



SMOKE SIGNAL

Newsletter of the Alamo Muzzle Loading Gun Club, est. 1964

20

late September

20



At 6 Sep. Sunday's patched round ball match

Bill K. shot this very impressive 50 xx score at 25 yards on the vexing raccoon/ *mapache* target. The other shooters present signed the target, and Bill won a special patch for this marksmanship! Congratulations and kudos to Bill! Mighty fine shooting indeed.

RANGE NEWS:

After a punishing string of triple-digit summer temperatures, some rain finally came. As a result, some brush began to crop up in the firing lines. This was noted by a number of shooters.

A collection of shotgun shell hulls, .410 bore, were found far in front of the paved firing line on the 25-yard range. Again, this demonstrates that people are violating the rules and firing close to the target, and off the covered, paved area of the firing line. By now everyone knows that this is a violation of the safety rules. It happens very often, and continues to occur.

Social-distancing—skirmisher style:

Ian Straus's re-enactor shoot on 22nd August was held. He reported that "We had twelve participants besides me, including Gareth who is a member of the gun club.

We shot a couple of relays at 50 yards to get people sighted in. Then shot my usual shoulder to shoulder 1/2 size silhouettes, a volley and then fire by file. At this range and silhouette scale it's like shooting at a man size target at about 120 yards. Got a little better than 1/3 hits.

Then we sat out the thunderstorm. It's good that our range has a covered firing line.. Finished with a 'war'. a team event shooting at half gallon milk jugs. I got Gareth's parents to referee the teams. After three rounds one team of 6 had lost three (three of their jugs hit) vs. the other teams one. A hit and the ref taps the matching person on the shoulder, tells them they are out. It makes you think about how in an actual skirmishing fight one side would gain fire superiority."

See picture below.



I have been advised that the early October Texas Muzzle Loading Rifle Association's Brady State Shoot is ON! Good luck and good shooting to participants.

It is often the case that shooters interested in muzzle loading and black powder shooting sports contact the Alamo Muzzle Loading Gun Club and ask about the availability of bona fide, genuine black powder. I often wonder this myself. I do know there are other muzzle loading gun clubs in other regions of Texas. Members sometimes pool for a mail-order of a mixed case and distribute the powder among the buyer's club. The hazmat fees can be somewhat lessened that way. Vendors sometimes bring powder to events like the Brady

State Shoots. I was up in Austin not long ago and spoke with some folks at McBrides, which years ago used to sell powder, but no longer does. The National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association has a map to determine where one or another distributor might be located. If you find yourself on a long drive, you might consider picking some up and avoiding the shipping fees and hazmat. Here are some:

Schuetzen Powder distributors—

Travelers Antiques & Trading 100 Duncan, Claude, TX 79019 (806) 679-9016.

Jacks Powder Keg 282 Booty Lane, Kisatchie, LA, 71468 (888) 245-9631
jackspowderkeg.com

Powder Inc. 400 Co. Rd. 3455, Clarksville, AR 72830 (479) 705-0005 powderinc.com.

Goex—Burdett & Son Outdoors 1055 Texas Ave. S., Ste. 104, College Station, TX 77840.
(979) 695-2807. Cathy or Barry.

Praco Gun & Pawn? 2201 W. Waco Drive Waco, TX 76707 www.pracopawn.com (254) 753-5511.

10Ring.com 12779 Jones Rd. Ste. 103B Houston, TX 77070 (281) 894-7464.

SCORES: Sunday 6 Sep 2020

Class A: **25yd squirrels** **25yd Raccoon** **50yd Bear** **50yd Buffalo**

1. Bill Knipscher 48 1. Bill Knipscher 50 2x 1. John Burke, Jr. 32x 1. Dennis Rich 43

2. Clif Denny 35 2. Dennish Rich 41 x 2. Dennish rich 29 x 2. Bill Knipscher 39

3. Dennis Rich 29 x 3. John Burke, Jr. 34 3. Bill Knipscher 29 3. John Burke, Jr. 32

Class B:

1. Rich Beardsley 32 1. Rich Beardsley 29 1. Ian Straus 40 x 1. John Burke, Sr. 35
2. Dave Carlson 25 2. Ian Straus 29 2. Gary Quandt 26 2. Gary Quandt 32
3. John Burke, Sr. 25 3. Gary Quandt 25 3. Rich Beardsley 18 3. Rich Beardsley 27

Class A. Rifle aggregate: 1. Bill Knipscher 166 2x 2. Dennish Rich 142 3x

3. John Burke, Jr. 127 x

Class B. aggregate: 1. Rich Beardsley 106 2. Gary Quandt 105 3. Ian Straus 104 x

Class A pistol: 1. Clif Denny 77 x 2. John Burke, Sr. 74 3. Gary Quandt 64

Class B pistol: 1. Ian Straus 61.

