

Saddle up!

Christmas Party features annual awards

Almost 40 cowhands were in attendance as the society held its annual Christmas party at the North Pole Senior Center on December 16th.

cumulatively shot the most clean matches in the year. Diamond Mac did just that, and for his efforts received a SASS brass bag and a chocolate

replica of a popular polymer pistol, which living up to its internet reputation, was destined to shatter in the immediate future as Mac and Rusty consumed the delectable delicacy.

Rounding out the evening was a recap of the Annual SASS convention by Kootenai Brown and Callie Crossfox. The couple talked about their pleasant experiences rubbing shoulders with shooters from all across the country and world as well as the inner workings of the Territorial Governors' meeting, at which several changes to our shooting discipline were approved.

Expect a summation of their experiences at the next General Membership meeting this Tuesday evening.

Breaking...!

Air Curtain could be Available for shoots

Late word has been received that with the signing of the new budget funds are once again available for Range Officers at the Air Curtain house on Fort Wainwright.

Judge Yukon Hatch is in the process of making contact with Range Control and submitting the appropriate paper work so that the club can once again have access on a monthly scheduled basis.

Best look to your shoot'n irons; we may yet have the opportunity to shoot this winter.

Just a reminder...

Annual dues are due in January and Life Members, who pay no dues, are encouraged to make a voluntary donation towards cost of range insurance.

A well-deserved award...



GHSS Trail Boss, Poco Loco Louie presents the 2013 "Espirito del Juego" award to Poken A Long and Leadmonger at December's Christmas Party. Photo: Riverboat Bud.

In addition to the food and festivities, the highlight of the evening was the awarding of the club's "Espirito del Juego" award to a deserving couple. The award, which goes to an individual or couple that best embodied the Spirit of the Game throughout the year, was donated to the club by Avenging Angel. This year's recipients were Poken A Long and Leadmonger.

The second most anticipated award was the Clean Match award which goes to the individual who

Wasn't that tasty...



A large group was on hand to enjoy a great meal at the annual Society Christmas Party. Photo: Riverboat Bud.

From one Range Boss to another: Nice Job...



Kootenai Brown presents Diamond Mac with a pistol case containing a chocolate replica of a Glock pistol as his award for shooting the most clean matches during the 2013 shooting season. Other contenders for the award included Brasspounder, Smithy Jim and Poco Loco Louie. Photo: Riverboat

E-Board considers many topics

In first meeting of the new year

The GHSS Executive Board got right down to business at its first meeting of the new year held at Poco and Valencia's place last Tuesday.

The group heard:

—Banker Callie Crossfox report that there is just enough money in the checking account to cover anticipated expenses with a little over \$2000 in reserve in the group's savings account.

—Territorial Governor Kootenai Brown ask members to be on the look-out for rockers from SASS for all those who have completed a refresher ROII course.

—Range Boss, Diamond Mac express his hope that the club would focus on the renovation of Bay 5

and the need for three more loading tables to complete the replacement of all the old tables on the range. Mac went on to explain that the approximate cost in materials for a new loading table is \$100 and that we might want to canvass local businesses to see if they would be willing to donate towards this project.

In the second part of his report, Diamond Mac noted the cancelling of the Freeze Your Buns shoot due to weather and the need to reschedule. After discussion, the group agreed to set the date for the shoot at March 15th, with this action to be communicated to the general membership.

In other action, the board reviewed the pending 2014 calendar noting the possibility that it would need revision if the Air Curtain became available and reminding every-

one that the club has purchased tables for the February 22-23 Alaska Territorial Guard Gun Show at Pioneer Park.

Continued on Page 3

From the Editor...

Whenever I venture out to the Cushman range, I try and time my arrival to when it is least populated. It's not that I'm reluctant to engage with other shooters, it's just that I'm limited in time, and I usually go with a plan that I'm hoping to complete.

Only rarely do my efforts bear fruit, and I usually end up among a bunch of shooters all trying to sling lead down range for one reason or another.

