

Wyoming State Muzzle Loading Association October, 2009

www.wyomingmuzzleloaders.com



Wyoming Pogo Stick

*Or trying to get gun rest in the ground
Or nobody sends me any good pictures!*

WYOMING CLUBS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

BIG HORN BASIN MUZZLE LOADERS	Willie Felton P.O. Box 2 Ten Sleep, WY 82442 307-366-2216 bearpaw@tctwest.net	Tom Brewster 1202 Road 47 Ten Sleep, WY 82442 307-366-2391 brewstertom70@hotmail.com
DEER CREEK MUZZLE LOADERS	Phil Nissen 3158 Aspen Drive Casper, WY 82601 307-235-8889 Stands_in_ants@yahoo.com	Trish Miller 5531 S. Elm Casper, WY 82601 307-234-6591
ROCKY MOUNTAIN FREE TRAPPERS	Mike Corrigan 7459 E. Geary Dome Road Evansville, WY 82636 307-237-5136	Allen Hebert 1089 County Rd 110 Cheyenne, WY 82009 307-778-7106
SHERIDAN BULLSHOOTERS	Roger Roebing P.O. Box 535 Dayton, WY 82836 307-655-2583	
WIND RIVER MUZZLE LOADERS	Terry Hubenka 844 Hancock Drive #9 Lander, WY 82520 307-332-9269	Carrie Gavin 216 Valley Circle Riverton, WY 82501 307-857-4221 frankiegavin@hotmail.com
CROW CREEK MUZZLE LOADERS	Mike Penz 117 East 3 rd Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82001 307-635-0791	Chris Allen 2920 Ames Court Cheyenne, WY 82001 307-635-8425
SERRA MADRE MUZZLE LOADERS	Ed Kennaday P.O. Box 372 Saratoga, WY 82331 307-326-5059 werendezvous@hotmail.com	Joe Morrison P.O. Box 214 Saratoga, WY 82331 307-326-8944
PLATTE VALLEY MUZZLE LOADERS	Jeff Williamson 307-235-5220 jwilli5220@yahoo.com	Dennis Obert 307-237-5705 d.g.obert@att.net
1838 RENDEVOUS www.1838rendezvous.com	Tony Larvie Lander, WY. 82520 307-332-4718 alarvie@wyoming.com	John Boesch, 102 W. Bell Ave., Riverton, WY 82501 307-856-2554 johnb@a-bsystems.com .
SMOKING WATERS MOUNTAIN MEN	Ray Ferree 307-864-2649 canonrojo@rtconnect.net	Charlie Stickney 307-864-4126

2009 Schedule of Shoots and Events

	Event	Location
November 22, 2009	Mike Underwood Memorial Shoot	Saratoga, WY
January 8-10, 2010	WSMLA State Convention	Casper, WY

Note from WSMLA President

Dear WSMLA members,

Well it is another time to bring you all up to date on what's been happening, etc. Right now I'm suffering from a severe case of writer's block so bear with me. Bill wanted something inspirational so maybe I can dig myself out of this hole.

I think this summer has seen me camping more than usual and enjoying it despite my needing a little power in the form of a deep discharge trolling battery to power my Bi-pap machine. This eliminates all my snoring and the whole camp can sleep in peace.

Now it is time to think about a little big game hunting. Not sure if I will participate but wish everyone good luck that is trying and SEE YOU ALL AT CONVENTION!

Take care,

Charlie Romaine



News from the Editor

Fall, what a great time to be in Wyoming. Hunting season! Get out and enjoy the great outdoors in Wyoming.

I am finally gathering up enough information to publish the October newsletter. Sorry for the delay. Since it is hunting season if you have had a successful hunt or even maybe an adventurous tale, please write something up to share with your fellow muzzleloaders. I saw a picture of a big elk killed on the Greybull River. Estimated it will be the 4th largest elk ever shot in Wyoming. I also saw a picture of a really big black dog (wolf) that was killed south of Ten Sleep on the Otter Creek Ranch. I understand this wolf killed 140 sheep. Some of the stories I am hearing about hunting up the Greybull River brings back some of the same experiences Lewis and Clark and the mountain men had in our area in the early 1800's dealing with grizzly bears and wolfs.

