

WASHINGTON STATE MUZZLELOADER'S ASSOCIATION

June 2019 Journal

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TRADE GUN FROLIC, 2019

By Mike Nesbitt

This year's Trade Gun Frolic was shortened, made into a one-day doin's. That probably should have been done before, just judging from the turnout we had this time. For this doin's we had 14 shooters which made it all worthwhile. On top of that, we had good but very windy weather, windy enough that our paper targets were sometimes blown down two or three times before the shooters could finish, and windy enough that the flying clays were very "evasive" in their flying with very sudden changes in altitude. The wind couldn't stop us though, we still had a very good time.

The Trade Gun Frolic, as you should know, is a WSMA sponsored event. And it is the single "TRADE GUNS ONLY" event held annually in the State of Washington as far as we know. To make sure all readers know what a Trade Gun is, it's a smoothbore flintlock with no rear sight and it cannot have a set trigger. Those requirements are only intended to set an even "playing field" but there is a lot of variation in the guns and in the shooting too. For our Frolic, we have paper targets for round ball shooting, trail-walk targets for more patched round ball shooting, and the flying clays for birdshot loads.

We had a new shooter come to this doin's, Gary Wilson from Yakima. He came with his Kaywood Trade Gun and he shot his way into 9th place in our aggregate, winning a prize from the "blanket." I don't remember what Gary's score was but he placed well ahead of me.

My gun for this year was a brand new piece, a Fowler made from a TVM kit with the expert help of Allen Cunniff. This 20-gauge has a 36-inch long barrel and it also has an L&R Durs Egg lock which was an added option. The sling swivel and button are also added options and I'll be getting a sling put on this gun sometime in the future. This is a gun I do believe I'll be using for a long time.



Gary Wilson with his Caywood



Mike's new TVM Fowler

Just after breakfast and getting signed-in, Mike Moran (WSMA President) and I grabbed our guns and “hit the trail.” We like to start at the far end of the trail which puts us almost back in camp when we finish. My new gun had only been fired 11 times before this and I was both surprised and delighted to hit all of the trail targets. But just to make sure that my shooting wasn't perfect, I missed the scoring rings on the tiebreaker. Even so, my miss on the tiebreaker was closer than Mike Holeman's who also hit every target on the trail.

Then my misses continued which gave me only three scoring hits on the paper targets and absolutely no hits on the flying clays. One of my misses on the paper targets was rather outstanding... While shooting at the bullseye, my shots were outside of the scoring rings and grouping in a cluster at 4 o'clock. So, with my last shot, I held at the upper left corner of the target, expecting the ball to go low right and possibly giving me a score. But instead, that last ball went right where I “aimed” it, missing the scoring rings high and left...

But Bob DeLisle didn't miss much. He was the high scoring paper target shooter with a score near 90. I don't remember what it actually was but it was impressive. And Mike Holeman was right behind him there too, taking 2nd place on the paper range.

Mike Holeman continued with his good shooting to take 3rd place in the Flying Clays making him our only shooter to place in all three of the trade gun events that make up the Frolic. He was also our high scoring shooter overall, ahead of Bob Wright who placed 2nd in the aggregate and Bob DeLisle who placed 3rd.

The shooter to watch on the Flying Clays though was Jessica Snow and she busted five of those fast moving targets to claim 1st for the fliers.



Bob DeLisle takes a shoot at a flier

And those fliers were affected quite a bit by the rather high winds we were having, making the target change either elevation or direction quickly enough that it was hard to keep up with them. Jessica really did some good shooting to get half of the ten targets she shot at.

What about myself and that new Fowler? I was afraid you'd ask... I did shoot at all ten of my flying targets but I only shot at them. If I had been shooting blanks my expectancy would have been higher... And that was all my fault because at least a couple of times I caught myself swinging with the target only to stop before firing the gun. Generally, I shot behind every flying or moving target.



Jess Snow calls for her target

hits and misses straight at the 5-Stand. Repeated thanks go to Jeff Ritter and Bob Gietz for manning the registration desk, and to Jeff Ritter again for “punching the numbers” at the 5-Stand. Jerry Mayo was a great help in getting the WSMA Medals prepared. And WSMA President Mike Moran was on hand, shooting with us, and he helped with picking up the target signs and number from the trail. Putting on a good shooting match is nearly impossible without a good crew. Thanks to all for being there. Bob DeLisle

That’s the rundown on our Trade Gun Frolic. Turning it into a one-day event didn’t slow things down at all. Now we can look forward to doing it again next year.

