

WASHINGTON STATE MUZZLELOADER'S ASSOCIATION

May 2019 Journal

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Unquenched Spirits: Spring Hunt 2019

By Bob Gietz

The Boy Scouts and their leaders at the 2019 Spring Hunt (Puget Sound Free Trappers' doin's) again shared April's rainy skies for this event. Held on Saturday, April 13^h, at the Capital City Rifle and Pistol Club, near Littlerock, WA, the participants were treated at this doin's with local weather at its rainiest from very cloudy to full-fledged drizzles. That made for some wet doin's, particularly on the Tomahawk and Archery ranges. The 23 Boy Scouts from Troops 300, 9093, 9310, and 9319, of the Timberline District, Pacific Harbors Council of BSA were ready and prepared to participate for the event at the day's start that morning.

Spring Hunts during the Rocky Mountain Fur Trade Era saw the return of the mountain men to the beaver streams early in the year just after ice break-up to harvest the heavier prime pelts to be taken to the summer rendezvous. There were no beaver trapped at this doin's but the Boy Scouts did have the chance to compete in some of the traditional trappers' skills. The Puget Sound Free Trappers combined with the Capitol City Bowmen hosted the competition of the skills involved with Archery, Tomahawk Throwing and Muzzle-Loading Rifle shooting. Attendance at Spring Hunt 2019 was comprised of 8 scouts from Troop 300, eleven boys from Troop 9093, one from Troop 9310, three from Troop 9319. Ten parents and adult leaders came along with the boys to record phone-camera images and even to take a rifle shot or two with a flintlock rifle and bow & arrow as well.

Three groups of boys were organized to stage through the separate events; the WSMA (Washington State Muzzleloaders Association) provided medals for the top three in each category as well as a grant for shooting components and prizes with additional contributions from Sunbirds and Cabela's and cast round balls for the shooting were donated by "Loco Jeff" Ritter.

Event winners were:

Aggregate 1st Joel Johnson- T 300, 2nd James McMillian – T300, and 3rd Jens Nielsen - T 9093.

Archery: 1st Joel Johnson - T 300, 2nd Jens Nielsen and 3rd Avery Hoskins T 9093

Tomahawk: 1st J Joel Johnson - T 300, 2nd Jackson Maddox – T 9093, and 3rd Jordan Beddall – T 300

Rifle: 1st Jackson Maddox – T 9093, 2nd Jack Gutherie T 300, and 3rd Ben Russon T 9093.

WSMA Pilgrim awards for first time shooters at a Black Powder event went to ten of the Boy Scouts. Each shooting group also received individual prizes for selection by each of the competitors.

Support and conduct of the event would not have been possible without the work of the Puget Sound Free Trappers and Capitol City Bowmen. Early birds on Friday afternoon: Will Ulry, Tom Brown, Bob Wright, Frank Ponceroff, Tim Sampson and Scott Isom ensured that targets and facilities were ready in ship shape.

Key people responsible for the activities were Tom Witt, Black Powder Range Director for CCRP, who coordinated Scout signup and scheduling and served as Range Master, Scott Isom, in charge of the Tomahawk Throw, and Bob Jamison headed up the Archery instruction and competition, assisted by Dale Soost, and Archery equipment came from the Washington State Archery Association National “Archery in Schools” program. Don Kerr, in full traditional attire, demonstrated flintlock rifle shooting for each shooting relay. Additional workers assisting for Tomahawk; Bob Wright and Frank Ponceroff. The Free Trappers brigade manning the rifle range included, Loaders; John Vladeff and Will Ulry, and Line Coaches; Tom Brown, Derek Sotelo, Bob DeLisle, Jerry Mayo, Tony Woore, Allen Cunniff, Will Ulry and Clarence Atchison. Bob Gietz served as Range Safety Officer. Rifles for the shooting competition were provided as the personal equipment of the Free Trappers.

The staff of Free Trappers and the Bowmen deserve a tremendous thank you for the generosity of their time required to put on this day-long event. Also, the WSMA receives our thank you for the medals and the youth grant which provided prizes and awards. We look forward to putting this Spring Hunt on again next year.

WSMA Pilgrim Medals were given to Vandal Hoskins, Jens Nielsen, Jacob Birteaux, Jackson Maddox, Sylas Boggs, Scott Culetto, Damien Cleverly, Joshua Turner and Sidney Goodbehere

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

24-27 MAY	PAUL BUNYAN PLAINSMEN RENDEZVOUS, PUYALLUP
1 JUN	BREMERTON BRIGADE YOUTH SHOOT, POULSBO
1-2 JUN	SPOKANE FALLS MUZZLELOADER’S RENDEZVOUS, SPOKANE
7-9 JUN	INTERLAKE RENDEZVOUS, SEDRO WOOLEY
14-22 JUN	PACIFIC PRIMITIVE RENDEZVOUS, SENECA, OR
15-16 JUN	FORT WALLA WALLA SUMMER FESTIVAL, WALLA WALLA
21-23 JUN	PALOUSE HILLS RENDEZVOUS, COLFAX
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



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