I made it to the annual Pie Shoot held by the Sheridan Muzzleloader's club. There was a good turnout of shooters. It got a little warm later in the afternoon, however, this is always a must go to event. The best part is winning pies. Thank you to the Sheridan Muzzleloaders for hosting a great event. While we were over at Sheridan some friends invited us out to dinner at the Powder Horn Golf Club. This has to be one of the best place's to eat in Wyoming; I highly recommend it to everyone. For desert we had Mike May's wonderful apple pie.

We held the annual BHBLMA primitive shoot. Turnout for the shoot was down, however, we had a great time. I want to personally thank everyone who showed up to challenge our primitive range. Mike May shot it 3 times and Uncle Albert twice, even once with his smooth bore. I am working on some more sadistic targets for the next time we hold a primitive match. I don't think we will be hanging anymore 200 lb gongs from trees again. Did you ever hear the story about 4 government workers trying to change a light bulb? Getting that big gong up in the tree was about as bad☺.

In this newsletter we have shoot results from the Pie Shoot, BHBLMA primitive shoot and corrections to the Wyoming State Shoot. We also have fliers for the WSMLA Convention, Mike Underwood Memorial Shoot and even the 2010 Winter Challenge match. Something new Carrie Gavin is submitting some articles on Women of the West.

Trish Miller and Paula Sorter are working on seminars for the convention. If there is something you would like to help with please contact them as we are always looking for help and presenters. Phil Nissan is working on the Photo Contest. The Convention will be held January 8-10, 2010 at the Ramada Plaza Riverside, formally the Holiday Inn on the River. Phone number for reservations is 307-235-2531. They have a block of rooms reserved for the Wyoming State Muzzleloaders Convention.

WSMLA now has T-shirts and hats available with the WSMLA logo. They will be for sale at all state shoot events. T-shirts are \$7.00 and hats are \$10.00. Other clothing items can also be ordered and embroidered. You may contact Paula Sorter 1448 W. 29th Street, Casper, WY 82604, 307-333-2709 dpsorter@bresnan.net about the caps and t-shirts. Charlie Romaine is sporting a hat in the picture posted above.

Just remember to be safe in all ways when hunting and traveling to your favorite hunting spot. I wish everyone a successful hunting season.

Bill Morrison



COPPER LADIES MTTELS

Baked Fowl Baked Corn

Baked Chicken-or other bird you want to bake

Cut your fowl into eating size pieces at home if you wish, or at cooking site. A little marinade could be added to the package of precut pieces using a small amount of balsamic vinegar or lemon juice, soy sauce and your favorite spices.

Preheat your Dutch oven and then place several teaspoons of lard or suet in oven. Add the cut up pieces and brown on all sides. Add ½ cup water, chopped onions and simmer for a couple of hours, adding water as necessary.

If you prefer, you could add carrots and potatoes to the pot toward the end of cooking time.

Baked Corn

Bring unshucked corn to camp with you. Break off the silk tassels and twist the husks tightly around that end.

Scoop out a small hole in the ground near your fire pit, and lay some hot ashes in the bottom. Put the corn on the ashes, and cover with more hot ashes, topping that with coals. Cooking time will depend on the freshness of the corn.

Next month, we'll explore some foods that you will want to prepare at home for use in camp.

Have a Safe and Happy Halloween!

Copper Lady

THE 2009 ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL RENDEZVOUS

With the temperatures hovering around 15 degrees it seems longer ago than the scant three months since July has passed. And so it is with all rendezvous. They come and go like the changing of the seasons. Though they are all much the same, each is unique in its own way and though they all blend together I have distinct memories from each.

