

She-Bang A Bang Up Success

Bullets, Barmaids & Bacon Best Ever

by Mad Trapper of Rat River



It's late Sunday afternoon, **Wanderin' Rose** and I have just unloaded the rig after spending the weekend at the 5 Dogs Creek She-Bang. We are exhausted, each carrying an extra five pounds in dust and/or pounds on our person, and more importantly we are exuberant. So much so that I felt it necessary to sit down and write an article before the old memory faded into the sunset. If you missed this shoot you missed a good one. Permit a few moments to tell you what happened. Then you can mark next October on your calendar now.

RV's started arriving on Thursday and work started immediately preparing the range for the big event. Bloomers proudly waved from flagpoles at every bay and pink bows were abundant. Why pink? Well it's not only a "female" color but the ladies at 5 Dogs chose the San Joaquin Community Hospital Cancer Foundation (A.I.S.

Cancer Center) as their charity for this year. As October is cancer awareness month what could be more appropriate? **Foxi**

Schoolmarm was Bloomer and Bow Supervisor among many other duties she tirelessly performed throughout the weekend.



More RVs arrived on Friday and by sundown there were 20 rigs camped. That night we enjoyed tube steaks cooked on the BBQ along with chili, scalloped potatoes, and for desert s'mores and an exceedingly rare delicacy--- chocolate covered bacon. The weather was perfect, the steaks were delicious and the camaraderie excellent. However, Saturday morning we had to shoot, so **U. K. Dane** brought the festivities to a close by playing Taps on the bugle.

Oh I forgot to mention that Mr. Dane and his better half **Cruzan Confusion** were also named winners in the Friday Night Costume Contest. Now you know they are often winners when it comes to cowboy sartorial garb. However, this was particularly significant because there was no contest. Get it?



Saturday the range was invaded by 57 shooters lining up to register and buy their Dog-Nabits. For \$10 you could buy 5 Dog-Nabits and use them to erase misses during the match. It's all in fun and for a good cause. **Lap Dog**, who was chair of the event, explained the rules for use of Dog-Nabits and we were off. Now men know that the mind of a woman works in strange ways. If there was ever a doubt about that fact it gets put to rest in a hurry at this match. How can I say this without being banished from the range and/or my place of residence? Hmm, let me just say that the stages were challenging and interesting.



If I say anymore I'm in deep --- well you get the picture. During the lunch break, after the morning match, **Wanderin' Rose** conducted a raffle and many prizes were awarded. Some were gag gifts, others were more significant. The fun was most people didn't know until after they selected. As they say on those disturbing info commercials on TV -- "But wait, there's more."

Now the real fun began Saturday afternoon at the side matches. **Calgary Kate**, ably assisted by **Mescalero**, ran a team shoot that was just hilarious. After the last shotgun blast the team that won consisted of **Sam Ootie, Rebecca West and Poison Oakley**.



Those feeling a bit antisocial and didn't want to participate in the team shoot had other choices. **Bones Brannon** brought his 22 calibre shooting gallery and a 22 calibre balloon race as a side match. Bones has agreed to bring this over during a regular monthly match as it is so much fun. **Miss Barah Lee Misditt** set up a BB Shooting Gallery and by the amount of "popping" one would have thought they were at the Olympic Games BB Tournament.



By Saturday night everyone was smiling and anticipating the gastronomic extravaganza with BACON as the main theme. The contest for Best Dish Using Bacon was a tie. It went to **Bo Bean** (Bacon Wrapped Chicken) and **Ms. No-No** (Bacon Cheese Pull Apart Bread). Again this was particularly significant as ---- wait for it ---- yup, there was no contest. Are ya getting it now???



Before the festivities began on Sunday morning, yours truly humbly took a knee and during a reverent ceremony became Gun Boy #25.





Sunday was a rerun with more “different” stages, even more prizes, and 53 shooters trying for the elusive gold dogs with a pink scarf. On Saturday there were 17 “clean” shooters.



Sunday was a new record at 5 Dogs Creek, there were 25 “clean” shooters, but only three “really, really clean shooters.” BUT WAIT, THERE’S STILL MORE.

We can't forget why all this happened now can we? **Calgary Kate** called Kevin Burton (AIS Foundation Board) to the stage and presented him with a check for \$1070.00 for the foundation. All the monies stay in Bakersfield. Kevin told us about the new Cancer Center on Chester Avenue and how it is "state of the art" and Bakersfieldians no longer have to travel to Los Angeles. **BUT WAIT, THERE'S STILL MORE!**



U. K. Dane came to the stage and took the microphone. Now some here didn't know him while others knew immediately what was about to happen. U. K. gave a heart wrenching speech about his mother dying from cancer, and how he was a cancer survivor. I saw more than a few wet eyes. Then on behalf of himself and Barbara, he matched the 5 Dogs check bringing the weekend total to \$2140. Bless you Robin and Barbara. They also became the newest members of 5 Dogs Creek.

So, here's to the ladies of 5 Dogs Creek; a toast of heartfelt gratitude for all your hard work, a salute for your righteous indignation in defense of your scenarios, but most of all, profound admiration for your cowgirl spirit and generosity. We hope you will rise to the occasion again come next October.

