

**Battle Born  
Rangers Company**  
Monthly Newsletter  
Representing  
**High Plains Drifter's**  
And  
**Roop County Cowboy's**

**Volume 1 Issue XI**



### Howdy Ya'll

November let us know that the start of winter has happened. ROOP was canceled because we thought no one would show up to stand in the snow and shoot.

October and November we have seen low numbers for attendance. Even though the weather was nice. We can't guess why. It could be COVID, weather, ammo/primer shortage or just staying home. Anyway we'll keep moving forward and putting on monthly matches.

Eight of us showed up for a long range practice match yesterday. A little cold first thing but then it turned nice. If you've shot long range at our range you'll remember the sun, in the summer comes around at about 2:00pm and the shadows then fall over the face of the targets and berms. And in your eyes! I'm no astrophysicist but the sun angels change in the winter. Who knew? Anyway by about 11:00am the shadows were getting bad. And by 1:00pm you couldn't see the targets with the naked eye. Even the guys with scopes couldn't see the targets. The planned fix is to put out 5' square sheets of steel painted orange. We think placing them at about 50 meters we'd be able to see them.



Without getting political I'll just say maybe some humor will help.



Enjoy the holiday and don't eat too much

**El Jefe Supremo**  
**jke**

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## Howdy All -



I missed the dead line for last month's copy. I was away for the last two matches shooting long range. We are writing up our schedule for away matches next year and BeeBad has 15 weeks of vacation (on the books). Looks like we'll be doing some traveling next year as long as the government will allow us!!! We're talking about doing some of the matches we did a few years ago in Montana. We're also planning on going down to Arizona for some long-range matches for the first couple of weeks in March.

Speaking of schedules I have a copy of next years calendar and looking for volunteers to write stages for our monthly cowboy matches. Please see me or Georgia Blue to get signed up as a stage writer.

We are having good participation for our long-range matches and we are busy writing up dates for next year. We're going to set the date of the monthly long-range match to be the same weekend as our monthly ROOP matches, Long-range on Saturday with the Cowboy Match on Sunday and maybe camping if the weather permits.

BeeBad and I have been without home phone and Internet for the last week. It's a little weird but kind of nice at the same time!?!?!? Ever since the first big wind storm in November our Spectrum service had been interrupted. They came out on Tuesday afternoon and said they couldn't work on the line because it was too windy and rescheduled for the end of the week once more.

As I mentioned in the first paragraph that 49er Preacher and I have been to a couple of different matches. The first was a trip to Avenal about 300 miles away in the south east side of the lower Sacramento Valley. It was an annual memorial match that's been going on for a number of years. There were less than twenty shooters so it was an intament match. We got down a day early because we've never been to that area before. Well, that's not quite true. We've stayed in the local RV Park on our way to the great shoot in Morro Bay! When there the first time we found a wonderful and never forgot about that. We couldn't find the same place to get some wonderful Mexican food, but found one that was even better!!! We ate and found the range but it was closed. We camped outside the gate. The next morning the president of the gun club pulled up and asked if we were here for the match. We found our way onto the range soon there after. It's kind of a cool place. Some vets bought a few hundred acres after their return from the Second World War and they still farm part of it!! We had a fine day of sight ins and trying to learn the nuances of a new range. The following day we had a fine 22 BPCRA match with even more changes to the rules than we use. Both 49er Preacher and I shot a respectable 27. He took first in his category and I was shooting AAA and took second. The BPCR match was held over the next couple of days and was a blast. We both medalled, but I just don't remember who beat who. More than likely I got beat again!!