For Eric Distad, the co-boushway planning for this rendezvous began as early as 2007 and he did a fine job putting a lot of the details in place before there was actually a camp. Nice job Eric! What goes into setting up a shoot for a national rendezvous? When Eric took on the job, Jim Miller, and I volunteered to set up and run the shooting program. This project began around the campfire at the 2008 rendezvous. While there, Jim talked to a great lady pistolero named Sandy Loughheed who hails from Canada. She volunteered to help us with putting on the pistol matches.

Back home, Jim and I met Eric at the Grey Rocks site near Esterbrook, WY in late October 2008 and walked through the area. I had used this area for the shooting range in 2000 when I helped put on the shoot then for John Brahaney. After looking over the Rendezvous Association's iron targets in the Assn trailer, we knew we would need many more targets and much of what was on hand needed repair. This is where Mike "Magic" Johnson's skill with a welder was invaluable. Mike spent several hours repairing the silhouettes over the winter and then come early summer Dane Sorter and Brian Speicher stepped forward and made some additional new targets for us. While Jake and Dave's backs were turned we then "borrowed" some of the Deer Creek Muzzle Loaders' primitive iron like the spinners and the weasel hole. Dane, Jim and I made some new wild turkeys from hollow logs, and Jim made great wooden buffalo shooting station sign boards. Rich "Two-Cups" Page also made 250 black walnut targets gluing string on them all for us. Daughter Susan made score cards and got them printed for us.

Jim, Mike and I arrived at the rendezvous site a week early with the intent of setting up our camps and then setting up the range. Hah! We were still experiencing monsoon in central Wyoming at that time. It was raining hard and the roads into the site were slicker than a greased owl turd! We got tents set up and quit for the day. Four days before rendezvous Mike and I returned and worked three days to set up the range. The roads were still muddy so we enlisted the help of a mule skinner who hauled all the iron down to us. When Sandy arrived we walked through the range and surveyed what we had envisioned would be the pistol targets. With each "Oh, my"!, Jim and I knew we had made the course way too difficult for the pistol and smoothbore shooters as well as the kids. Thus began another day of resetting and renumbering half of the targets. By Sunday, the day before the shooting was to begin, we were finally ready. We had built it, but would they come?

They did. It was a small rendezvous as rendezvous' go but 35-40 shooters came through the course each day. Following the same general trend we are seeing at the local club shoots, fewer and fewer kids each year. For the entire week we only had five kids who came down to shoot. But what was interesting looking around camp was that most of the kids were actually grandchildren of the rendezvous goers! Jim and Tish Miller had brought

their grandson Tim to his first rendezvous while Tony and Billie Jo Larvie brought Cassidy Shattuck to her first one. But where is the younger generation? There's one missing.

Some of them are still enjoying rendezvous of course. Like my daughter Susan now aged 31 and coming with her husband Bryan. Or Like Calvin Hall and Jessica Page who tied the knot in a gala wedding on Thursday. Jim O'Meara actually became a bonafide ordained minister to officiate the occasion. And who of us will ever forget his line: "What God and Jim O'Meara have joined together, let no man cast asunder". The reception was equally grand and featured both a variety of musicians and other characters. Several WSMLA members were able to come to rendezvous just for the wedding and it was good to see 'em.

All in all I counted at least 50 souls with past or present WSMLA ties. It was a grand homecoming for sure. Some were day trippers, and others like the Millers felt like squatters. Jim had spent a weekend at the site in June helping Eric clear brush for campsites.

Rick Davis, Tony Larvie, and Terry "Rabbit" Hubenka set up what I understand was a challenging and fun primitive skills team course during the week. A group of fearless mountain women assembled a four person team to challenge the men and after the smoke cleared, they had placed second! Congratulations to Trish Miller, Terri Schwindt, Ginger Baumann and Paula Sorter who wowed the organizers with not only their historical knowledge but the correctness of their equipment and outfits, although I understand there was some attempt at bribery which in the end proved unnecessary.

