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February  
2023

# THE HOWLER

## At 5 Dogs

Latest news and updates

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5 Dogs Creek  
PO Box 20051  
Bakersfield, CA 93390

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2022-2023 Town Council

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Territorial Governor:  
Mad Trapper of Rat River  
[governor@5dogscreek.com](mailto:governor@5dogscreek.com)



February 2023

### **The Mayor's Anvil: Forging Understanding**

For the first time in 1,000's of rounds down range I got a squib in my 1873 Winchester replica. Both the timer operator and I could not hear the primer pop, but the next round would not chamber, and I did not try to force the lever. Declaring a malfunction, I set the rifle down and took the 5 misses for the unfired rounds. At the unloading table a range rod confirmed the bullet was in the lead of the barrel and pushed it back to the chamber. Now I had both the squib bullet and the unfired next round trapped in the center of the lifter. The rules say you must clear all fire arms before they can leave the unloading table with one other additional option: be escorted off the firing line by a match official. Failure to follow this rule results in a match disqualification. A trip back to my gun cart got the tools I needed to disassemble the rifle to the point where the lifter came out the top of the action clearing the unfired round and squib bullet. I put all the parts in a canvas bag and reassembled the rifle after the match. I finished the match shooting my wife's rifle. With Cowboy action shooting new and novel things come up and that is part of the attraction. I am thinking of getting a powder check die to prevent a recurrence. See you on the firing line.

Fordyce Beals  
Mayor

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# Monthly

## Shooting Schedule:

Office opens at 8:00  
Shooter's meeting 8:30

Saturday, March 4,  
9:00 a.m.

Town Council Meeting  
after match scores are read.

Come One,  
Come All Members!

Sunday, March 5,  
9:00 a.m.



# Happy St. Patrick's Day 5 Dogs Family

## 2023

### MATCH CALENDAR COME AND JOIN US:

**MARCH 4 & 5**

**APRIL 1 & 2**

**MAY 6 & 7**

**JUNE 3 & 4**

**JULY 1 & 2**

**AUGUST 5 & 6**

**SEPTEMBER 2 & 3**

**SEPT 30 & OCT 1**

**NOVEMBER 4 & 5**

**DECEMBER 2 & 3**

## THE CLEAN SHOOTERS

### Saturday 2/4:

**Badman Bob**

**Chick Ma**

**Dutch Longhorn**

**Lap Dog**

### Sunday 2/5:



*Fordyce Beals, Lap Dog, Montego  
(Missing: Badman Bob)*

# Rain on the Range After the February Match

Pictures by Lap Dog





*January sunrise over 5 Dogs by Utah Blaine*

# More Great “Shots”



*Mountain snow by Utah Blaine*



*Morning Moon by Utah Blaine*

## RANGE WRANGLER'S NOTES

Nothing much to report since the last issue. The same things still need attention, namely:

1. The bathroom doors will need more than "tweaking" to make them secure and open easily.
2. The boardwalk in front of the bathrooms needs to be replaced.
3. The facades on the bays need to be waterproofed.
4. Construction of two new loading tables like the one on Bay 2.
5. Repair and/or replace unloading tables.
6. Repairs are needed on some of the facades. I encourage Bay Proprietors to look at their respective bay and let me know what needs to be done in terms of repairs.
7. Weed and grass control in the general areas as well as in the bays.
8. Make the shower workable.

I have made inquiries about the construction of the two new loading tables with cowboys involved with that process. And I have made an inquiry with a cowboy that may actually know what needs to be done to fix the shower to make it workable. And I have also made inquiry with the cowboy and cowgirl who know what it takes for weed and grass control. And on another note, the locks on the Cook Shack will be changed and the deadbolt and door lock keyed for a single key. Finally, I have not yet heard from any of the bay proprietors' concerning any repairs that may be needed on their bays. One proprietor did mention that the "awning" over the boardwalk need to be lifted, a relatively simple fix. **And Bay 1 needs a proprietor!** So, if anyone is interested, please contact me at your earliest opportunity.

Utah Blaine  
Range Wrangler



## THE SHERIFF'S LOG

Howdy to All,

What a fine month February is shaping up to be (after all that rain) and hopefully the luck of the Irish will be on us as we get ready to shoot those pesky targets in March! The February match was put on by two match writers who were previously rained out, Professor Cubby Bear (December) and Miss Barah Lee Misditt (January). They were both almost rained out again but fortunately the rain held off and the ground was firm enough to shoot on both days. Both days were a lot of fun, had some challenges, and made you think on occasion. But what fun it was! A big thank you to both for providing us with excellent stages.

If you missed the match in February, come out in March as Fordyce Beals will be putting on the match and I anticipate his stages to be as good as they always are. I'm trying to read Fordyce's mind on this, but since he is a 'gunfighter' I expect one, or more, gunfighter friendly stages!

At the February match there were two occasions when a gun malfunctioned and needed to be worked on at the unloading table. Unfortunately, both times it happened on the small unloading tables. I'd like to remind everyone to use extra caution in these circumstances, there is little room when this happens, and mistakes can be made. I know the range wrangler is working on getting bigger unloading table, but in the meantime be careful, be safe!

See you at the range and watch for that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow!

Lap Dog  
Sheriff 5 Dogs Creek



# **COWBOYS & COWGIRLS TAKIN' CARE OF BUSINESS**



*FEBRUARY 5, 2023 Town Council meeting*



## **Territorial Governor's News:**



Mad Trapper of Rat River shared to following insightful information he has gleaned from the Territorial Governor's wire:

### **ILLEGALLY ACQUIRED AMMUNITION**

p. 27 "Illegally acquired ammunition is any ammunition not carried to the line and/or staged by the shooter in an approved manner."

p.22 (5-Second Penalties) "Each target hit with illegally acquired ammunition."

p.23 (10-Second Penalties) "Use of illegally acquired ammunition."

Ex: Shooter has to engage 6 shotgun targets at the end of the scenario. Shooter knocks down 4 shotgun targets, then realizes they have no more shotgun shells on their shotgun belt. A spotter grabs 2 shotgun shells from their own belt and hands them

to the shooter. The shooter grabs the spotter's 2 shotgun shells, then engages the remaining SG targets, knocking down all 6 shotgun targets. (**Procedural and 2 Misses** – shooter used another person's shotgun shells to hit 2 targets. The shooter did not carry those shotgun shells to the line themselves.)

### **LIVE ROUND IN THE CHAMBER**

p. 15 "A shotgun is considered SAFE to leave the shooter's hands in the following condition only (some conditions may be corrected before firing the next firearm): - Empty".

p. 22 "Staging or discarding a long gun containing a live round in the chamber (once it leaves the shooter's hands).

Ex: Shooter engages rifle targets successfully, makes the rifle safe on the table, picks up SxS shotgun and loads two shotgun shells into the shotgun chambers. The shooter then realizes the pistols are to be shot next, so places the SxS down on the table with live shotgun shells still in the chamber but does not close the shotgun. The shooter engages the pistol targets successfully and holsters, then picks up the open shotgun, closes the action, then knocks down all of the shotgun targets. (**SDQ**)