
MARCH
2025

THE HOWLER
At 5 Dogs
Latest News, Updates & More

5 Dogs
Creek
PO Box
20051
Bakersfield,
CA 93390

2024 - 2025 Town

Council

Mayor:

Fordyce Beals
mayor@5dogscreek.com

Sheriff:

Lap Dog
sheriff@5dogscreek.com

Banker:

Leia Tombstone
banker@5dogscreek.com

Blacksmith:

OPEN

blacksmith@5dogscreek.com

Storekeeper:

Bull McFearson
storekeeper@5dogscreek.com

News Editor:

Domino Blaze
editor@5dogscreek.com

Range Wrangler:

OPEN

rangewrangler@5dogscreek.com

Telegraph Operator:

Montego
telegraph@5dogscreek.com

Territorial Governor:

Professor Cubby Bear
governor@5dogscreek.com



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

SMOKELESS BLACK POWDER

Smokeless Powder Black powder is comprised of three primary elements, sulfur, charcoal, and potassium nitrate (Saltpeter). The development and use powder traces its history back to 9th Century China. Black powder was supreme for nearly 1000 years before its successor, Smokeless Powder was developed.

There were several drawbacks with black powder. First, when it burns it creates a large amount of solids, approximately 55%. White smoke gives away the location of a single shooter and in a battlefield it can obscure everything. Black Powder loads typically are low pressure.

The development of Smokeless powder can be traced back to 1846 with the German Chemist Christian Friedrich Schönbein who developed nitrocellulose, known at the me as Gun Cotton. He was

Using the kitchen stove for experiments while his wife was away and wiped up a spill with a cotton cloth. When it was hung up cloth self-ignited leaving no ash. This composition was more powerful than Black Powder, and it was sold primarily as an explosive. Nitroglycerin was first developed in 1847 by Italian Chemist Ascanio Sobrero.

These two independent discoveries laid the foundation for what makes up the primary components of virtually all smokeless powders in use today. The development of a usable powder from these base chemicals took nearly 40 years from their initial discovery. This task was not easy because Sharpe's history of propellant evolution seems to include the phrase "plant blew up" in every third paragraph!

A curious fact may be noted here, that both nitroglycerin and guncotton first found their use in the United States, but not as explosives. In 1847, Dr. Maynard, of Boston, dissolved guncotton in ether and alcohol, using the solution, collodion, a highly flammable, colorless or yellowish syrupy solution used as an adhesive to close small wounds and hold surgical dressings, and used in 1848 by the British sculptor turned-photographer Frederick Scott Archer, who invented the wet collodion process, a means of producing negative images on glass plates. In 1848, nitroglycerin was found to have a great stimulating effect on the heart, if injected in minute quantities, and was so used in medicine.

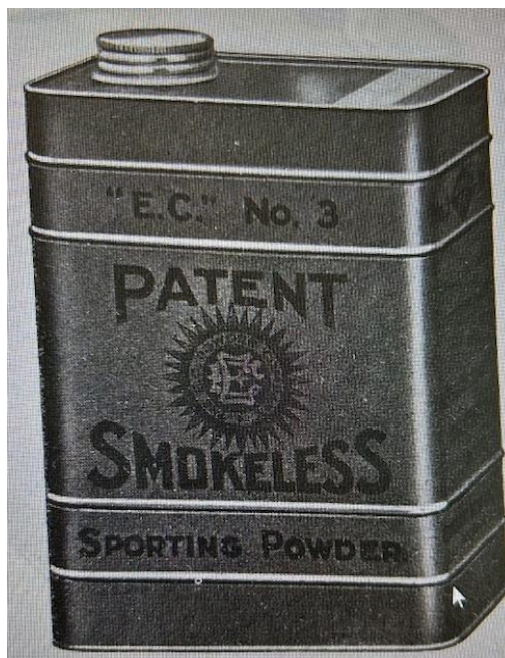
The first smokeless powder (Single Base Powder) was nearly entirely comprised of Nitrocellulose. The powder burned cleanly, giving off very little smoke, and resulted in higher muzzle velocities. In 1891 Alfred Nobel received a patent for Ballistite. This propellant used both Nitrocellulose and Nitroglycerin effectively creating the first Double Base powder.

EC (Explosives Company) shotgun powder was the first smokeless powder manufactured in the United States. Production began in 1890, and was discontinued in 1931

Early smokeless powders that are still useful for cowboy action today include: Bullseye smokeless pistol powder was introduced by Laflin & Rand in 1898 to replace L&R's "Smokeless Revolver Powder", and is

known for its rapid combustion, making it suitable for short-barreled handguns. It is considered one of the oldest smokeless powder

formulations still in production in the United States. Unique is a gray flake powder introduced by Laflin & Rand in 1900.