4 October: This month's first Sunday match on 4 October will be a cross-sticks silhouette match at 50 and 100 yard ranges.

Civil War Match: On Saturday, 17 October there will be a Civil War match, with individual scores for Civil War-era weapon categories. There will not be a team skirmish this time around. The August newsletter erroneously put the date in September, which was certainly not the case. An "e-blast" offered a correction of the mistake and indicated the corrected date.

1 November "first Sunday" Turkey Shoot: Recall that the November shoot, which this year will be a cross sticks match at Buffalo targets at 50 and 100 yards is also the Thanksgiving "Turkey Shoot." ("Why buffalo targets if it is a turkey shoot?" You may ask?) The prizes for top scorers will be gift cards rather than actual turkeys this year. There will also be a 25-yd. pistol shoot.

6 December Holiday Shoot: The Christmas season kicks off on 6 December. Our last first Sunday match will be the "knife shoot" with a knife awarded to the champion. This will consist of round bull targets at 25 and 50 yards, and the last pistol match of the year at 25-

yds. We are making inquiries for the 2021 yearly business meeting. As soon as more information is available, it will go out to the members.

Texas Single-Shot Rifle Association Fall Match: On Friday and Saturday, 16-17 October 2020, the breech-loading fall match will be held at Dietzville near New Braunfels TX.

TEXAS SINGLE SHOT RIFLE ASSOCIATION

FALL MATCH: OCTOBER 16-17, 2020 @ 8:00AM Old Muzzle Loader Range at Dietzville, on Range Rd. New Braunfels, TX

COURSE OF FIRE

ALL MATCHES 10 SHOTS AND RE-ENTRY EXCEPT NOS. #5, #10, #11

200-YARD Matches: #1 Any Sight Bench Rest/ ASSRA Target 5 #2 Any Sight Offhand/ ASSRA Target 3 or 4 #3 Iron Sight Bench Rest/ ASSRA Target 3 or 4 #4 Iron Sight Offhand/ ASSRA Target 3 or 4

Jed Kraii Memorial Aggregate of Match 1 & 3 #5 Cliff Payne Memorial-1 OH & 1BR

100-YARD Matches: #6 Any Sight Bench Rest .22rf/ ASSRA 6-bull #7 Any Sight Offhand ASSRA #1 or 1-1/2 #8 Cowboy Lever ASSRA Target 3 or 4 #9 Military ASSRA Target 3 or 4 #10 **Ghrenscheibe** 1 shot at a painted target 100 and/or 200-yards (Winner

provides next year's target).

#11 100-shot bench rest at 100 or 200-yds. (May be fired over 2 days) SCORING

Rimfire matches are scored to *lead edge*; Centerfire matches are scored to center of hole *except match #11*. Shots outside scoring rings will be scored by measure down to ten.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Snacks provided for lunch. Bring your own drinks, lawn chairs, etc. FREE dry camping with outhouses, no electricity.

For more info: Geo. [Harris—georgeharris94@yahoo.com](mailto:georgeharris94@yahoo.com) Bill Wimberly vesperb1941@gmail.com 830.832.8884



Source: The UK's National Firearms Centre/ Royal Armouries in Leeds.

Percussion underhammer rifle known as a Buggy Rifle

Percussion underhammer 'buggy' rifle, by Nicanor Kendall, Windsor, Vermont, American, about 1835-1838. Underhammer action inset into the stock. The stock is probably of American cherry of thin section, the furniture is of a high nickel copper alloy which is cast and incised with decoration. A butt trap is inset

in the right hand side of the stock. The heavy octagonal barrel is fitted with four ramrod pipes, a leaf backsight and a blade foresight. The ramrod is missing. Stamped on the tang is SMITH'S IMPROVED PATENT STUD LOCK, and on the barrel is N.KENDALL WINDSOR VERMONT PATENT.

Some of the earliest North American percussion firearms were these under-hammer types, manufactured in New Hampshire and other New England workshops and rifle works.

Nutrias in Bexar County? So it seems. Our neighbors from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries have a website on how to prepare and eat these invasives. The link <https://nutria.com/site14.php>

Goes to a heart healthy crock-pot nutria recipe, but also has links to other recipes and an entire 1963 *Nutria for home use* cook book! <https://nutria.com/uploads/NutriaForHomeUse1963recipeBook.pdf>

See you at the range!

--D. Carlson