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JUNE 2011

DATES TO REMEMBER

7/4/11 – Cowboy Klays
7/13/11 – CKR Monthly
Meeting, 7:30 PM
7/18/11 – Setup for CKR
Monthly Shoot
7/19/11 – CKR Monthly Shoot

NOTES FROM THE TRAIL BOSS

Cowboys came from far and near to shoot on June 19th. Was there a special occasion? Not really.

The special occasion was June 18th at Peaceable Hill Farm. That is where Three Barrel Chris got hitched to that vermin known as Blackhands. But, all kidding aside, congrats to both of you. It was also her birthday, so he is one lucky gent to only have one date to remember... It's an honor and a great privilege to know you both and call you friends.

With a bunch of people just over the border at the wedding, they stayed over and came to our shoot on the 19th. We still had people drive from Conn. and such to shoot with us, too. Thank you all for your continued support of Circle K and our cowboy action shooting. I must say Circle K

wouldn't be as good as it is without great people that put in lots of time and hard work. I must also say 'thank you' to all the Circle K people for always being there and doing such a great job. THANK YOU!

Smokehouse Dan

JUNE MONTHLY SHOOT

What a great way to celebrate Father's Day – hanging out with friends and slingin' lead! A total of 74 shooters from SIX states joined us for this month's action-packed stages. Based on the number of clean shooters this month, either the stages were easier than usual or the shooters are getting better. Good job, folks! The weather was beautiful – sunny and warm (well, maybe sorta hot but not bad for June). We were glad to welcome back several long lost shooters, including our local pard Black Jack Titus, The Capgun Kid who just moved from PA back to CT. and former CKR members. Wyoming Gun and Lakota Sue, visiting all the way from Wyoming.

When the smoke finally cleared and the day drew to a close, the following cowpokes were left standing. Congrats to:

TOP GUN – QUAKER HILL BILL

706 Geyser Rd. Ballston Spa, New York 12020

Classic Cowboy – Tom Payne Cowboy – Happy Holiday Duelist – Smilin' Pete Elder Statesman – Rattlesnake FC Duelist – Peddler Jack Frontier Cartridge – Grandpa Zeb

Grande Dame – Dance Hall Anne

Gunfighter – The Dude Bandit **49r/Ladies 49r** – Annabelle Bransford

Senior – Blackhands Silver Senior – Rowdy Bill Senior Duelist – Bear Lee Tallable

Wrangler – Quaker Hill Bill **Ladies Senior** – J. T.

Longfeather

Ladies Silver Senior – May Rein

Ladies Wrangler – Appaloosa Amy

Clean Shooters – Big Sky Di, Feany Valentine, Gentleman Doc, Hardcase Bob, John S. Books, Lonesome Trailsman, Peddler Jack, Pennsyltucky Slim, Porcupine Kid, Prickly Pear Pete, Quaker Hill Bill, Rowdy Bill, and Three Barrel Chris (her first clean match ever!)

If all goes as planned, we'll be introducing a new moving target at the July shoot, so mark your calendar and plan on being there.

COWBOY KLAYS

Just a reminder that there will be a Cowboy Klays shoot on Monday, July 4th, starting at 9:30 AM at the Philmont Upper Club property. This will be followed by a barbeque at Dude's house. Shooters and their immediate families are invited. RSVP requested. For additional information or to RSVP, contact Dude by email at: theodb1897@hotmail.com.

WEDDING BELLS

Congratulations to our good pards, **Three Barrel Chris and Blackhands**, who finally tied the knot on Sat., June 18th! About time you two made it legit! May you have a lifetime of love and happiness – and, of course, Cowboy Action Shooting together!

CKR WINNERS AT MAJOR SHOOTS

CAS in the Great Northeast is back into full swing. The first big match in our neck of the woods - North Mountain Shoot Out, the SASS Pennsylvania **State Championship** – was held in Muncy Valley, PA, on Memorial Day weekend. There were 198 shooters attendance, including several Canadians and one cowpoke who was visiting from Australia. His alias was K.C. Woody, and he had an outfit exactly like Woody wore in the Disney "Toy Story" films, right down to having the word "Andy" etched into the bottom of one of his boots!