THE SHERIFF'S LOG

Howdy All,

I hope everyone had a 'sweet' Valentine's Day. Chick Ma provided lots of 'sweet treats' with her stages and even the weather was 'my Valetine!' That was really bad, wasn't it!

But it's true, Chick Ma wrote good stages and there were lots of cowgirls and cowboys out there putting lead down range. For all the shooters headed to End of Trail, I think Chick Ma's stages prepared you for that match. We welcomed a couple of cowboys out there that are new to Cowboy Action Shooting, but they won't be new for long. Looking forward to seeing them out at 5 Dogs Creek in March.

Speaking of March, Fordyce Beals is writing the stages for March. He's thinking about the State Championship in May so his scenarios will be keeping that in mind. He always writes good scenarios so it will be a lot of fun even if you don't plan on going.

I'd like to thank Sam Ootie for spraying the growing weeds at the range. Hopefully that will keep the weeds from overtaking the range and the bays.

I have a couple of safety issues: First, I'd like to remind everyone to carry their long guns with the muzzle up to avoid sweeping the loading and unloading officers, as well as others as you walk to and from your gun cart. Second, remember the shooter has the right-of-way going to and leaving the stage. The shooter needs a clear path. So, if you are spotting, picking brass or just watching, please stand back until the shooter is at the stage or the unloading table.

We will have a potluck Saturday night at the range so bring a dish to share or just join in with the laughter and conversation.

Don't forget, on Saturday the office opens at 9:00 am, the shooters meeting is at 10:15 am and the match starts at 10:30 am. Sunday's start time is our usual time, the office opens at 8:00 am, shooter meeting at 8:45 am and the match starts at 9:00 am.

See you on the range,
Lap Dog

Territorial Governor's News:

(Watch for the Professor's wise words of wisdom here again soon.)



Professor Cubby Bear
cubbybear29521@aol.com

MARCH
Shooting Schedule:

3/1, SATURDAY ONLY

Office opens at 9:30
Shooter's Mtg. 10:15
Match Starts: 10:30

3/2, SUNDAY

Office opens 8:00
Shooter's mtg. 8:30
Match Starts: 9:00



2025 MATCH
CALENDAR

MAR 1-2

APR 5-6

MAY 3-4

JUNE 5/31- 6/1

JULY 5-6

AUG 2-3

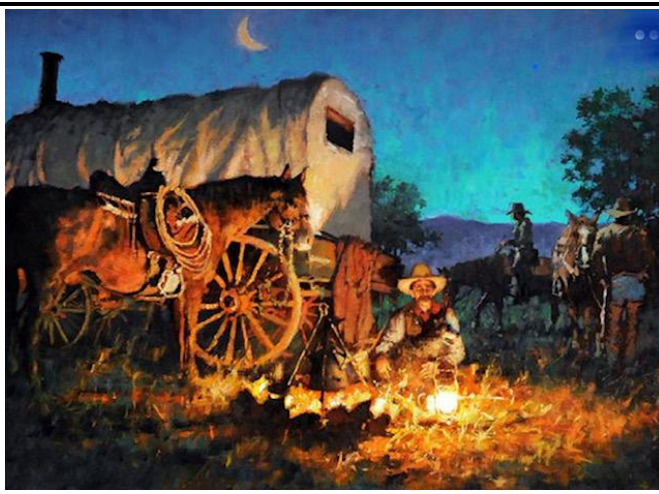
SEPT 6-7

OCT 4-5

NOV 1-2

DEC 6-7

COME JOIN US FOR SOME CAMPING FUN!



Saturday Evening, (6:00-ish):
Bring your favorite potluck grub to share.
Plates & utensils provided

SATURDAY CLEAN SHOOTERS



Shatterhand, Panhandle Red, Badman Bob,
Lap Dog, Chick Ma, Daisy Crockett

SUNDAY CLEAN SHOOTERS



Badman Bob, Dutch Longhorn, Fordyce Beals

(Sorry for the shadows gentlemen)

WANDERING AROUND with Utah Blaine



The History of the Zipper

[Elias Howe](#) in 1851 received a patent, as stated, for the "Improvement in Fastenings for Garments" (Wikipedia:3, Howe Jr. 1851). Even though it was more like a draw string he did not try to market it in any serious way, thus missing the recognition that he might otherwise have received (Wikipedia:3, Howe 1851)

Forty-two years later in 1893 there was a fellow by the name of Whitcomb L. Judson who patented a "Shoe-Fastening" (Wikipedia:3, Patent Filed 1892, Issued 1893). It was actually a "[hook-and-eye](#) shoe fastener." Although he is sometimes given credit as the inventor of the zipper, his "zipper" was never used in clothing.