Bruce and Terri Schwindt were the big pistol winners on the rifle/pistol course as well. So was Ginger Baumann who won women's rifle. All in all, Jim and I awarded \$1000 in trader bucks for the week. Friday afternoon was spent taking down the range and carrying out all of the targets, as the closing ceremonies were held Friday night. Some people came to the rendezvous only for the final weekend hoping to do some shooting and to them I extend the invitation to rendezvous during the week some time.

After rendezvous, Dane Sorter spent a day or more repairing the DCML targets and hauled them back to our range, no longer the worse for wear. In closing, what I have tried to illustrate here is not only the fun we all had but to recognize the level of effort made by several WSMLA members so those attending rendezvous could have the fun they did. Thanks!

Phil Nissen



Part of the future generation
Tim Miller, Jim & Trish's
Grandson aged 5



Camp chores can be fun. Just ask Cassie
Shattuck and Kaylee Sorter



Don't mess with these mountain women!



Congratulations to Calvin & Jessica



Is there anything more scenic than a rendezvous camp?





The splendor of Opening Ceremonies



The Sorters and Trish on Traders row



Women's rifle winners



Smoothbore winners



Men's rifle winners



Men and Women pistol winners

These were the daily winners. A shoot-off was held on Friday and those holding the trader bucks ended up being the Champions. Congratulations to Ginger Baumann-women's rifle, Bruce Schwindt-men's pistol, and Terri Schwindt- women's pistol.

Wyoming State Muzzle Loaders Association
presents the
**STATE RENDEZVOUS
& TRADERS FAIR**

January 8, 9, 10 2010

Ramada Plaza Riverside
Casper, Wyo

TRADING

DINNER

DANCING

SEMINARS

ENTERTAINMENT

PHOTO CONTEST

INFO: TRISHA MILLER (307) 234-6591

RAMADA PLAZA RIVERSIDE (307) 235-2531

Editor's note: I received some corrections to the 2009 State Shoot results. They are highlighted below in bold.

**Wyoming State Muzzleloader Association
State Shoot Results. Hosted by Deer Creek Muzzleloaders
Glenrock, WY June 19-21, 2009**

Winner List

Match #

Men's Flint

1 1st Bruce S. 46	2nd Dave Hein 46	3rd Mike Chapin 46
2 1st Ivan Pierce 41	2nd Aaron May 39	3rd Albert Pierce 34
3 1st Jake Jacobson 46 3x	2nd Mike May 56x	3rd Dave Hein 46x
4 1st Jake J. 38	2nd Gary Gavin 36x	3rd Dave Hein 31
aggregate- Aaron May 152	last Jim Lantios-110	

Men's Percussion

6 1st Mike Chapin 45	2nd Curly 44x	3rd Bruce S. 44
7 1st Dave Hein 37	2nd Bruce S. 34	3rd Dan Nugent 33
8 1st Bruce S. 45x	2nd Steve Varland 43	3rd Brian Connelly 43
9 1st Lyle Bader 41	2nd Bruce S 40	3rd Curly 30
10-aggregate- Bruce S. 163x		Last- Nathaniel 34

Women

11 1st Carrie Gavin 42	2nd Trish M. 40	3rd Terri 39
12 1st Angie Fredrick 49xxx	2nd Terri S 48X	3rd Sony Drake 47X
13 1st Ginger 45	2nd Angie F. 41	3rd Carrie Gavin 39
14 1st Terri S. 26	2nd Ginger 25	3rd Trish Miller 22
15-aggregate- Ginger 151		last- Paula Sorter 60

Caleb Pierce Memorial Junior Aggregate

16 1st Kaylee S. 22	2nd Rick 15	3rd Brooke 10
17 1st Brooke 38	2nd Rick 33	3rd Kaylee 15
18 1st Brooke 37	2nd Kaylee 37	3rd Rick 33
19 aggregate- Brooke 85		Last-Kaylee 74

Small Bore

24 1st Albert P 43x	2nd Dave Lehto 43	3rd Bill Morrison 42
25 1st Mike Chapin 42x	2nd Rabbit 42	3rd Albert P 40
26-aggregate-Rabbit 84	last place- Ed Kern 50	

