

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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BULLDOG'S BYTES

By Bulldog McGraw

I would like to thank everyone that came to our May shoot despite the weather. We had a shaky start with the rain letting up just enough to get started then having the bottom fall out right after lunch. We had a few shooters that stuck it out and shoot all six stages and we also had some shooters that the weather got to and had to stop shooting through out the day. For this reason we will not give out any ribbons for the May shoot, no updates to the record book and the score sheet is sorted by category and then by alias alphabetically.

For those who missed our May shoot we paid our last respects to the MVV Stage Line. In an effort to improve our range we have decided to build another covered stage in the area occupied by the Stage Line. So the MVV Stage Line has been retired to make room for our new stage which will be a Barber Shop. This last work day the wagon was moved to the corral area, giving us some interesting scenario opportunities between the cart and the wagon both at the corral. The new stage was staked out and ready for construction.

For those who have not heard the rain has

struck us again at the range. There was so much rain last week that the creek overflowed it's banks again and has made the livery and gallows stages un-shootable. Boot Hill needs a little work but could be used. It could have been worse if Gentleman G had not made the creek deeper last year. The rain washed so much dirt and rocks into the creek you can not even tell any work had been done. To see this happen two years in row is a little dishearten to many who have put a lot of time and effort into this range but we will overcome, adapt and keep going.

Thanks again for everyone's hard work and help in keeping our range a place for all of us to enjoy.

Bulldog McGraw

This month's movie quote is:
My Mistake-Four Coffins

Look for the answer later in the newsletter.

Remember the Arkansas State Championship match is at True Grit May 29-31. The registration states the deadline for entry is May 18th. I have not heard how close it is to full but I suggest you act quickly if you plan to attend.

SHOOTER'S SPOTLIGHT



J.D. REDEYE / JIMMY DICKSON

This month the person in the Shooter's Spotlight is J.D. Redeye. Anyone would be hard pressed to find a better example of what cowboy action shooting is all about! At the young age of 74 he is constantly being complimented on his steady style. Now here is a fella that steps up to the line and consistently fires off rounds like there is nothing to it. Most folks 1/3 of his age would love to be as consistent and as smooth as this man is. Heck, J.D. Redeye is SOOOO good that he is our reigning MVSA OVERALL CLUB CHAMPION! He put a solid butt whooping on the others that competed for this honor. All venues were shot and Mr. J.D. Redeye put it on go and cruised to the championship.

But even more important, J.D. and his lovely bride both exemplify what the cowboy spirit is! They are always willing to do their share and furnish great lunches for our monthly matches several times a year. You just can't beat his chicken spaghetti! He even battled off pneumonia to drive up from Magnolia, Ar. just to deliver lunch because in his words "I said I'd bring lunch and here it is!" Then they proceeded to go back to Magnolia and

he was immediately admitted to the hospital. Now that is an example of a cowboy that keeps his word! But of course because he is so genuinely humble he would never want you to know that (oooops).

J.D. said the thing *he* enjoys most about cowboy action shooting is the fellowship with fantastic people. He stated "we have made so many friends thru our association with SASS that we would have never had the opportunity to meet otherwise. And of course the shooting itself is great fun". His other hobbies include big bore rifle shooting and simply traveling with friends.

In his typical J.D. Redeye fashion; when asked what he did as a career he said "well before I got soooo old I was an extrusion superintendent for Alcoa Aluminum in Magnolia, Ar. I retired after 43years" (editor's note: somebody besides me please ask him what in the tarnations an extrusion specialist is – I am scared he might try to demonstrate it on me).

If he could spend one day with any cowboy action shooter in the world J.D. said it would be "Texas Ranger / Ed Seiker. There are a lot of experts I could learn a lot from, but Ed is an older shooter who is very steady and knows the problems facing you when you are *really* old."

J.D. shoots 38 Ruger pistols, M-73 in 38 caliber and a SKB 12 gauge. Usually he shoots his own guns. However; he said the funniest thing he can recall happening is "a few years ago I came to Hot Springs to shoot and left my pistols AND leather back at home in Magnolia. Ozark Outlaw loaned me his and that is the first and only time I ever beat him!)

But then the oddest thing that has happened to him is also kind of funny. "I got to the firing line & discovered I had not loaded my pistols! Of course

that is not as funny or odd as it is just stupid! And I did feel stupid!"

J.D. said "I have been shooting cowboy action 9 years. You would think I would have learned more by now." Then he turned around and said his proudest accomplishments "were winning the Elder Statesmen category at Southwest Regionals and of course being the reigning MVSA Overall Club Champion." Sounds to me like Mr. J.D. Redeye has learned plenty.

