

The CirKulator

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JUNE 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER

7/12/15 – CKR Work Day

7/15/15 – CKR Monthly Meeting, 7:30 PM

7/18/15 – CKR Setup, 9:00

AM, followed by Monthly Rough Riders Match, 11:30 AM

7/19/15 – CKR Monthly CAS Match

JUNE CKR ROUGH RIDERS MATCH

Following setup on June 20th, 15 folks gathered to participate in our monthly Rough Riders match. We welcomed our old CAS pard, Tom Payne, into the world of RR for the first time this month, and he made a fine showing indeed, coming in 4th overall. Way to go, Tom! Bet you're hooked now!

As always, The Dude Bandit provided five challenging stages with plenty of lead-slinging and unique targets and acquisitions that kept the shooters on their toes throughout the afternoon. (Just ask anyone about Stage 3. Can you say “brain drain”?! Holy cow!) The weather was great for shooting - comfortably warm and dry, although the clouds on the last stage were looking pretty darn ominous.

When all was said and done, the following cowpokes came out on top. Congrats to:

TOP GUN – Rowdy Bill

Men's Modern – Rowdy Bill

Men's Traditional – Whiskey Brooks

Ladies Modern – Annabelle Bransford

Ladies Traditional – Renegade Roper

This month we ALMOST had a winner of the Olive Garden gift card for shooting a clean RR match, but Noooooo! Wheels Cartwright had ONE stinking miss! Sooo close! One of these days it'll happen, I just know it!

JUNE CKR CAS MATCH

Thanks to a less than stellar weather forecast and the fact that it was actually pouring rain over much of our area in the early morning hours, attendance at our June 21st match was somewhat lacking, to say the least. Only 34 shooters turned out to sling lead with us on Father's Day, but those who did seemed to enjoy the match. Not a drop of rain fell at the range during the shoot, but I would hazard a guess that most people went home wet – with sweat! Boy, was it hot and sticky when the sun came out! Yikes!

Rowdy Bill gave the competitors six action-packed stages to negotiate and some new and different target acquisitions to try on for size.

Congrats to the following folks who get to claim braggin' rights for the next month:

TOP GUN – JAMES SAMUEL PIKE

Cattle Baron – Frenchy Wolf

Classic Cowboy – Tom Payne

Cowgirl – Kate Cartwright

Duelist – Sixgun Schwaby

Ladies Duelist – Shani M (who thrilled her dad, Whiskey Brooks, with a surprise visit from Colorado in honor of Father's Day)

Elder Statesman – Rowdy Bill

Frontier Cartridge – Willie Misfire

FC Duelist – Doctor Bill

Gunfighter – Smilin' Pete

49r – Monte

Ladies 49r – Big Sky Di

Senior/Ladies Senior – Annabelle Bransford

Sr Duelist – Peddler Jack

Silver Senior – Buck Wilder

Ladies Silver Senior – Violet Cassidy

Wrangler – James Samuel Pike

Ladies Wrangler – Renegade Roper

Young Gun – Spaghetti Gunslinger

Clean Shooters – Annabelle Bransford, Feany Valentine, Pot Shot Bob, and Willie Misfire.

HELUVA RUKUS 2015

Plans continue to move along nicely for this year's 15th Anniversary SASS NY State Championship. Rowdy Bill has finished writing all the stages, and several new props (including an 80' train trestle!) have already been built, thanks to Dude Bandit's awesome building crew.

Registrations continue to trickle in at the rate of a couple per day. As of this writing, we are at 214. Remember...the final cutoff date for registration is Aug. 16th. If you haven't already sent your form in, get on it right away!

And if you can help us out by obtaining sponsors, vendors, or door prize contributors or are willing to serve on a particular committee, jump right in. As you can imagine, for a shoot of this size, we need a lot of help!

Any questions may be directed to 'Mo' Lassess at donadler@hotmail.com or Annabelle at annabelle69@juno.com.

