
February
2024

THE HOWLER

At 5 Dogs

Latest News, Updates & More

5 Dogs
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CA 93390

2023-2024 Town

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Territorial Governor:

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The Mayor's Anvil: Forging Understanding By Mayor Fordyce Beals

A few quotes from Wyatt Earp who finished
his life in Los Angeles California in 1929

Wyatt Earp was the last surviving Earp
brother and the last surviving participant of
the gunfight at the O.K. Corral when he died at home in the Earps'
small rented bungalow at 4004 W 17th Street in Los Angeles, of
chronic cystitis on January 13, 1929, at the age of 80. The *Los
Angeles Times* reported that he had been ill with liver disease for
three years. He had no children.

What Wyatt said about the OK Corral

For my handling of the situation at Tombstone, I have no regrets.
Were it to be done over again, I would do exactly as I did at that
time. If the outlaws and their friends and allies imagined that they
could intimidate or exterminate the Earps by a process of murder,
and then hide behind alibis and the technicalities of the law, they
simply missed their guess. I want to call your particular attention
again to one fact, which writers of Tombstone incidents and
history apparently have overlooked: with the deaths of the
McLaury's, the Clanton's, Stillwell, Florentino Cruz, Curly Bill,

and the rest, organized, politically protected crime, and depredations in Cochise County ceased.

What Wyatt said about shooting

My name is Wyatt Earp. The most important lesson that I learned from proficient gunfighters is that the winner of a gun play usually was the man who took his time. The second thing I learned was if I hope to live long on the frontier, I would shun flashy trick shooting or grandstand play as I would poison. I was a fair hand with a pistol rifle or shotgun. But I learned more about gunfighting from Tom Spears cronies during the summer of '71 then I dreamed was in the book. Those Old-Timers took their gun play seriously, which was natural under the conditions in which they lived. Shooting to them was considerably more than aiming at a mark and pulling a trigger. Models of weapons, methods of wearing them, means of getting them into action, and operating them all to the one end of combining high speed with absolute accuracy all contributed to the frontiersman's shooting skill. They sought after degree of proficiency was that which could turn to most effective account the Split Second between life and death. Hours upon hours of practice and wide experience in actualities supported their arguments over style. When I say that I learned to take my time in a gunfight I don't wish to be misunderstood. For the time to be taken was only that split fraction of a second that means the difference between deadly accuracy with a six gun and a miss. It's hard to make this clear to a man who has never been in a gunfight. I suppose perhaps I can best describe such time taking as going into action with the greatest speed of which a man's muscles are capable but mentally unflustered by an urge to hurry or the need for complicated nervous and muscular actions which trick shooting generally involves. Mentally deliberate but muscularly faster than thought is what I mean.

Fordyce's comment

Wyatt was a true legend to the early Hollywood western film makers and actors. I find that reading his purported words make him much more believable to me than the many movies about him. Note that I get this stuff off the internet and not through formal scholarship, but it seems true to me.

Monthly **Shooting** **Schedule:**

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

Saturday, FEBRUARY 3

9:00 a.m.

Sunday, FEBRUARY 4

9:00 a.m.

**HERE'S TO A ROOTIN' TOOTIN'
VALENTINE'S DAY PARTNER!**



2024 MATCH **CALENDAR**

FEB 3-4

MAR 2-3

APR 6-7

MAY 4-5

JUN 1-2

JUL 6-7

AUG 3-4

AUG 31-

SEP 1

OCT 5-6

NOV 30-

DEC 1

COME JOIN US FOR SOME FUN!



JUST KEEPIN' SCORE: LAP DOG & DOMINO BLAZE

THE JANUARY MATCH

SATURDAY CLEAN SHOOTERS:



**DUTCH LONGHORN, DB HAWKE,
LAP DOG**

Sunday Clean Shooters



COAL TRAIN, LAP DOG, FORDYCE BEALS, LEIA TOMBSTONE,
LUCKY LU, PINEBOX FILLER, DUSTBOWL DEBBIE



SOME SATURDAY MATCH SNAPS



SUNDAY MATCH SNAPS



RANGE WRANGLER NEWS



Not surprisingly, inclement weather, plus Christmas and New Year holidays, have gotten in the way of getting much done at 5 Dogs Creek. Now we have an additional complicating factor, Dave Olds is renting Bays 2,5, 6, and 7 for two hours at a time, of course for a fee. Consequently, if any work is to be done on any of the long-range targets it will likely have to be done during the days the range, 5 Dogs, is not on our Bays. This means Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday are the days uninterrupted work can be done by myself and any retired cowboys/cowgirls that may care to help. I suppose some of the work noted below could be done after our Saturday match has concluded, scores read, and lunch finished, but our match days are supposed to be fun and relaxing and not burdened with oppressive maintenance work.

