

The Howler

at 5 Dogs Creek

February 2015

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From the 46 Connected Ranch

by Utah Blaine

Most of the details for the **Shootout at 5 Dogs Creek/SASS California State Championship** are in place: the tables and chairs and the awards have been ordered; the caterer, the Shriners, and the entertainment for May 1 and 2 have been confirmed; several vendors have registered and a couple of others have indicated they will be at the Shootout; and planning for the stage designs is underway. There are still a few decisions that have yet to be made a little later as scheduled on the work plan for the Shootout.

We are now **seeking volunteers** to staff the Shootout. Volunteers are needed for the side-matches on April 30, and for a variety of essential jobs on May 1, 2 and 3. Lap Dog is in charge of signing up volunteers; the sign-up sheets will be available at our regular March match for you to indicate how you would like to help out. She can be reached by email at dhansen2@bak.rr.com, or by phone at 661-301-8288. **It is essential that we have plenty of volunteers for the Shootout to run smoothly;** we do not want to embarrass ourselves in front of our guests.

As I indicated in my last column, there are a few repairs yet to be done around the range. One task that will take some effort is the construction of a façade on the office roof for our 5 Dogs Creek sign. There is also general clean-up of the range that we can get started during March. The final push to get last minute things done will be during the week prior to the day before the Shootout begins. Raking up some leaves, etc., "kicking" some weeds, or raking up some shotgun wads or filling in some "divots" as the mood moves you will make less for us to do in the week before our Shootout starts.

I have set aside the following days for a **work party: March 14, 21 and April 4, 11, 24-29**. I will post a schedule of "jobs" to be accomplished on each of these days. Again, some tasks we may have to repeat a couple of times, but they will be less monumental and much easier than if we put them off until the last minute.

And speaking of tasks, I would like to thank Mescalero, Calgary Kate, and Bull McFhearson for repairing the mesh shaded areas and Bix Bender for hauling the lumber for this project to the range! Also thanks to Sam Ootie who applied Thompson Water Seal to all of our facades and buildings!

If you have not done so already, please renew your membership! Dues are \$40.00 for a single membership; \$55 for a family membership. **You may pay your membership dues at the 5 Dogs Creek office at our regularly scheduled March match**, or you may download the membership form from our website and send it with your check made out to 5 Dogs Creek, P.O. Box 22305, Bakersfield, CA 93311.

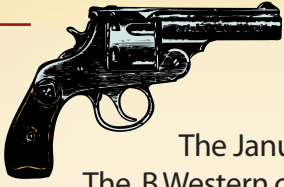
Our official address:

5 Dogs Creek

P. O. Box 22305

Bakersfield, CA 93311

All you cowboys and cowgirls out there keep your horse shod, your guns clean, and your powder dry. We look forward to seeing you all Saturday, February 28 and Sunday, March 1.



• • • • • The Sheriff's Log

by Fordyce Beals

The January 31st and February 1 match was sponsored by Calgary Kate and Mescalero. The B Western challenge was so much fun: one stage each day with one of the five possible B Western pistol styles. Many thanks to Calgary Kate and Mescalero for all the hard work!

Bo Bean and Fordyce Beals with support from Leia Tombstone are setting up the bays of the February 28 and March 1 matches.

Let me know if you are interested in sponsoring a match in 2015. fordyceleia@live.com

Clean Shooters



Clean Shooters Saturday
from left to right:
Tehachapi Hornn,
El Alacran Del Norte,
Badman Bob,
Jokerswild,
Bo Bean, and
Mad Dog Draper.
Not pictured:
Professor Cubby Bear.



Clean Shooters Sunday
from left to right:
Bix Bender,
Bull McFearson,
Rebecca West,
and El Alacran Del Norte.
Not Pictured: Cold Iron Charly
and Rattlesnake Rip.

★ Historical Note ★

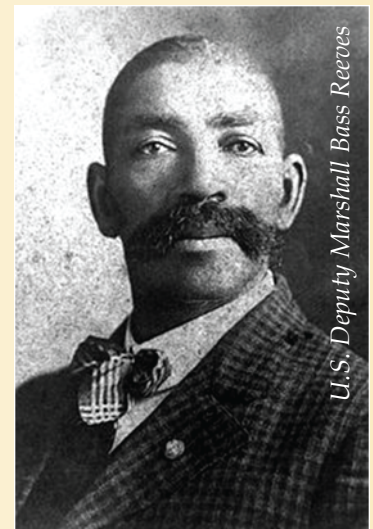


Judge Isaac Parker

Back in the 1800s the area we know as Oklahoma was called Indian Territory. It was land the U.S. Congress set aside to be the new homelands of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole nations; a home for only indigenous peoples. But it quickly became a sanctuary for runaway slaves, the home of many Anglos who circumvented the law by marrying local women, and a haven for bootleggers, horse thieves, and outlaw bands (Wilson 2015:61).*

The job of policing the Indian Territory was the responsibility of the U.S. Marshal at Fort Smith, Arkansas through his appointed deputy marshals who patrolled an area of 75,000 square miles. Justice was handed down from the courtroom of **Judge Isaac Parker** from 1875 to 1896 [often referred to as “the hanging judge”]. Judge Parker heard nearly 14,000 cases, of which some 344 were capital cases; he oversaw 79 legal hangings. During this time between 75 and 100 deputy marshals were killed in the line of duty (Wilson 2015:61).

One of the more interesting deputies was **Bass Reeves** (1838-1910), an African American and a former slave. Family and friends describe him as being 6’2” and weighing approximately 180 pounds. Because of his friendly nature and his intelligence he was often able to bring in wanted men without incident. It is estimated that he arrested more than 3,000 felons over the course of his career, and may have killed as many as 14. There were certain times during Reeves career that he used Peacemakers chambered in .45 Colt; however, he ultimately switched to rifles such as the Winchester models 1873 and 1892 because they chambered revolver cartridges; namely, the .38-40 and the .44-40, calibers which were also used by some other deputies. But there were deputies who preferred the Winchester models 1876 and 1886 chambered in .45-70 and other powerful loads of the day (Wilson 2015:61-64).



U.S. Deputy Marshal Bass Reeves

*Wilson, Jim. February 2015. “Frontier Lawman: Deputy U.S. Marshal Bass Reeves.” *American Rifleman*. Pp.61-64 and p. 96.



Bass Reeves (front row with cane) Muskogee, Indian Territory. White and Black policemen. c1900. Photo courtesy of Western History Collections, University of Oklahoma Library.

Photos from the B Western Challenge



CLUB CLASSIFIED SECTION and NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

If you have guns, boots, or other dry (or not so dry) goods that you would like to list for sale in the newsletter, please contact Kate Barlow at kate.dora@hotmail.com

- Pictures should be submitted in one of the following formats: JPG, TIFF, PDF, or PSD.
- Text should be submitted in a Word document or sent as plain text in an email message.
- DEADLINE: by the 14th of the month for the material to appear in that month's newsletter.