



MERLIN MARAUDERS Cowboy Gazette

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

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

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Molly, Long Henry, & Britt

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Sweetwater Jack - Gary Hanson

The Pres Sez!

Howdy to you all,

Just a note to thank you all for accepting me for your president again! I am honored. Thanks to all who are taking the positions that needed to be filled! Here's to a great year!

— Hugs: your President, *Bobbin' Along Daisy*

Here continues part 2 of a 3-part western tale begun last issue, authored by **Editor Emeritus Sweetwater Jack!**

'Bank Robbery in Jacksonville' Part II.

Binding up Sweetwater's bleeding badger wounds with strips from a petticoat he always carried in his saddlebags, (Don't ask- No, go ahead and ask.... they were from a well-known Saloon (ACS) gal named Rocky Meadows who left town unexpectedly for Texas ... – another story), and knowing the townsfolk were riled up considerable by these owl-hoots robbin' the bank of the only give-away toasters the bank had, Marshal Hyde made a quick decision.

"Sweetwater! Help me load these bodies back on their horses and we'll take 'em back to Jacksonville for a proper trial and hangin'!"

"But, they're DEAD, Marshal! How's that a'gonna' work?"

"Won't make no never-mind! The town'll be celebratin' the return of the loot AND the robbers and if Wimpy unloads that case of "Apple Pie" he was bringin' in on his buckboard and sells 'er before we get back, evverbodys a'gonna' be too drunk to notice little details like that!" "Awright! Does that mean ah'm still yer DEPUTY 'til we get back ta town?"

"Of COURSE it does!.....No! No! Don't put that BADGER back on yer..... Awwww. Dammit!"

cont. next page.

NOTE NEW MEETING DATE: NOW FIRST MONDAYS:
NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Monday, February 6th @ 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! (5:00 PM or so)
NEXT MONTHLY MATCH: Saturday, February 4th.
Sign-in - 9:00 to 9:30; Safety Mtg. - 9:30; First shot - 10:00
Setup on Friday morning 9:00 - 11:00 AM
Take I-5 to exit 61 and North on frontage road to
Josephine County Sportsman's Park.

“THE BANK ROBBERY IN JACKSONVILLE” PART 2, CONTINUED

Did Wimpy Make it Inta' Town With The Apple Pie? Good question! As Sweetwater probably bled to death on the way back to town from his BADGER wounds, I'll never know...but I strongly suspect that...

... on the way over the hill, wagon creaking and swaying, hugely overloaded with the crates of potent potables, Wimpy, driving his lathered and fatigue-crazed mule, "Truculent" ever onward, was waylaid by a pair of renegade.....NUNS!! Attacking in full habit with a flurry of blows from their wooden rulers, the pair from the nearly disbanded Convent of the Sisters of Perpetual Petulance, fell upon the unwary "Purveyor of Pie" with gusto, claiming the liquor, the wagon, the mule, and yes, Wimpy himself, to be "spoils of war". (What "war" was not immediately clear but apparently did not matter.) Declaring the wagon and load (and Wimpy, I guess) to be prisoners of war, the leader, known only as "Reverend Mother" and her devoted sidekick, "Sister Mary Blast-femur" lay claim to their booty by jamming a pike with the convent's flag (a pair of black bloomers on a field of virgin white) on it into the mass of the load. This apparently caused one of the casks to spring a leak!

Wimpy, regaining consciousness from the blows to his head, was the first to notice the impending loss of "cargo" and sprang to his feet. Hurriedly flopping under the wagon and placing his face directly under the leak, he opened his mouth to the flowing nectar, in an attempt to avoid the total loss of the precious fluid. The two nuns (who had an amazing familial resemblance) looked at each other and said: "What the hell; waste not, want not!" and scooped under the wagon to assist Wimpy in his recovery efforts.....

As dusk approached the tense town of Jacksonville, so did Marshal Hyde....leading three horses with the (former) bank robbers slung athwartship (that's "sailor talk" for cross-wise) on them and one rider-less livery mount following behind. As the townsfolk approached the dusty and saddle-sore Marshal he saw that they were all SOBER! ("Rats!" thought Marshal Hyde, "They're a'gonna notice that them owl-hoots're already dead!" "That may create a problem with the trial and hangin', unless I kin create some sorta DIVERSION.")

Thinking fast, (a fairly new experience for the Marshal) He called out: "Is Wimpy here with that shipment of "Apple Pie" fer the Saloon (ACS) yet? His brother Whiney Henry said he'd done left Bonanza yesterday!!"

An immediate hubbub broke out amongst the townsfolk (Don't ask, I don't know what a "hubbub" is, either). Esther Gen Overload, the local "Madam" called out: "And where's Sweetwater? That's the horse he rode OUT on....!" (Her concern, generated by the fact that Sweetwater was one of her best and most frequent CUSTOMERS, was supported by several other brothel and Saloon (ACS) owners in the crowd..)

Turning in his saddle with a creak of leather, Marshal Hyde sees that, indeed, Sweetwater Jack is among the missing... "Dang! He musta' fell off again... "We'd better set up a search party in the morning and go lookin' fer him. You all get ahold of Checotah and see if he's got that aerostat of his patched back up yet and outta that tree he landed in last week and kin git what he calls "airborne" to scout out the back trail bright 'n early.... Meantime, I'll git these bank robbers into the jail and ready for their trial and hangin tomorrow."