Big Bore

27 1st Albert P 46	2nd Ed Kiser 44x	3rd Brian Connelly 44
28 1st Mike Dunn 38x	2nd Albert P 35	3rd Roger R 40
29-aggregate Mike Dunn 81x		last place Mike May 27

X-stick

30 1st Bruce S 48x	2nd Roger R 47	3rd Jake 46x
31 1st Bruce 40xx	2nd Roger 38	3rd Dave 36
32 aggregate- Bruce 88xxx	last place-Angie F 51	

Reggie Pierce Memorial Men's Pistol Aggregate

33 1st Bruce S 91x 2nd Albert 87 3rd Mike Dunn 86

34 1st Bruce 75 2nd Albert 72 3rd Majic 66

35 aggregate- Bruce 166x last place- Ed Kern 91

Women's Pistol

36 1st Terri S 91 2nd Angie 82x 3rd Carrie 58x

37 1st Carrie 62 2nd Angie 54 3rd Terri 53

38 aggregate- Terri 144 last place Carrie 120x

Junior pistol

39 1st Rick Clark 70

40 1st Rick Clark 8

41 aggregate- Rick Clark 78

Trade Gun

42 Dave 45 Rabbit-42x LZ-32

43 Dave 42 Albert P-39x Rabbit-4

44 Dave-6 LZ-5 Rabbit-4

45 aggregate- Dave -93 last-Frank LZ

Re-Entries

46-junior- Rick Clark 27

47-Women- Terri S. 43x

48-Any Caliber- Gary G. 28

49-Big Bore- Roger R. 46

50-Small Bore- Dave Hein 45x

51-Rusty Trapper- Jim Miller 103

52-Man/Women- Bruce/Terri 96xxx

53-X-Sticks- Dave Hein 41

54-Bench- Aaron May 31

55-Pistol- Carrie G. 43x

56-Traveling trophy- **Men- Ed Kiser** Women- Trish Miller

 Junior- Rick Clark Sub Junior-

State Traveling Trophy Winners - Men's- Bruce Schwindt; Women's- Ginger Baumann; Junior- Rick Clark

State Shoot @ DCML Qualifiers- 2009-2010

Men's Kyle Letho-47x

Women's-Sonya Drake-46

Junior's-Brooke-40

57-Women's Salute- Terri S. 44x

58-Women's Pottery- Terri S. 47

59-Women's Turtle- Paula Sorter 35

SHERIDAN BULL SHOOTERS NINTH ANNUAL PIE SHOOT

August 22, 2009, Sheridan Wyoming.

	Pie Target	Nightmare	Worm Pie	Jr. Match	Ant Pie	50 Yd	Flag Pie	Gillette Target	Women's	Trap
Snivlen	20	9	-	-	10	15	0	-	-	-
Jane	20	0	-	-	15	-	0	-	22	-
Mike M	30	-	5	-	0	-	5	26	-	-
Albert	10	9	20	-	-2	15	10	24	-	19
Misfire	10	0	20	-	30	-	-	-	-	-
Bill	20	7	30	-	5	-	15	26	-	-
Bruce	20	20	10	-	10	-	20	-	-	-
Teri	20	-	-	-	5	8	20	-	-	-
Mike C	30	18	0	-	-2	-	20	-	-	-
Matt A.	10	0	0	-	0	0	15	3	-	0
Steve H	0	9	--5	-	0	0	0	0	-	0
Michael H Jr.	0	0	-5	21	-	-	-	-	-	-
June Bug	20	7	20	-	0	6	15	27	-	-
Coyote Skinner	18	20	10	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Cloud Dancer	20	18	5	-	10	-	15	-	-	-
Angie	0	8	0	-	10x	0	15	7	24	-
Mike D.	20	17	0	-	0	10x	-10	13	-	18
Casey	0	20x	-5	-	-5	-	20	17	-	-
Chelsea	0	-	0	-	5	0	0	0	9	-
Jr.	0	0	-15	0	-10	-	10	-	-	-
Ed Kiser	-	10	10	-	-10	14x	15	-	-	-
Mike Wooten	-	19	-10	-	0	0	15	-	-	9
Dane	-	10	30	-	20	-	-	-	-	-
Paula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	14	1
Kaylee Jr.	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ashlea	-	10	-	-	-2	-	5	-	19	-
Rod	-	-	15	-	20	-	20	-	-	-
Caleb Jr.	-	-	-	28x	25	-	-	-	-	-
Tom Brewster	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	9
Ginger B	-	11	0	-	5	15	15	0	25	-