J.D. Redeye came up with his alias way before cowboy action became popular. He said "it started as a joke 40 years ago at a muzzle loading competition and it just stuck."

Fellow shooters, if you are lucky enough to see this cowboy at the range, spend some time with him because I am not sure if they are making any more quite like him.

Thank you Mr. J.D. Redeye for showing us what the true cowboy spirit is all about. Whether it is complimenting a shooter, giving words of encouragement to a newbie or even beaming with excitement when someone tells you they have quit smoking and giving them a big ole bear hug, you are one of the ultimate cowboys! We love having you as a part of MVSA and enjoy your time in *The Shooter's Spotlight*.

The answer to this month's trivia question is A Fistful of Dollars (1964)

IMPORTANT NOTICES!

Due to the storm damage done to the range, building of the new stage and overall preparation for Shoot'N In The Shade; Cowboy Long Range is being temporarily suspended until further notice. If there is a club member that feels they would like to manage the long range

on the third Saturday of every month talk to Christmas Kid or Bulldog McGraw. This would involve total responsibility for setting up targets, scenarios, managing the match and clean up.

NO TRESPASSING

Some of our recent damage could have been avoided. There are small berms and trenching between the school house and the fence dividing us from the skeet /trap fields. Some folks chose to keep driving over these. By doing so you minimize their effectiveness and this allows water to make it's way to Cowtown instead of the trench doing it's job and directing it to the proper area. You are also risking damaging the septic system located in that area.

As you will also notice posts have been placed in the driveway to keep traffic from driving all the way to the firing line. Already some people are choosing to drive *around* the barriers and drive over areas not designed for traffic.

When the poles are in place please do not drive around or past the pole barriers!

Thanks for your help with these issues! Okay; enough with housekeeping duties and back to the news.

THE COWBOY WAY

By Willy Fire

As Bulldog mentioned earlier the weather kind of got to us again, in several ways. First it messed up our Cowboy Long Range match. While it ended up that we could have shot a full match and not got wet, too many folks listened to the weather and got scared away so we didn't have enough show up to shoot. On our regular match day on May 2 we had a great turnout, especially considering all the regional matches that happened to fall on our regular shoot day. We made it until right after lunch without too much wetness but then the bottom fell out. Some posses

only had covered stages left to shoot and were able to proceed but the posses that were shooting in the open got quite a drenching. And then the week of May 4th we were deluged with a lot of heavy rain and quite a bit of damage was done to our beloved Cowtown again. If anybody wants to buy a beautiful babbling brook please buy the one going thru the middle of our range and take it away!

I have heard that the folks that shoot with The Mtn. Valley Vigilantes really represented us well at the other regional matches they attended. Due to not having a complete list and at the risk of leaving someone out I am not going to attempt a list here. I would almost bet there will be some bragging going on at our next match though! As I have heard it said “if you can shoot *good* at the Mt. Valley Vigilantes you can shoot *great* at most other ranges!” Congratulations to everyone that had a great match as you visited other venues.

We had a great turnout for our workday May 9th. Due to the very hard work of several folks the Stageline has been relocated. Several of the fences that were damaged in the flood were repaired and lots of other projects got done. Thank you to Ole Jimbo, Headstone Hunter, Bulldog McGraw, Christmas Kid, War Eagle, Kowboy Koo, Dakota Vigilante, Nobody, Yazoo Slim. Ole Willy Fire here had some stuff going on and got to the range late and was called a few new aliases – but I did manage to provide a little help.

Congrats to Rowdy Bob / Bob McDaniel. He recently retired from his job in Smackover. He and his lovely bride Vigilante Hashslinger have relocated and are now residents of the Hot Springs area. Rowdy Bob also wishes to thank everyone for their vote in electing him as Vice President of our club. I have no doubt he is going to be a great addition to our club leadership!

Calendar

Saturday May 16 **NO MVV COWBOY
LONG RANGE**

Sunday 5/24 True Grit

www.truegrit45.homestead.com

May 29-30-31 State Championship @
True Grit

www.truegrit45.homestead.com

Saturday 6/6 Mt. Valley Vigilantes

Sunday 6/7 Mt. Valley Vigilantes
IDPA 1 pm

Saturday 6/13 MVV Work Day

Outlaw Camp

www.outlawcamp.com

REMINDER

SHOOT'N IN
THE SHADE

REGISTRATION FORM IS
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT

<http://mvvcowboys.homestead.com>

We are limited in the number of shooters we can take, so get your registration in early.