CKR WINNERS AT OTHER MAJOR MATCHES

SASS Pennsylvania State Championship

North Mountain Shootout XVI, the SASS Pennsylvania State Championship, was hosted once

again by El Posse Grande after a year off. The event was held in Muncy Valley, PA, on May 22-24, with 150 shooters competing. The theme this year was "My Heroes Have Always Been Cowboys", with stages honoring Teddy Roosevelt, James Garner, Audie Murphy, and John Wayne among others. At check-in, each shooter was given a personalized baseball cap with their alias embroidered on the back strap – a nice touch.

There were several speed side events, as well as a 3-stage mini-match to keep shooters occupied on Fri. Six main stages were shot on Sat. and four on Sun. There were some nice new props, as well as changes to some of the permanent stages this year (a fort in place of the gallows, a train in place of one of the buildings, etc.). The stages, provided by various PA clubs, were interesting, albeit a bit longer than usual (7 shotgun on one!). Boasting a good bit of movement and a few unique target acquisitions (can you say "gunfighter friendly"?), they definitely kept the shooters' minds and bodies going full tilt all weekend. There were several vendors on hand, along with a consignment shop with some great deals on used CAS clothing. The weather was super with cool mornings and warm pleasant afternoons. What more could you ask for?

When all was said and done, the following CKR members went home with bragging rights – AND nice trophies:

Rowdy Bill – 1st Elder Statesman (& 7th overall)
Renegade Roper – 1st Ladies Wrangler (Top Lady & 10th overall)
Annabelle Bransford – 1st Ladies Senior
Sixgun Schwaby – 1st Duelist

Special congrats to the new 2015 PA State Champs, Jerseytown Kid and B-doc.

SASS Tri-State (MA-CT-RI) Championship

The theme of the 10th anniversary of the Shootout at Sawyer Flats Tri-State Championship was "Ghost Towns of the Old West". The event, hosted by the Harvard Ghost Riders (how appropriate!), was held in Harvard, MA, on June 5-7, with 139 shooters participating. There were numerous speed side events on Fri., along with a 3-stage Wild Bunch match and 3 CAS/Plainsman warm-up stages. Stories for the main stages (6 shot on Sat. and 4 on Sun.) told of various abandoned mines and ghost towns, such as the Lost Dutchman Mine in AZ and Cripple Creek in CO. The props were good, as always, and the stages were well-written and interesting with plenty of movement, varied target sizes, shapes, and distances, and lots of shooter's choices. There were several unique targets this year, including an ore cart mover, a swinger, a swinging clay bird, and a tombstone progressive plate rack. It was a challenging, but fun, match. Prior to the awards ceremony on Sun., there was a Top Gun

Team Shootout with the top 16 cowboys paired with the top 16 cowgirls shooting as teams 'til only one team was left standing.

All shooters were given a couple of special "goodies" in honor of the event's 10th anniversary – an imprinted T-shirt and an imprinted long gun sleeve – very nice. Dinner at the range Fri. night was included in the registration fee, with a more formal banquet held nearby on Sat. night. There were a few vendors on hand and a couple of cowboy swap'n'sell tables on site throughout the weekend to help rid the cowpokes of any excess cash that was burning a hole in their pockets. The match was blessed with perfect shooting weather with temps in the 70s and no "liquid sunshine" to put a damper on things.

Congrats to the following CKR winners who returned home with special 10th anniversary belt buckles (for 1st place category winners) or nice wooden plaques:

Rowdy Bill – 1st Elder Statesman (& 9th overall)
Annabelle Bransford – 1st Ladies Senior
Peddler Jack – 2nd Sr. Duelist
Big Sky Di – 4th Ladies 49r

Rowdy, Annabelle and Big Sky Di were also in the Top Gun Team Shootout.

CKR's own **Violet Cassidy** won the "Working Female" costume contest. Lookin' good, Vi!