FROM THE TRADE GUN FROLIC BOOSHWAY

Again I want to give my thanks to the following people, Mike Nesbitt for being my Segundo also helping with getting the trail. Special thanks go to Don Kerr who did most of the scoring in addition to keeping the

Trade Gun Frolic-2018-Results

<u>Aggregate:</u>	1 st Mike Holeman	2 nd Bob Wright	3 rd Bob DeLisle
<u>Paper targets:</u>	1 st Bob DeLisle	2 nd Mike Holeman	3 rd Tim Sampson
<u>Trail-walk:</u>	1 st Mike Nesbitt	2 nd Mike Holeman	3 rd Bob DeLisle
<u>Flying Clays:</u>	1 st Jessica Snow	2 nd Bob Wright	3 rd Mike Holeman

Bremerton Brigade launches inaugural grub shoot

The Bremerton Brigade hosted the first Snarlin’ Badger Grub Shoot & Rendezvous at the Primitive Area of the Poulsbo Sportsman Club May 3-5. This year was a team event for Washington State Muzzleloaders Association medals and bags of grub. There were four teams of four and everyone was able to pick their teams ... when they stuck their hand into a bag and pulled out a colored round of wood.

The grub shoot was scored by combining the team rifle and pistol scores from the fort shoot, which consisted of 25 rifle and 24 pistol targets. There was a 10-minute time limit and most teams were able to knock all targets within the time limit, including one team (black) knocking their last rifle target with only two seconds remaining.

This year the knife & hawk was also a team event with all team members combining their scores. (You kept the same members on your team all weekend). Third place on both the fort shoot and h&k were decided by a coin toss because of same scores.

Almost everyone won a WSMA medal and everyone won a bag of grub

Saturday evening featured a community stew pot which was so good there was hardly a drop left. A pot side dishes and desserts rounded out the fare for the Brigade's traditional evening meal. After dinner the Brigade held a steak/stake shoot and candle shoot, with the steak shoot being won with only TWO shots.

Sunday doings included individual fun shoots, archery and then the grub prize out.

The Brigade's next doin' is its annual rendezvous at the Poulsbo Sportsman Club Black Powder Range Aug. 2-4.

Rondy Bucks Update

Traders and Booshways, with rendezvous season on us, the word is getting out about Rondy Bucks. These are certificates ("script") given to booshways to distribute to kids at their events. They should be accepted as cash, and it's designed to give the kids an extra chance to get something at a trader's tent.

Steve Hohnstein is running the program for this. To redeem them back into real money, collect them up and either call or email Steve with the serial numbers. WSMA will get you a check in the mail. Booshways may want reimburse the traders and send one consolidated request in to Steve.

There are several older versions of these Rondy Bucks floating around. All of them are still active and able to be cashed in. Never turn away a kid trying to use one.

And we keep track of how many traders are using them. At the end of the year there is a special prize for the winning trader.

Steve can be reached at mpd14retir@gmail.com or 360-271-1942

2019 UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12-14 JUL** **TIOGA MOUNTAIN MEN SUMMER RENDEZVOUS, COLQUILLE**
- 25-28 JUL** **PENINSULA LONG RIFLES RENDEZVOUS, PORT ANGELES**
- 25-28 JUL** **OREGON TRAIL DAYS BLACK POWDER SHOOT, TENINO**
- 2-4 AUG** **BREMERTON BRIGADE RENDEZVOUS, POULSBO**
- 10-11 AUG** **MANY RIVERS RIFLE FROLIC, CCRP, LITTLEROCK**
- 9-11 AUG** **WHIDBEY ISLAND FREE TRAPPERS RENDEZVOUS, WHIDBEY ISLAND**
- 21-25 AUG** **WA HISTORICAL GUNMAKER'S GUILD WORKSHOP, CCRP, LITTLEROCK**
- 30AUG-2SEP** **GREEN RIVER MOUNTAIN MEN RENDEZVOUS, SEQUIM**
- 12-15 SEP** **NW COLONIAL ENCAMPMENT, ROCHESTER**
- 20-22 SEP** **FALL HARVEST RENDEZVOUS, EVERGREEN SC, LITTLEROCK**
- 27-28 SEP** **SACAGWEA HERITAGE DAYS, PASCO**
- 19 OCT** **S. HAWKEN BIRTHDAY SHOOT, OAK HARBOR**



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