

The Mountain Valley Echo

*News from the
Mountain Valley Vigilantes
Hot Springs, Arkansas*

A SASS affiliated club
(www.sassnet.com)
And a division of the
Mountain Valley Sportsman's
Association

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IT'S A HOT NEW YEAR AT COWTOWN! Willy Fire / Tim Metcalf

We sure had a hot time at our January shoot. Yep, a new record was set with the temperature reaching 77 degrees on January 3! Some of the shooters sure were wishing they had dressed differently. Normally in January you may need insulated under garments, but not this time. Some folks got quite a workout when it came time to change out of those fancy new under armor duds!

But then on Sunday the temperature dropped like a rock back down into the 40's. Well enough about the weather, except to say that those that stayed home where it was dry and warm sure did miss some fine shooting.

January saw the Mt. Valley Vigilantes implement scoring by Actual Time instead of rank points. There seemed to be no hiccups with this change and the competition was as close as ever. Attached you will find two score sheets. One is sorted by overall time which is how we determine the awards and the other is the score sheet we have used in the past, sorted by rank points which is a good way to see how you matched up to those shooting in *your category*. Remember, we go by the "net time" column to determine awards now, not the "rank overall" column;

unless there is a tie which in that case the winner is determined by rank. I encourage you to take a little time and look over the score sheets. Boy we have some really close competition!

TOP 10 JANUARY 2009

1. Lie N Dog
2. Rowdy Bob
3. Naildriver
4. Roadmaker
5. Headstone Hunter
6. Cracker Jake
7. The Brisco Kid
8. Curly Hombre
9. Christmas Kid
10. Buster

Congratulations go to Smokey Joe on a clean match! Way to go Joe! We also had to folks get a Dagnabit (only 1 miss away from a clean match). Hats off to Roadmaker and Arctic Ranger on your Dagnabit award!

We had a good turnout come back for more fun on Sunday. Sunday is a more laid back atmosphere and it as a great time to try out something new and get some great practice. If you really want some great fun or want to try a new firearm / shooting style I encourage you to come back and shoot a Sunday match.

This month's Movie Quote: "Half the people in the world are women. Why does it have to be you that stirs me?" Look for answer in another section of this newsletter.

HATS OFF TO OUR 2008 MOST IMPROVED SHOOTERS!

The Mt. Valley Vigilantes awarded a couple of ladies a much deserved Most Improved Shooter Award at our January shoot. Hats off and a great big Yee Haw go out to Rip A Lot and One Shot for the fine skills of cowboy action shooting! Congratulations on a much deserved honor!

NEW CATEGORIES ANNOUNCED BY S.A.S.S.

Beginning March 1st, 2009 Traditional and Modern categories will be combined and split into two age based categories. The new age breaks will be 17 and up / 36 and up. This is taken from the SASS Wire "Our new age based categories are Cowboys / Cowgirls, open to all ages and Wrangler / Lady Wrangler, open to ages 36 and up. Remember all age-based categories may shoot fixed sight or adjustable sighted revolvers. " Watch the Cowboy Chronicle for more info. The answer to this months movie quote is McLintock (1963)

BRING YOUR .22

Beginning in February we will have some fun matches involving cowboy action legal .22 caliber rifles / pistols after the main match. Several annual matches our shooters go to have .22 side matches and this will give our shooters an opportunity to practice with these firearms and have some great fun at the same time! Remember your ammo must be full lead, no jacketed or magnum ammo. SASS rules apply. Bring your .22 and have some fun as we await the awards.

BULLDOG'S BYTES INFO FROM BULLDOG MCGRAW

As you know we reset the record book at the first of the year and start all over. We have a couple new names to start the new year off with but there is still a couple of old familiar ones hanging in there. Lie-N-Dog and Naildriver are starting the year off trying to see which one will be in first and which one will be second. However we do have a couple new faces creeping into the book, Rowdy Bob and Cracker Jake are putting some pressure on the dynamic duo. It's good to see some other familiar names in the book The Brisco Kid, Christmas Kid, Roadmaker, Ozark Outlaw and Headstone Hunter. Congratulations to everyone starting off the New Year for us in the record book you have set the marks for the rest of us to catch up to.

Corral: Rowdy Bob, Lie-N-Dog, Ozark Outlaw

Bank: Lie-N-Dog, Roadmaker, The Brisco Kid

Saloon: Lie-N-Dog, Naildriver, Rowdy Bob

Jail: Naildriver, Lie-N-Dog, Cracker Jake

Mercantile: Lie-N-Dog, Rowdy Bob, Cracker Jake

Livery: Rowdy Bob, Christmas Kid, Headstone Hunter

There are a couple of safety issues that I have been asked to address. The first one is to be sure you are on the firing line before you start shooting. There have been a few incidents where a shooter is not quite on the firing line when they start to shoot. Sometimes a shooter will pick up a staged gun and either step back a little before they shoot or in the interest of saving time a shooter just doesn't take that extra little step. When you are staging your guns look and see where the firing line is; take a moment before you shoot to see were the

pistols are to be shot from. I know there is a lot to think about when we are shooting such as target order, where to move to, which guns first, second, third etc.. We also need to be safe.

The second issue is moving your feet after the gun has been levered or cocked. It has been noticed that there are a few people who like to shuffle their feet around after they have either levered or cocked a gun. Remember the basketball rule, one foot must remain planted and you can move the other foot to try and get a better line of sight to the target.

Non-compliance to the rules will result in the shooter being assessed a safety penalty. We are there to have fun, but we must above all be safe. Safety comes first.

From the Shooters Handbook

“A shooter with firearm in hand shall never be allowed to move with a live round under a cocked hammer. Movement is defined the same as “traveling” in basketball. Once the fire-arm is cocked, one foot must remain in place on the ground until the firearm is made safe.”

THANKS!

A big ole cowboy thanks goes out to Buster and Sunny Girl for preparing the spaghetti for our lunch in January and to Vigilante Hash Slinger for getting it ready for us to eat and serve us. Sunny literally busted her butt in an effort to help Buster! Just ask her about it!

Thanks also to all the ladies that do the outstanding job of registration and scoring!

And thanks to everyone that shoots with us and make the Mt. Valley Vigilantes the best Cowboy Action club around! We really

appreciate you coming out to shoot with us and making our club what it is! We realize you have a choice where to shoot and we appreciate you choosing us!

January MVSA General Meeting

If you read this in time – remember you have a chance to win a full membership if you are an existing member and attend our Quarterly General Meeting Thursday January 15 at the Hot Springs Elks Club. There will also be a presentation of NRA’s Don’t Be a Victim course. This would be a great time to bring your spouse along!

NEXT MVV SHOOT

FEBRUARY 7TH

See you February 7th / 8th! Looking back over last year’s news, we had a record turnout of 70 shooters in February with 4 new shooters. Bring a friend February 7th and let’s see if we can break that record.