Despite tornado warnings, torrential rains. a heluva lightning show, some hail, and gusty winds on both Thurs. and Fri. nights, the weather during the shoot itself was quite nice, with pleasant temperatures and nary a drop of precipitation. On afternoon, there were numerous side events, as well as 3-stage mini-matches for both regular CAS guns and Wild Bunch firearms. Although vendors were down this year, there were still a handful of sutlers on site that were ready to rid you of your hard-earned As usual, there were plenty of nice props to dress up the permanent buildings on several of the stages. stages included a train scene, a gallows, a "town", and a cute chicken coop stage complete with feathers, eggs, rubber chickens, and.. uh.. poop!. The ten main stages on Sat. and Sun. were fun and challenging, good with movement and some interesting target acquisitions. There were a few knockdown pistol targets, two poppers/clay birds, and a couple of special reactive targets (a hangman and Peg Leg) to add variety. Everything ran smoothly, and a good time was had by all.

Congrats to CKR members, **Rowdy Bill,** who took 1st in Silver Senior and came in 7th overall and **Annabelle Bransford,** who took 1st in Ladies 49r and shot clean.

Annabelle Bransford



Green Mountain Mayhem, the Vermont SASS State Championship was held that same weekend in St. Johnsbury, VT. Well, when it rains it pours, and pour it did! But amazingly, other than a bunch of ominous clouds and a few scattered sprinkles, torrential the downpours and gale force winds held off each day until after the shooting was done. Complete with mudslides and road closures. GMM started off with a bang and loads of shooting with 12 enthusiastic cowpokes taking the Half-a-Hand Henri Finishing School, with most being enlightened to the fact that there is this funny thing called the front sight which actually does have a purpose. Three Barrel Chris not only graduated from Henri's school, but then proceeded to handily win the VT State Ladies Championship with impressive 14th overall finish, one spot ahead of Half-a-Hand Henri herself! Way to go, Three Barrel Chris!! 126 shooters enjoyed the stages (which had lots of movement), the vendors, and the great food. Did we mention there was lots of movement in the stages? In fact, there was so much so that you didn't even feel guilty about going back for that second piece of Rick's famous fried chicken.

Congratulations to our Circle K pard winners:

Lone Star Jake - 1st B-Western **Three Barrel Chris** – 1st Ladies Wrangler

Renegade Roper – 2nd Ladies Wrangler

Buck Dancer – 3rd Senior **J. T. Longfeather** – 3rd Ladies
Senior

Congrats also to **Ol' Scratch** who was the lucky winner of a raffle for a Ruger LCR revolver.

Renegade Roper

Following close on the heels of the PA and VT shoots was Shootout at Sawyer Flats, the **SASS Tri-State (MA/CT/RI)** Championship, held in Harvard, MA, June 3-5. Among the 187 shooters were numerous CKR members, and what an impressive showing those CKR folks made!

Congrats to Rowdy Bill, Annabelle Bransford, and Renegade Roper, who made it into the Top 16 Men/Ladies Team Shootoff. And a special congrats to Annabelle who won the shootoff with her partner, Mongollon Drifter (from MN), beating out Appaloosa Amy and Eastern Tenderfoot in the exciting final confrontation!

Congrats also to:

Rowdy Bill – 1st Silver Senior **Peddler Jack** – 1st Sr. Duelist **Renegade Roper** – 1st Ladies Wrangler

Annabelle Bransford – 2nd L49r (& Working Cowgirl Costume Contest winner)

J. T. Longfeather – 3rd Ladies Senior

Buck Dancer – 4th Duelist **Rattlesnake** – 6th Elder

Statesman **Oklahoma Fork & Sixgun Schwaby** – Clean

Rowdy and Annabelle were pleased to assist with an RO II course on Thurs. afternoon where they certified Barrister Bill and Doc McCoy as new RO IIIs (black badge ROs approved to teach RO II on their own in the future). Meanwhile, Half-a-Hand Henri conducted her 2day "CAS Finishing School" Thurs. and Fri. Friday was side event day with 2 very popular mini-stages, as well as the usual speed events. There were several vendors and a cowboy swap'n'sell for shooters to peruse in between slinging lead throughout the weekend. This was a great, well-run 10-stage match as usual. The creative stages had interesting varied target acquisitions, loads of "shooter's choices" plenty of movement and gun transitions to keep both the brain and the body in high gear. This year's theme was "Salute the Duke" with scenarios taken from various John Wayne movies. As always, the props were fantastic, with stages depicting scenes from "The Shootist" (bar scene), Dorado" (town scene), "Rio Bravo" (adobe walls), "The Big Trail" (covered wagons), etc. The weather was the best ever for this event – no rain, no heat - just right. Good fun, good friends, and good shootin'! Who could ask for more?

