

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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The Cowboy Way

Willy Fire / Tim Metcalf

April turned out to be another outstanding shoot for the Mt. Valley Vigilantes. We had a great turnout and the weather cooperated, especially on Saturday. We didn't set an overall record for attendance but we did set a new record for the month of April with 67 shooters on Saturday and 25 coming back on Sunday! I would be surprised if we didn't set a record for FUN though. Just when you think you have had the most fun ever, we have a new level of fun and excitement at Cowtown like we did in April.

The TOP TEN for Saturday were:

1. Lead Bane
2. Lie-N-Dog
3. Naildriver
4. Headstone Hunter
5. Dual Chambers
6. Dew R Dye
7. The Brisco Kid
8. Buster
9. Cherokee Sgt.
10. J.D. Redeye

Lead Bane not only came in first overall but he shot a clean match. Congratulations Lead Bane- that's quite an accomplishment!

After shooting for seven years one of our shooters that is always near the top of the score sheet shot his first ever clean match, anywhere! A huge Mt. Valley Vigilantes YEE HAW goes out to none other than Lie-N-Dog. And man when you are hot – you are hot. He followed up on Sunday with another clean match! Two in a row – OH MY! Not to take anything at all away from his excellent shooting skills – but it was noticed that he shot on a posse with ole Willy Fire the last couple of months and that possibly the tips picked up from me is what helped him get the clean matches. I have heard it said anybody can shoot slow and hit the targets, but Lie-N-Dog was able to shoot fast and get two clean matches! Congratulations Dog!



**LIE N DOG -TWO CLEAN MATCHES
IN ONE WEEKEND**

On Saturday we had 3 shooters with only one miss and receiving a Dagnabit award. Congrats to J.D. Redeye, Tombstone Shadow and Tarantula Jack.

The fun match on Saturday was just that – FUN! Teams of four were formed and shooting with a pistol, a pistol, a rifle and then a shotgun a 2x4 had to be shot in half. Let me tell you. A 2x4 that is swinging in the wind is hard to hit with a .38!

Sunday had us getting a late start because of rain. But as is the cowboy way we hung in there and were able to get the match in.

Top 3 Men / Sunday	Top 3 Women
1. – Naildriver	1. Kiamichi Queen
2. - Lie-n-dog	2. Shoot Fire
3. - Copasetic Kid	3. Ima Dunit

Clean matches went to Naildriver and Lie-n-Dog! Dagnabits went to Roadmaker and Christmas Kid. We not only had lots of fun but also some mighty fine shooting!

After the cowboy action shooting was done Sunday several folks went over to IDPA and had lots of fun shooting their automatics. I suggest you at least go check out the IDPA range after our Sunday match in May, but be careful you may get hooked! Shoot cowboy action Sunday morning then head over the hill and shoot IDPA at 1 pm.

THANKS!

We had a second Saturday workday on April 11 and had a great turnout. Thank you to Ole Jimbo, Rico Ranger, Headstone Hunter, Rowdy Bob, Whittler Rex, Denny the Kid, Kowboy Koo, Bulldog McGraw, Christmas Kid and Deadeye Duke for all the work! Several projects were completed including placing some new target stands which really increase the resonance (a fancy word for dinging). Be sure and come out in May to check these out!

THANK YOU BRISCO KID!



The Brisco Kid offered to stick around Saturday after the shooting was done and give a tune up clinic. This is further proof that cowboy action shooters are the best folks you will ever meet. After shooting all day and then selling lots of goods to keep us cowpokes in supplies, Brisco offered to do this class free of charge. Everyone that attended his class came away with some great tips. Thanks again Brisco – we really appreciate you!

And also thanks to Critter for setting his tent up and offering a great deal on some cowboy / cowgirl duds! We truly appreciate all our vendors.

SHOOTER'S SPOTLIGHT



WAR EAGLE / LARRY HUGHES

The shooter in the spotlight this month is War Eagle / Larry Hughes. War Eagle is a very valuable member to our club. He is one of those cowboys that if we have a workday planned; you can count on him to

be there unless he has a scheduling conflict. He often arrives at the range early on shoot days and helps get things ready by helping any way he can. What is so cool about War Eagle is that I have never seen him do anything to draw attention to his efforts or expect to be recognized for his contributions. He just helps out because that is the cowboy way.