A special congrats to the 2015 Tri-State Champs:

CT – James Samuel Pike & Appaloosa Amy
MA – Grazer & Hawley McCoy
RI – Nutmeg Ryder & Nanny Oakley

SASS NH State Championship

Ghost Riders Revenge, the 15th annual SASS NH State Championship, was held June 26-27 in Candia, NH. Attendance was low, with only 65 cowpokes participating in the event. Not being one of them, I can't tell you too much about the shoot itself. I do know that they had numerous side events, as well as a Wild Bunch match and a 3-stage CAS warmup match, on Fri. However, due to a forecast of up to 2" of rain on Sun., they decided to only shoot 8 main match stages on Sat. and call it quits. Bummer!

Congrats to both CKR members who attended and returned home toting 1st place trophies:

Sixgun Schwaby – 1st Duelist (& 5th overall)
Renegade Roper – 1st Ladies Wrangler

A special congrats to this year's NH State Champs, Jimmy Spurs and Crystal Creek Chris.

End of Trail, SASS World Championship

The 34th annual End of Trail, CAS World Championship, took place at Founder's Ranch

in Edgewood, NM, on June 18-28.

Prior to the start of the CAS match, the Wild Bunch shooters were busy with their own World Championship. The weather for the WB events was unseasonably HOT, even for NM, with temps in the 102-105 range. Yikes! There were special Wild Bunch individual and team side events, warmup stages, and a full 3-day 12-stage Wild Bunch main match. The number of participants in this year's WB match was down over 25% this year, with only 61 shooters competing. Hopefully, this isn't starting a trend in the wrong direction for this facet of our sport!

When the WB folks' were done with their competition, it was time for the Cowboy Action Shooters to take over the range for the next 5 days. They, too, had multiple warmup stages and various side events available to get them primed for the main event. The weather for the CAS events this year was great, with temps mostly in the 80s and the dust held down to a minimum due to frequent rain, most of which was thankfully NOT during the match itself. A total of 554 CAS shooters from around the world completed this year's 3-day 12-stage CAS main match, up somewhat from last year. The stages were written by Lassiter and T. A. Chance, and the targets were up close and personal and VERY Gunfighter friendly (Lassiter is a Gunfighter – hmmm!). Three different moving targets and a few pistol and rifle knockdowns helped keep things interesting. There was also a nice new

permanent building on Stage 11 – the office of Judge Roy Bean, law west of the Pecos. One noted difference in the event this year was the absence of door prizes. Instead, there were various raffles for big ticket items such as firearms, gun leather, and Dillon reloading equipment.

There were plenty of things to keep shooters occupied at the ranch even when not actually slinging lead. Many vendors were on site, although their number seemed to have dwindled even further this year. During the day, there were free stagecoach rides available, longhorn steers to check out, the mounted shooting competition to watch, Gatling guns to shoot, and book signings to attend. There was also daily musical entertainment provided by the Sons of the Rio Grande and Syd Masters & the Swing Riders, as well as a Wild West Medicine Show. At night, the range hosted various costume contests, a poker and casino night, a variety show, musical performances, raffles, and even free food and beverages. The Top Gun Shootoffs were held just prior to the final awards on Sun., with the top 8 WB men and women and the top 16 CAS men and women battling it out.

A big congrats to CKR member, **Annabelle Bransford** who shot clean and took 4th in Ladies Senior. Unfortunately, health issues kept her hubby, Rowdy Bill, from being able to complete the match, but there's always next year...

Congrats as well to other CAS pards from the Northeast:

James Samuel Pike (CT) – 6th Wrangler
Tom Payne (NY) – 9th Classic Cowboy
Grazer (MA) – 5th Duelist
Hawley McCoy (MA) – 3rd Ladies Gunfighter

This year's overall CAS World Champions were Matt Black (Men) and Sass Kicker (Ladies), two very young and very talented shooters!