Annabelle Bransford



On June 10-12, the Dakota Badlanders held their 3rd annual multi-day shoot, The Reckoning, in Orefield, PA (just outside of Allentown). Instead of the normal side events, they had a Wild Bunch mini-match (4 stages) on Fri. The Sat./Sun. main event was a fun-filled match boasting 11 action-packed stages (including an all knockdown stage) and ofcreative lots target acquisitions. Some of the props were simply incredible. The train stage had to be seen to be believed: the train on the trestle looked like it might start chugging along any minute. The working sluice box and the army tent scene were also worthy of special note. Included in the registration fee was a yummy pig roast and free beer late Sat. afternoon. weather forecast had everyone a bit concerned, but with luck and a couple of minor schedule cowpokes changes. the managed to get in all of the stages with no "liquid sunshine" dampen their spirits. Included in the total of 110 shooters were a couple of CKR members.

Congrats to:

Rowdy Bill – 1st Silver Senior & 6th overall

 $\begin{array}{llll} \textbf{Annabelle} & \textbf{Bransford} & - & 1^{st} \\ L49r & & & \end{array}$

Annabelle Bransford



The 30th Anniversary End of Trail. SASS World Championship, was held at Founders Ranch in Edgewood, NM. June 21-26. A total of 674 CAS shooters from 16 countries participated in the main match. This year's shoot celebrated the ghosts of EOTs past with stages taken from previous EOTs back as far as the original match in 1982. Prior to the start of the main match, there were 2 days of warm-up stages, a side event day, a Wild Bunch match, and a .22 shooting gallery to give folks plenty of opportunity to sling lead. The 12 main match stages were quick but involved enough unique things to keep interesting them (movers, bonuses, knockdowns, etc.). As usual, Rowdy Bill Annabelle Bransford served as posse marshals for both the warm-up stages (Tues.) and the main match stages (Thurs.-Sat.).

Not only was the number of shooters up considerably from last year, but the number of vendors and entertainers were up as well. There were vendors selling all kinds of cowboy clothing and accessories, hats, guns, knives, western décor, etc. Dr. Buck's Wild West Arena Show was great – featuring world champions in gun twirling, trick roping, bullwhip, and knife throwing, along with

a Hollywood trick horse, Indian tribal dancers, exhibitions in mounted shooting, a cowboy gunfight/stunt show, etc. The Belle Union Saloon featured various performances both day and night, including numerous award winning Western musicians and singers. There were SASS RO classes and seminars on all the Wild West arts available, special costume contests, stagecoach rides, rides on longhorn steers, magicians, puppets, a palm reader, and so much more. Several charity auctions were held as well, with our NY CAS pard, Tom Payne, serving as auctioneer for a couple of items.

A special congrats goes out to the CKR's newest SASS Regulator – **Mo Lasses!** Mo was presented with the coveted Regulator badge at EOT's opening ceremonies in appreciation for his dedicated fund raising efforts for the SASS Cowboy Memorial Chapel.

And as for shooting awards, we made a pretty good showing Former there. too. **CKR** member, James Samuel Pike at EOT for his second time was even more impressive than last year. Congrats to Pike for shooting clean, getting into the Top 16 Shootoff, taking 1st in Wrangler, AND coming in 2nd OVERALL!!!!!! Other former CKRers, Smilin' Pete and Tom Payne, also buckled, taking a 3rd in Duelist and a 9th in Classic Cowboy. respectively. Annabelle Bransford managed to squeeze out a 10th place buckle for L49r.

Now if they could just tone down the heat a notch and get rid of all the blowing dirt/dust! Ah, but that's New Mexico – or so a little girl told me when I complained that my beige purse was actually supposed to be black!

Annabelle Bransford

HAPPY TRAILS and HAPPY JULY 4th!