War Eagle came up with his alias after several attempts at a unique alias only to find out it was already taken. He said, "I decided to take a look at the area I grew up in and came across a place in NW Arkansas. I always enjoyed a place called War Eagle that is just a little south of Beaver Lake. I always liked this place so I took my name from it."

War Eagle has been in sales since 1969 and recently became semi-retired. He said, "Once he got started in sales he never could get away from it." Sounds like what happens to someone when they try Cowboy Action Shooting don't it? His hobby other than shooting is golf. He claims to not be very good, but I bet he is using modesty trying to snooker somebody on a bet.

In War Eagle's words when asked who he would most like to spend a day with one on one his reply was "every day I get to spend with all the shooters at Mt. Valley Vigilantes is just the best, it would be too hard to pick one in particular." His modest demeanor came out again when asked of his proudest accomplishment. His response was "I am just proud to be here."

War Eagle started shooting about 4 years ago with a group in Lincoln called Running With The Regulators. The funniest thing he can remember from shooting happened about six months ago. It was at the gallows at MVV. He says, "the next shooter behind me had the same style shotgun as I did. I have had a few upgrades to mine but they looked

identical. When called to shoot I grabbed my rifle and a shotgun and up the stairs I went. As soon as I fired the first round from the shotgun I realized it sure wasn't mine! I had accidentally picked up the other person's shotgun. Needless to say that stage was a train wreck, but I seem to have them all the time."

As for the oddest thing War Eagle can recall, "at the train stage, I pulled my first pistol and fired. At that point the ejector rod and spring went flying out on the ground!"

If you have the pleasure of shooting on a posse with War Eagle you'll see him firing Uberti 45 caliber pistols, a puma 1892 rifle and usually (his own) 12 gauge side by side. The other thing you will notice if you are lucky enough to be on his posse is that he is one of those truly genuine nice fellas! He exemplifies the cowboy spirit. And tell him thanks for the behind the scenes stuff he goes about doing unnoticed.



**The future of our sport!
Gunshooter is a hoot to shoot with
and a great little cowboy!
Be sure and shake his hand next
time you see him.**

**Movie Quote: "Let's go home
Debbie". Look for answer later in
this newsletter.**

BULLDOG'S BYTES

By Bulldog McGraw

Record Book

Train: No Changes

Corral: Lie-N-Dog moved into First, Lead Bane following behind into Second, and Rowdy Bob dropped to Third

Bank: We have a complete change- Naildriver, Lead Bane, Dual Chambers

Jail: First and Second remain the same – Naildriver, Naildriver, Lead Bane

Mercantile: Naildriver took over First followed by The Brisco Kid, and DC Guns Dropped to Third

Livery: Naildriver is again in First, Dropping Curly Hombre to Second, and Rowdy Bob to Third

I hope every one had a great time at Aprils shoot we had a great crowd of 67 shooters, although this was not a range record it was a record for April shoots. So far this year we are averaging 63 shooters per month. Last year we average 53 shooters per month we are on the path of having a record year. On that note I would like to thank all of you for coming to our monthly shoots we have a great group of family and friends and a special thanks to all of you that have helped in the upkeep of the range. Shoot'n in the Shade is just around the corner and we already have 43 registered shooters. This same time last year we only had 30 registered shooters we have a good start on filling up again this year.

For those who have not heard the theme for this year shoot is going to be from the movie Shanghai Noon. I have heard from a very reliable source that the skillfully clever so called scenario writer has some interesting ideas for this years shoot. We still have some work to do around the range to get ready for SIS and there are only four working Saturdays until the shoot. In recent years we have had our work days on the third Saturday of each month, this interfered with the cowboy long range so this year we have moved our work day to the second weekend of each month so people can also participate in the cowboy long range. Depending on how the MVSA board meeting goes this coming Monday night as to whether we can get the money to build a new stage before SIS. I am going to keep what the stage will be a secrete for awhile longer, but it has the opportunity to allow that skillfully clever scenario writer to really mess things up.