Fortunately most folks I meet on the line are courteous to a fault and very safety conscious. This generally isn't an issue. What really chaps my hide is how often I meet people who have never heard of GHSS. You would think our range was on Mars judging from the looks I get when I mention the club. This reaction happens despite the fact that we are active in the community and regulars at a majority of the gun shows each year.

How do we fix this?

And so, they voted...



GHSS Territorial Governor, Kootenai Brown, recaps the votes by the assembled Territorial Governors during the society's recent Christmas gathering. There were no surprises with the voting going as expected. Photo: Riverboat Bud.

What an outfit...



Silvertip and Chatankia Scout study a picture of Callie Crossfox's award winning gown in the SASS convention's costume contest. Photo: Riverboat Bud.

E-Board considers state shoot name change...

Continued from Page 2

Also established were the first two classes for newcomers. **An Introduction to Reloading** will be held on February 15 beginning at 1:00 pm at Kootenai's place on River Front Drive in Fairbanks. Assisting in the class will be Brasspounder and Judge Yukon Hatch. **An Introduction to Knife Making** will be held on March 22nd at 1:00 pm at the D&K Expediting shop on South Cushman with Wind Drifter instructing and Brasspounder and Judge again assisting.

Anyone interested in taking either or both of the classes should contact Kootenai (Reloading) or Brasspounder (Knife making.) In addition, Brasspounder will also be taking orders for knife blanks so that each student will

have a project to work on in the class.

The state shoot was also a topic of much discussion as last years co-match directors, Kootenai and Callie are not available to repeat their stellar work on the year's main event.

The board discussed the need to identify a match director as soon as possible as the timeline with important deadlines for the shoot begins in January. Should no one step forward to chair the project, an action plan is in the process of being devised that will split the many tasks involved into bite-size pieces so that volunteers can see to their completion. Floated in the discussion was the thought that we should consider coming up with a name for the shoot that would become the annual event's brand. The shoot would still be sub-titled "The Justin Pierce Memorial Shoot." The group agreed to ask the club for suggestions on a new name.

Nicked M Good is our applicant

In Cimarron's Young Gun program

Responding to advertising in the SASS Chronicle that announced the establishment of Cimarron Firearms Young Gun Program, Nicked M. Good has assembled and submitted the required paperwork for possible selection to the program.

In an effort to develop young talent in Cowboy Action Shooting and thus help insure the future of the sport, Cimarron will be selecting six young shooters from across the country and will give those chosen a brace of Pietta pistols. Those selected must agree to appear in future

advertising for the company.

Applicants will be selected on their involvement in their local clubs as well as the merits of their essay describing their interest in CAS and shooting in general, their academic history and their plans for the future.

Nick has as good a chance as any other applicant considering that in six months, he has gone from new shooter to winner of his category at the State shoot and ranking 14th overall. Please keep your fingers crossed.

going to the club.

—Inviting the Boy Scouts to the camp so that scouts could meet a portion of the requirements for their camping and marksmanship merit badges.

—Holding a Chili Cook-off at the camp leading to a \$5/10 per plate Chili Feed.

—Coordinating with a Chatanika Lodge event so that we could run mutually supportive advertising.

All-in-all the session was quite productive with the members quickly sketching out what was in store for the club this year.

Transitions...

Word had been received of the passing of Yukon Marshal's father and Oracle's wife. Marshal and Oracle are both one-time members of the Alaska 49'ers and regulars at the state shoot. Condolences have been sent to both on behalf of GHSS.

Along with discussion of the state shoot, thought was also given to the possibility of re-framing Cowboy Camp which is held over the Memorial Day week and signals the beginning of the club's shooting season.

The first day of that shoot (Saturday) has always been dedicated to New Shooter Orientation and the following two days have comprised a shoot.

Lead by a concern for generating funds for range renovation and new targets, ideas were posed that would expand the scope of the spring camp while still preserving the focus on new shooters.

Among those ideas were:

—Holding a gun show at the Camp.

—Providing the opportunity for the public to pay to shoot unusual guns at the Camp.

—Holding a garage sale during that weekend with a portion of the proceeds