Before listing the various tasks, I mentioned before, I was reminded that a matter of **some priority** is to replace the unloading tables with something more stable and with more room. **On Bay 2 and Bay 10 the loading tables were moved to become the unloading tables.** It is not necessary on the other bays that the unloading tables be as large as the loading tables, but a sizeable version of them would certainly be more stable, and provide more room than the very small, and sometimes a tad shaky, unloading tables we have been using.

In order of tasks I mentioned last month in the newsletter. **First**, completion of the roof/awning over Bay 3. But **second**, before that happens, the posts securing Bay 3 must be pulled back to make them straighter, so that Bay 3 does not lean forward. And **third** is the task of replacing the boardwalk, or securing the boardwalk, in front of the bathrooms. But there are also other tasks to complete.

Fourth is to secure a new roof over the five round, long range distance targets. **Fifth** is to secure the railroad ties above the long-range buffalo target; a couple seemed to have fallen from the roof.

Sixth is to dig out around the bell target, secure it so that it will swing loose. Perhaps we can figure out some to prevent dirt from piling up around the bell target. **Seventh** is to cut the grasses and weeds so that there is a clear line of fire to the long-range targets and to the bell. The **Eighth** task is to make sure the roofs on the bays are repaired and made secure.

Finally, just a reminder to those of you who are Bay Proprietors, it would be good to make sure weeds are cleared out of the bay, that shotgun wads are raked out, and that the deeper divots caused by lead or shot are filled in and smoothed over. **If you need help with bay maintenance, please let me know and I, or someone, will be there to help you.**

Just a heads up, it may still be a little cool for our February cowboy/cowgirl match, February 3-4, so many of the tasks mentioned above will likely be delayed until some warmer weather arrives. It will still be possible, of course, for bay proprietors to maintain their bays, at least those that are not being rented out and are not occupied. I plan on going out to 5 Dogs Creek periodically to check on what is going on out there and perhaps do a little light clean up. My hope is to be able to spend seven to 10 days out there in March to see if I, and whoever I can talk into coming out, can make some progress on a few of the heavy tasks. I will let you all know if that will work out for me in the next Newsletter.

So, saddle up and ride on down to our February cowboy/cowgirl match on February 3-4. Or perhaps I should say, start your vehicle engine, press the gas pedal, and ride on down with that horsepower.



Utah Blaine

THE SHERIFF'S LOG



Howdy All,

I hope the New Year is treating you well! The New Year started out with a BANG at the 5 Dogs Creek range on that first weekend of the New Year. The weather was cold but dry (except for some rain Saturday night which didn't affect the shooting at all), but it's winter so it should be cold. If we could just bottle some of that cold air for the summer months. Oh well....

Dutch Longhorn wrote the stages and as always, he did a great job. I didn't hear too many complaints, so I think that's a good sign. He also ran the Wild Bunch match and as always with that group, there was a lot of whooping and hollering! I suggest the next time he does a Wild Bunch match come out to shoot or watch, either way it is a hoot!

In November, thanks to Bonnie Kate, 5 Dogs Creek received a couple of Cadillacs*. The best way to start out a new year is with a new Cadillac, everyone knows that! Although Sequoia Kid is a little young (12) to drive a car, let alone a Cadillac, he was presented with a Cadillac on Saturday after the match to recognize he is the future of Cowboy Action Shooting. Besides, he's a really good shot and a lot of fun to be around! Hats off to Sequoia Kid! We all look forward to seeing him on the range for many more years! On Sunday, in recognition of all the laughter and smiles he brings out in everyone, Dutch Longhorn also received a Cadillac. May the kid in him continue to write stages, lead a Wild Bunch match, and just come out and shoot with us!

I've heard Coyote Carson is writing the stages for February, I haven't been able to confirm that with him yet. Either way, the February match is a great time to practice for End of Trail if you plan on going there. So come out in February and shoot with us and get all the rust out of your guns before heading to Arizona!

Lastly, I'm sure you've heard the club raised the membership fee and the monthly match fees. It was not a decision made lightly but needed to pay the bills. We hope that all of you will be able to continue to shoot with us, you are what makes 5 Dogs Creek the best Cowboy Action club this end of the San Joaquin Valley!