I hope to see everyone at the May shoot
Bulldog McGraw

COWBOY LONG RANGE IS BACK!

By Christmas Kid

The Deer and the Buffalo better start worrying the Cowboys are again tuning-up their rifles. The Cowboy Long Range Rifle competition officially started as of March 21st with a 10 person turn out, despite the weather. I'm not sure but I think I saw some dirt-dobber nests come out of a barrel or two. It was a long winter lay-off, and was evident that some of us had not been practicing a great deal. We had a couple of new shooters this time and one of them gave us a shooting lesson at 200 yds. I feel sorry for "TK Kid" having that long ride home with someone who out-shot us all !! His daughter Tina shot 10 out of 10 at 200 yds. Good shooting Tina. Bad Charlie had a clean run at 300 yds. with a 10 out of 10 (he may have snuck in a little practice). Remember Cowboy Long Range 3rd Sat. each month, registration at 9am shoot at 10am. till finish. Bring your lunch.

First three awarded at each distance.

100 yd. Pistol Caliber

1. TK Kid
2. Bad Charlie
3. Christmas Kid

200 yd. Big Bore Lever

1. Tina
2. Riley Roy
3. Bad Charlie

300 yd. Big Bore Single Shot

1. Bad Charlie
2. Riley Roy
3. Christmas Kid

Those in attendance were: First Timers, Bulldog McGraw, and Tina.

Wyoming Rattler, Bad Charlie TK Kid, Riley Roy, Arctic Ranger, Des Arc, Rico Ranger, Christmas Kid.

Come join us 3rd Sat. next month.

WHAT IS SO GREAT ABOUT COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING!

An editorial by Willy Fire

I had sent a friend of mine from church a link to view our club on YouTube. The next time I saw him he said, "you seem to really get excited about that cowboy stuff. What is so great about it?" Well it got me to thinking.

Here is what is so great about cowboy action shooting, especially from my experience with the Mt. Valley Vigilantes.

With cowboy action shooting, you form a bond and a fellowship with fantastic people that will truly do anything in the world for you. Even if it means loaning you equipment or ammo that might just allow you to beat them at the game.

In cowboy action shooting, one can escape all the worries of the real world, if only for a day. A person can have so much fun, that they can forget about the fact they were laid off from their job and how difficult it may be to find a new job in these economic times. All your cowboy friends that have heard the bad news surround you with such a friendship and genuine concern that you forget what you are going through back in the real world.

In cowboy action shooting, a child and their parent that may not have had the best of relationships for the past few years can reconnect and become closer than they would have ever imagined.

In cowboy action shooting, a youngster that may not get the attention they deserve at home can come out and feel like they are a part of a family. A family that offers

them support by cheering for them with every shot they make. Heck, even kids need to be able to forget about their sorrows and pains.

In cowboy action shooting, you can spend time with your spouse that helps you have a common bond. You get so caught up in fun and excitement that as a couple; if only for a little while, you forget about the issues facing both of you at home.

With cowboy action shooting, grown men and women can sit around a camp fire after a day of shooting and sing silly songs and do silly dances and not *everyone* thinks they are totally crazy, they are just having a good time with great friends.

In cowboy action shooting; if only for a day, one can feel support and camaraderie that most of the world never ever gets to experience. If only everyone in the world could spend one day at a cowboy action shoot, just imagine what a better place our world would be. Invite a friend to come out with you and see how great things can be! Cowboy action shooting – the way the *world* should be!

Answer to movie quote trivia: The Searchers (1956)

Calendar

Thursday 4/16 MVSA General Meeting
for Members Election results announced
6:30 pm Elks Lodge Hot Springs,

AR

Saturday April 18 Cowboy Action Long
Range MVV

Registration starts @ 9 Shooting at
10

Sunday 4/26 True Grit

www.truegrit45.homestead.com

Saturday 5/2 Mt. Valley Vigilantes

Sunday 5/3 Mt. Valley Vigilantes
IDPA 1 pm

Saturday 5/9 MVV Work Day

Outlaw Camp

www.outlawcamp.com