual side matches. The theme will be from the Western thrillers of Zane Grey & Louis L'Amour. Match pricing (including 3 meals) is:

1st shooter: - \$90, Spouse - \$75, Young Adult - \$70, Young Gun - \$40, Buckaroo/Buckarette - No Fee Charged. Complete extra meal package (2 lunches and Saturday night dinner) will be \$40. Side Matches: Wild Bunch - \$10, Plainsman - \$5. Start getting you applications in for the Annual Match! Applications are available both on the Merlin Marauder website AND attached to this newsletter!

2016 SASS update regarding the position of Territorial Governor

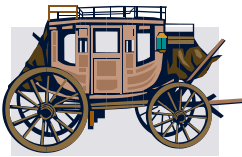
The requirements for being a SASS T/G have been changed to eliminate the requirement of being a SASS Life Member. A T/G must now have been an active member of SASS for THREE YEARS. This change will eliminate the possible hardship of paying for a life membership.

Speaking of Territorial Governors, you may or may not know that our T/G, Bear Bone Smith, has been in the hurt locker lately and may be looking at back surgery in the near future. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers, SWJ

MARAUDER MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION & 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



STAGE WRITERS FOR FEBRUARY 6TH:

Stages #1, 2 - at Berm #1: Long Henry Thompson

Stage #3 - at berm #2: Molly 'B' Dam

Stages #4, 5 - at berm #3: Britt Ponsett

We had ELEVEN shooters compete this month... ELEVEN **HARDY** souls that braved the freezing TWENTY degree weather to risk flesh sticking to frozen gun barrels and receivers, frostbite, blinding blizzards, whiteouts, crevasses, and..... oh., sorry..... got carried away again.... I wish I could have joined you, but I had this huge hangnail...

— (... and the "sniffles") Sweetwater

JANUARY Match Scores

Merlin Marauder January 5, 2016 Scores

Rank	Alias	Category	OVERALL		Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
			TIME	Misses	Net	Net	Net	Net	Net
1	Royal Flush	Forty-Niner	119.83	3	31.29	27.01	17.77	24.80	18.96
2	Nick L Ante	Gunfighter	163.69	1	34.94	29.95	30.54	38.47	29.79
3	Butch Brass	Gunfighter	201.45	8	30.68	38.27	59.62	38.93	33.95
4	Kidd Krystin	Sr. Gunfighter	217.61	5	42.90	50.39	37.56	43.72	43.04
5	Johnny Dingus	Sr. Gunfighter	232.66	9	52.80	40.14	39.32	41.01	59.39
6	Imnaha Chuck	Senior	239.99	2	42.56	42.99	50.16	56.81	47.47
7	Lucky Rick O' Shay	Elder Statesman	286.96	3	52.58	58.07	51.48	59.11	65.72
8	A little Two Wild	Buckarete	312.76	7	59.66	62.72	58.97	66.82	64.59
9	Cimarron River Deacon	Forty-Niner	318.71	5	74.95	59.79	59.38	53.73	70.86
10	Cool Ducki Fish	Buckaroo	432.83	17	85.49	102.06	81.16	90.17	73.95
11	Blue Jean Cowgirl	Forty-Niner	576.73	45	103.74	89.66	160.00	94.39	128.94
	NO CLEAN MATCH	THIS MONTH							

Dispatches From The Territorial Governor

There were a lot of heated arguments surrounding the 2015 TG Summit agenda discussion items. Several of these discussion items will probably be added as voting items at the next TG Summit. A quick synopsis of these issues is:

1. Should the maximum number of “P”s per stage be increased to two ...or one per type of firearm? Result---Attending TG body was pretty evenly split on this issue with a slight edge given to one “P” per type of firearm.
2. Non-SASS matches sometimes allow Non-SASS legal firearms. Clubs that advertise “SASS affiliated” need to follow SASS rules. This was affirmed by the TG body.
3. Should the wearing of logo’d outerwear during inclement weather be allowed at SASS matches (up to, but not on a stage)? TG body supported this issue.
4. Regarding TG attendance at the TG Summit....Should a TG be present in order to cast their respective club’s vote? TG body overwhelmingly said NO.
5. Should the RO1 course materials be amended to disallow CRO/TO’s from running the timer for family members? There was much discussion on this issue, but the TG body generally felt this was not necessary and gave a thumbs down.
6. Should the “B” Western rules be amended to allow “any SASS legal rifle”? The TG Body attending the TG Summit gave this a thumbs down.
7. Should the Classic Cowboy/Cowgirl rifle cutoff date be changed to 1880? There was not much discussion on this item and the TG body did not support the change.
8. Should chaps and spurs be mandatory in the Classic Cowboy/Cowgirl category? The TG body felt this would be problematic for Classic Cowgirls and were not in favor of this mandated requirement.
9. Should TG’s be required to take a mandatory RO1 and /or RO II refresher course at least every two years? The attending TG body felt this was an excellent way of keeping TG’s abreast of current SASS rules. Thumbs up on this recommendation.

As I said, not all of these items will be added to the next TG Summit meeting agenda. In addition, some items may be re-worded or tweaked based on the RO Committee’s recommendations. In closing, I would just like to say it was an honor to represent the five cowboy action shooting clubs that entrusted me with their TG Summit proxy votes. It was a unique experience to be involved in the spirited TG discussions.

My contact info is:

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Hope to see ya on the range, pards!

Bear Bone Smith