The term *zipper* in North America was referred to as the UK *zip* or the *zip-fastener* on occasion. The [B. F. Goodrich Company](#) is where it came from in 1923 was used for closing boots and tobacco pouches, though not used in clothing. The first zippers for clothing came in 1925 by Schott NYC on leather jackets. (Wikipedia:5, *The History of the Zipper* and Cooper 2013)

The zipper actually derives its name from a brand of rubber boots, sometimes referred to as [galoshes](#), which the zipper was used on in 1923. The galoshes could be zipped up with a single zip of the hand. It was very short time before these hookless fasteners were referred to as "Zippers" (Wikipedia:1, [The History of the Zipper](#)).

The Prince of Wales gave zippers a boost when in 1934 he started wearing pants with a zip fly in them. However, it was not until 1937 that the zipper beat out the button in what has now been called the "Battle of the Fly" (Cabral 2021:2). Then the fashion industry began to embrace and use zippers in clothing. And French fashion designers began to faun over using zippers in men's pants. Also during the 1930s, zippers were also advertised as a way to

promote children's self-reliance and independence; zippers allowed children to dress themselves more easily (Cabral 2021:2). But it wasn't until 1954 that Levi's first introduced a special zippered version of its 501Z overalls, and it wasn't until the 1970s that zippers showed up on Levi's jeans (Cabral 2021:2).

And finally, if you see the letters YKK stamped on the pull tab of a zipper YKK stands for Yoshida Kogyo Kabushikikaisha, which translates Yoshida Company Ltd. Obviously it is a Japanese company which was started in 1934 by Tadao Yoshida, a company that today produces 1.5 billion zippers. Zippers today are produced YKK, KCC Zipper, and Tex Corp – or by one of the many Chinese zipper companies in the industry (Cabral 2021:3).

So, what does all of this tell us about zippers? It tells us that cowboys and cowgirls of the 19th Century West did not wear pants with zippers. In fact, there were no zippers in pants, including jeans until the mid-1930s of the 20th Century and not in Levi's jeans until the 1970s. Zippers in jeans and other pants are so common today we tend to think they have always been around. As the history of zippers makes clear, zippers in jeans haven't always been around, historically not until quite recently.

1. Howe, Elias, Jr. 1831) [*"Improvement in fastenings for garments"*](#), U.S. Patent Number 8,540 (November 25, 1851).
2. [*"The History of the Zipper"*](#). Ansun Multitech (India) Ltd. Archived from [the original](#) on 8 July 2012)
3. Judson, Whitcomb L. [*"Shoe-fastening"*](#) U.S. Patent Number 504,037 (Filed: August 17, 1892; Issued: August 29, 1893).
4. Cooper, Wilbert (8 March 2013). [*"The First Wild One: The Genesis of The Motorcycle Jacket"*](#). VICE. Retrieved 16 September 2014. Cabral, Lauren. [*"The History of Zippers."*](#) BACKTHEN. 2021.

DON'T FORGET TO ADD THIS TO YOUR CALENDARS!

WOMEN OF THE WEST

CLINIC & SHOOT

- HOSTED BY -
KINGS RIVER REGULATORS

SEPTEMBER
19th-21st
2025

CLOVIS - CALIFORNIA

THE WOMEN OF THE WEST - CLINIC & SHOOT EVENT IS A CHANCE FOR WOMEN OF COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING TO WORK ON THEIR SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR SPORT. WITH CLASSES TO TEACH YOU HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR STAGE TIME, TIPS & TRICKS ON HOW TO PREP FOR A STAGE. AND WAYS WE'VE LEARNED TO ADJUST CAS TO HOW WOMEN SHOOT - WE WANT EVERYONE TO BENEFIT FROM JOINING US. THE MENFOLK JOINING IN WILL HAVE THEIR OWN ACTIVITIES AND SHOOT ON THEIR OWN POSSES.

HOSTED BY THE KINGS RIVER REGULATORS, IN CLOVIS CALIFORNIA WITH DRY CAMPING AVAILABLE. STAY TUNED AS WE GET THIS UP AND RUNNING BY FOLLOWING ALONG ON THE FACEBOOK GROUP OR YOU CAN EMAIL US AT WOMENOFTHWESTCAS@GMAIL.COM

SAVE THE DATE SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2025!

And don't forget "Fat Tuesday" is March 4th!



That means:



Jambalaya



Crawfish boil party



Beignets and Café au lait



and the traditional King Cake