The second match was a blast as well except for the weather. There seems to be a theme there. The Match Director moving the match to November instead of December because of the weather, BUT it didn't work!!!! It was windy and cold with a little rain thrown in for affect!! The redeeming factor of the match was the company. Tumbleweed Ed, Wylie Fox and Ogallala Kid joined 49er Preacher and me for the event. We also included our good friend from Bishop, Jim Bridges, in our squad. We had a couple of days of warm up and did very well with that. We were shooting from 200 meters offhand to almost 900 yards for the farthest target. I got sight settings for both rifles. With the weather being what it was I chose to shoot the bigger 45/90 for the extra bullet weight. We all shot well the first day, but on the second day I had the worst day of shooting that I've had in a long time. It was partly the weather and mostly just being totally uncomfortable because I was COLD! Even with my crappy showing for the second day I managed to do 'OK' over all. Not as well as my compadres who did very well and received numerous medals for the different matches in fact Wylie took first place in his AA category!! I think all who attended had a good time. This is a match that I think more of our group is ready to tackle. After you shoot a couple of long range matches it no longer is intimidating. We went down to New Mexico last year and had a ball. We met new people and no one cared we were just B or AA shooters. We were all there to have a good time!!!

Fanner Fifty is up for writing our Dec stages. Hopefully the weather will cooperate!

Hope you all have a great Thanksgiving whatever that might be for you in this strange year,

*See you on the range,  
Jasper*

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### Howdy All

Just thought we would let you know what we are up to.

We are officially Arizonans and have a rental house in Chino Valley (15 miles north of Prescott) while we are building our house on five acers on the west side of the valley. The foundation is poured and framing should start by the end of the week. We shot our second match with a brand new cowboy club we are helping get started called the Granite Mountain Outlaws. Tramp is the main cowboy getting it started and it makes us appreciate what we had with you guys. Trust me having your own range is HUGE as is the organization to run BBR. We are shooting with Nevada Blaze, Bella Coola and Old Yeller and getting to know the other cowboys and girls. We had 28 shooters Sunday and the temperature was 78 degrees.

Fall is perfect here, but it is pretty warm in the summer. There were a bunch of folks we did not get to say goodbye to. We miss all of you very much. We will try to get back and if not shoot with you at least stop by and see everybody. We have two spare bedrooms here in the rental house (it is big) and plenty of parking for RVs on the property with water and a hole to dump the black water so this is an open invitation to all of you to come visit and shoot some of the local matches (there are a bunch) and explore Arizona. The Grand Canyon, Sedona and Phoenix are only a couple of hours away and Prescott is a pretty cool town.

*Stay safe and shoot straight.  
Drifter John & Rowdy Robin*

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Hello - Mr. Ed here again -

Last week Wilbur again asked me if I would like to take a ride with him again for another weekend match. I told him "Sure, why not, I don't have much going on again this weekend anyway." Thursday afternoon Wilbur again started loading up my trailer and started placing the hay bales on the top. I noticed that he placed a couple of extra bales on the trailer and I asked him "Wilbur, just where are we going this weekend?" He told me over the mountains and into a foreign country called "The Republic of Kalifornia" and that the extra bales of hay were a 'just in case' precaution for me.

Friday morning he hitched up the trailer to the truck and off we went. Four and a half hours later we arrived at the Sacramento Valley Shooting Center. We drove to the end of the ranges and found a place called 'Diamond Dicks Cowboy Town' where we spend the weekend with cool mornings, cool evenings and warm sunny afternoons camping out with other shooters.

The first afternoon (Friday) was spent with Wilbur doing something called 'Speed Matches'. I had not seen these before. There were matches for something called Speed Rifle, Speed Pistol and Speed Shotgun. There was even a separate stage called 'Machos Federales'. That was especially fun to watch being shot. There were 52 targets that had to be knocked down with the shooter's handgun called a 1911 (more about this later) along with two cowboy poppers that were shot with a shotgun. The shooters could as many handgun bullets needed to hit the knockdowns. Some did much better than others. I noticed when Wilbur shot this stage, he probably needs some more practice before attempting that again. Some of the shooter's behind him were laughing uncontrollably and called for many others to step in help pick up brass.

The match we attended was the California State Wild Bunch Shooting Match. I have never been to one of these Wild Bunch Matches before. It was quite the sight. The shooters don't use the regular cowboy 6-guns that I am used to seeing. They use a 1911 45acp, a pump shotgun (either Winchester Model 97 or a Winchester Model 12) and a rifle that looks like the rifle the regular cowboys in regular cowboy matches use. Wilbur did mention that the rifle used had to be at least a .45 caliber rifle. This didn't make a whole lot of sense to me so I shuffled my hoof on the ground in acknowledgement anyway. It seemed to make him happy.