See you at the range,

Lap Dog

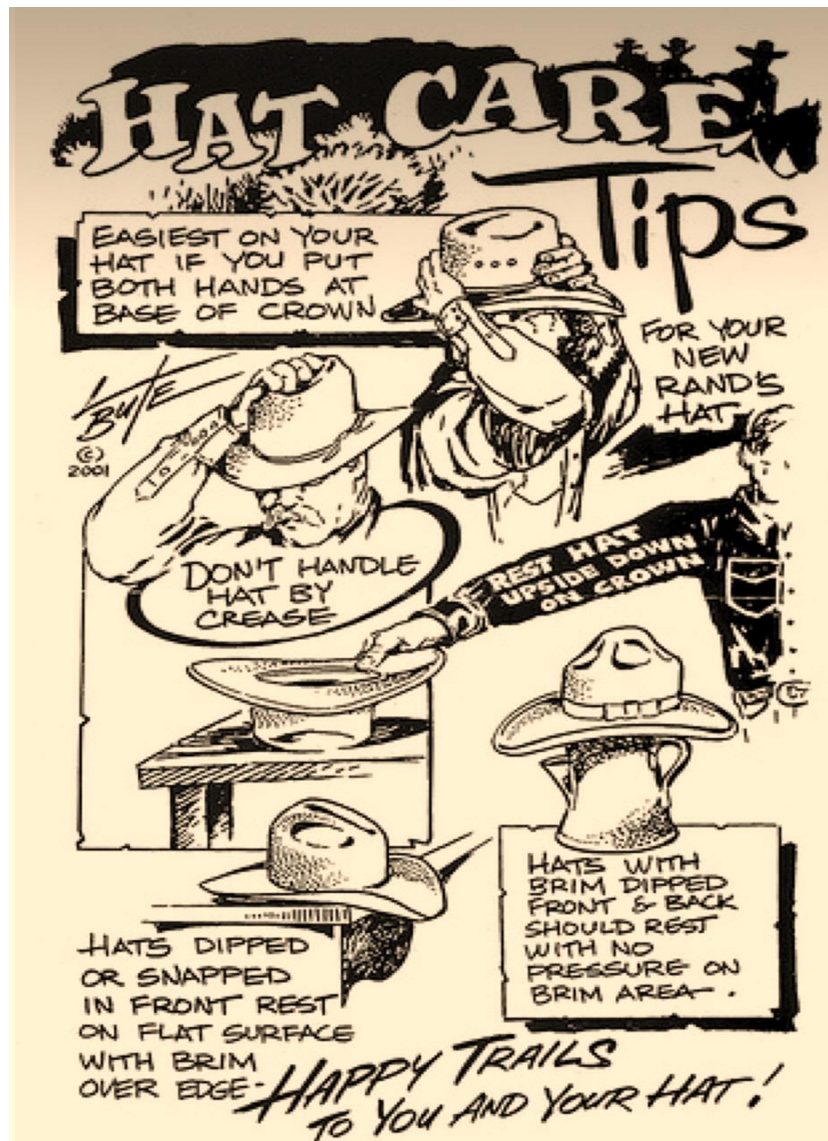


**HERE'S TO ANOTHER
GREAT YEAR OF COWBOY
ACTION SHOOTING!**

Territorial Governor's News:



Look for Professor Cubby Bear's
Words of Wisdom here soon.



Range-News

From Wanderin' Rose

The "Yuma Territorial Prison Breakout" was held recently in Yuma, AZ, and was well attended by at least 150 participants. Here are some of the noteworthy accomplishments by a few of our 5 Dogs family and friends:

Coyote Carson not only got First Place in 49er,
he was the **Overall Winner!**

Wanderin' Rose took First Place in Cattle Baroness, as
well as First Place in long range rifle pistol caliber

Not So Dead Eye Maverick was 2nd in Ladies Silver Sr.

Dead Eye Maverick was 3rd in Elder Statesman
(Side note: She beat him in the 12 Stage match by 1 second!)

Mad Trapper of Rat River was 3rd in Senior Gunfighter

Josie Albuquerque was 5th in Ladies 49er(?)

Dutch Longhorn placed 6th in Classic Cowboy

Congratulations To One and All!

Range-News (cont.)

While in Yuma, AZ for the “Yuma Territorial Prison Breakout”, Wanderin’ Rose and Mad Trapper were made aware of some new SASS Rules. Here’s what she sent us:

“A couple of things have changed (for the better, in my opinion).

- 1) The rule for the penalty of bringing the rifle from the loading table to the firing line cocked was changed. It was if caught before the rifle was put down, the shooter was to point it down range and pull the trigger. If no bang - no penalty. If it went bang, Stage DQ. If it wasn’t caught before setting it down, Stage DQ. The new rule takes away the auto DQ for setting it down. You still have to show the chamber is empty by the above process.
- 2) The previous rule made no exemption for the shotgun. The new rule treats the shotgun the same as the rifle.
- 3) There was a rule against adding a filler block in the lever of you rifle to make the opening smaller. This rule has been eliminated.”



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



Every cowgirl deserves a
man that will ruin her lipstick
and not her mascara!



FROM DOMINO BLAZE