("So far so good.. they ain't noticed that "the deceased" IS deceased. I wonder where Sweetwater fell off his horse that last time...")

Bright and early the next morning (Ok, about eleven), Checotah finally rounded up enough hot air to get his balloon and basket into the air. A Lieutenant Colonel in the recently-formed Civil Aerostat Patrol, Checotah had enlisted several of the townsfolk as "scanners" and "observers" to assist in aerial search. Unfortunately, he had not found a way to create enough hot air to lift them and continued to fly solo... He'd heard that some Germans had been having good luck with something called "Hydrogen" in their balloons and he hoped to acquire some for his aerostat, named the "Hindenburg"...

STAY TUNED NEXT ISSUE FOR PART III, THE (HOPEFULLY) EXCITING CONCLUSION!

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
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			

QUICK CLUB UPDATES

Membership: We would like to welcome 2 new members: Cindy Pool and Mary Beth Huffman. Cindy is Imnaha Chuck's wife and Mary Beth is Rogue Rascal's better half. Welcome aboard ladies.

It is time to renew your memberships for 2017. Dues notices were sent in December. Dues are \$25 for an individual membership, and \$35 for a family.

Merlin Marauder Officers: New Officers were sworn in at the January meeting. They are **President - Bobbin Along Daisy; Match Director - Long Henry Thompson; Secretary/Membership - Molly b'Dam;** and **Director 1 - 2016 incumbent Mountain Grizz.** Appointees by the new President included **Ima Loden as Treasurer** (to finish Long Henry's term), **Imnaha Chuck - Director for 1 year,** and **Member at Large - New Hope Kid.** **Match Director Bear Bone Smith** will be installed in February. *Bear has been under the weather and we wish him a speedy recovery. He would love to hear from his fellow pards.* **Congratulations to all!**

Annual Match: Preparations for the **2017 Battle of Rogue River** are under way. **Mark your calendars for May 19, 20, and 21, 2017.** The 2017 theme will be "**Western Film Comedies**" which should make for some hilarious, fun stage scenarios. We are once again asking shooters to **wear red on Friday in honor of our troops.** We are hoping that our match schedule will allow participants to attend both the Battle of Rogue River and then proceed to *True Grit* for the following weekends. We will be **dedicating the match to a well known Cowgirl - Candy Johnson.** Candy passed away in December from cancer. She has done our award medals for the past 5 years, and she will be greatly missed. **Our Match Application can be found on our website at *merlinmaraudercowboys.com*.**

Merlin Marauder Yard Sale: **Mark your calendars!** We have scheduled our **Annual Merlin Marauder Yard Sale for April 7, 8 and 9th, 2017, at the Josephine County Sportsman Indoor Range.** Set-up will be on Thursday, April 6th. Start going through your barns and garages to see what you can contribute. Your item may be someone else's treasure. We will keep you posted.

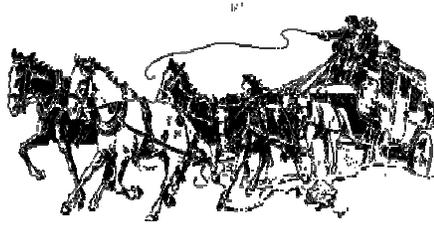
Change in Merlin Marauder Meeting Date: Our monthly Merlin Marauder meetings have been **changed to the first Monday of the month.** Mark your calendars for the **February meeting on February the 6th, 2017.** We will still meet the Black Forest Restaurant; the meeting starts at 6 p.m. We welcome all of our members and their guests to join us.



February Stage Writers:

Stages #1, 2 - at Bay #1: Long Henry Thompson Stage #3 - at Bay #2: Molly b'Dam

Stages #4, 5 at Bay #3: Britt Ponsett



Dispatches From Territorial Governor

... Guest Contributor – former T.G. Sweetwater Jack

Question re Shotgun belts:

Is it legal to sew rifle/pistol loops onto the outside of shotgun loops on a shotgun belt?

Answer: NO. It is illegal in SASS. It would be perfectly legal to put a slide containing say, 10 rounds on a shotgun belt. This slide could then be positioned anywhere on the belt except over the shotgun loops.

So, does this mean that a belt to hold shotgun rounds cannot also hold cartridges for rifle/pistol? No. The ruling refers to the loops not the belt. Having rifle rounds on the belt is ok, but attaching the rifle loops to the outside of a shotgun loop is not ok.

ROC RULING RE SEWING RIFLE/PISTOL AMMO LOOPS ON SHOTGUN LOOPS:

- ***NOT "TRADITIONAL DESIGN"***
- ***NOT ON THE LIST OF APPROVED "METHODS OF CARRY" (SHB p.11)***
= NOT LEGAL.

*Applicable rule = P+misses for "Use of illegally acquired ammo"
This will be codified in the next edit of the SHB.*

Bear Bone Smith, SASS Reg. 10719, Merlin Marauder T.G... *will return next month.*

And we all continue to wish Bear Bone a swift, pain-free, and complete recovery!

Take care, pard!

MERLIN MARAUDER MATCH RESULTS

As the January Match was cancelled due to really bad weather, we'll see you all next time, at the range on February 4!