I found out that the Wild Bunch Shooters shoot 10 stages at their big matches in lieu of the 12 stages required by cowboy matches. I guess it was the longer shooter times that brought about the 10 stages. Most of the stages required anywhere from 21 to 35 1911 45acp rounds, 7 rounds in the rifle and the shotgun could be loaded with 6 rounds. The shotgun was fun to watch these people shoot. There were a couple of shooters (both girls and guys) that were really fast shooters with their 1911's. The shooters that could shoot their shotguns and 1911's really fast were especially fun to watch. I wish I could have walked over the other group so see if they did just as well as Wilbur's group. I should also mention that many of these shooters dressed up like World War I soldiers. I still don't understand what that was all about, but they all seemed to enjoy what they were doing and were proud of their costumes.

As I was hitched up to the trees behind the stages, I enjoyed watching the match. I did not enjoy wearing my COVID mask. The mask fogged up my safety glasses to easily making it especially hard for me to clear them. Watching this match was so much different that the cowboy matches Wilbur has taken me to. The activity levels seemed to be much more intense because of the number of bullets being shot and the stages took much longer to shoot. I did notice that the targets were further back making it much harder for the shooters to hit. I also noticed that many of the shooters missed a bunch less than Wilbur did. I did make a note to myself to tell Wilbur that he needed to practice some a little more with his 1911 before the next match.

As usual after the match there was a scurrying of activity. Wilbur told me a guy called 'Tully Mars' was in charge of the match. I did notice him scurrying around the stages during the two days. He seemed very busy but enjoyed what he was doing. He worked very hard during the two days I noticed him scurrying around.

As Wilbur's posse was finishing up their shooting, a person called 'Blackhorse' gathered everyone together to talk to them. I'm not too sure why he is called himself 'Blackhorse'. His coat was not black and he did not look like a horse either. His name must have some significance to him that I do not fully understand. What he did say that he wished everyone a big 'Thank you' for being there, thanked the two ladies who helped out with the scoring and then thanked the posse for joining General's Pershing Incursion into the territory for the two days. He gave everyone in the posse the standard days pay (\$.50) for each day's work in the form of a shiny \$1 gold piece. Wilbur was very proud of his shiny \$1 gold piece as he climbed into his saddle and we rode off for a bit.

Just as suddenly as the match started it was over. Some of the shooters left quickly after the match. I must have been a long drive home for many. Others stayed around for something called an 'Award Ceremony'. I have never been to one of these before. It was quite the deal. They gave away many prizes to the shooters just for being at the match. I recognized many of the shooters at this match, though I don't know many of their names, Wilbur knew most everyone. Since I am usually hitched to a tree of something else, I don't really get to close to become familiar with their names.

As the Awards were handed out, I recognized the Nevada Shooter's names. I hope I got this correct.  
Fanner Fifty: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Men's Senior Modern Category and I think he also received a 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Men's Speed Shotgun Match

J.J. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Men's Senior Traditional Category and 1<sup>st</sup> Place Men's Speed Rifle

Deadeye Dick: Honorable Mention Men's Senior Modern Category

Sheriff Winchester: Honorable Mention Men's Traditional Category

Wylie Fox Esquire: I believe I heard the Match Director mention that Wylie fell down some steps on the way to the match on the second day. I did notice he was hobbling around the second day of the match with an Ace bandage strapped around his leg with ice bottles underneath. Wilbur and I both hope he is feeling better and did not hurt himself too badly.

Rubicon: He was supposed to be at the match but could not make it. Apparently, a week or so before the match he was out with a bunch of his old cop friends, in a large group setting, and picked up a terrible cold.

Wilbur: Well, the Match Director (Tully Mars) thanked him for coming to the match and donating his match fee.

When the Awards Ceremony was over Wilbur rode me back to the trailer, hitched up to the truck to the trailer and off we drove. Three and a half hours later we were back home. Shortly after arriving at the barn I was again back in my familiar stall, comfortable, warm, fed and watered.

Until next time -

I am  
Mr. Ed



**SOMETHING'S UP**

THE FARMER JUST UNFRIENDED ME ON FACEBOOK!