A few pictures from the Sheridan Pie Shoot



New portable gun rack



Shade was at a premium



Junior Shooters at the Pie Shoot



Angie is sporting some winning pies

*There is an annual contest at **Texas A&M University** calling for the most appropriate definition of a contemporary term.*

This year's term was

"Political Correctness."

The winner wrote:

"Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, and rabidly promoted by an unscrupulous mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a turd by the clean end."

DEER CREEK MUZZLE LOADERS
WSMLA WINTER CHALLENGE SHOOT
February 12, 13, 14, 2010

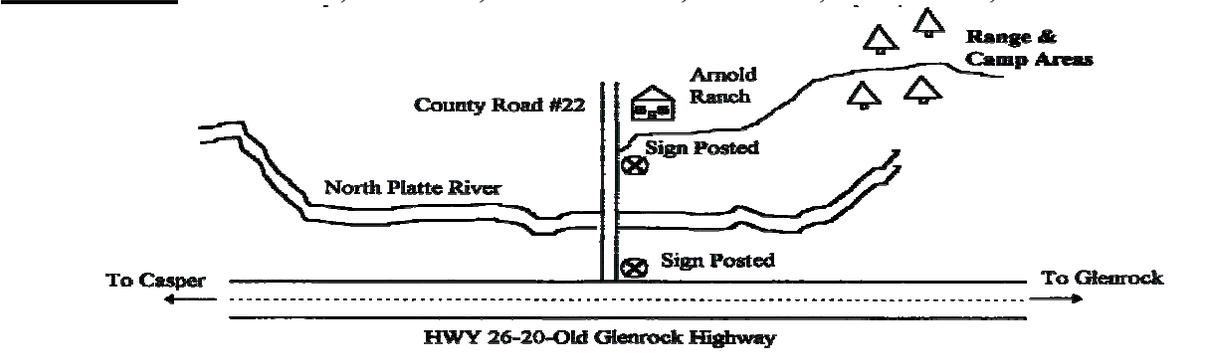
Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Attention Muzzle loading Clubs and Individual shooters: The Deer Creek Muzzle Loaders challenge you to form your best teams of men and women and join us in a fun weekend match. Enjoy a late winter muzzle-loading shoot! Shake that case of cabin fever and dust off your muzzle-loading rifle and come over to the Arnold Ranch near Glenrock. If you are an individual shooter or are short of having a full team, we will sign you up and make up teams as they sign up. If you are a couple bricks short of a load, one of our DCML teams may just whoop up on ya! This is why we call it the Winter Challenge Shoot. Men's teams are to be composed of 5 men; Women's teams are to be composed of 3 women. Women may shoot on a men's team but not vice versa even if a kilt is worn. This is a WSMLA sanctioned shoot. Each shooter must be a member of the WSMLA. You can join or pay your 2010 dues at this shoot.

Matches & Entry fees: The entry fee per shooter is \$20. This will include a target packet of ten targets. A lunch will be available to shooters Sat & Sun and is included in the entry fee. Medallions will be awarded to the top three men's and women's teams, and plaques for men, women, and senior individual high scorers. So challenge yourself and try to best the records for individual aggregate and team aggregate scores. The DCML range offers challenging matches at 25, 50, 100 and 200 yards. You must use a traditional muzzle loading, hunting type rifle with open sights and use black powder or substitute and a patched round ball. No underhammer or in line actions or black powder cartridge rifles. NMLRA scoring rules apply. New this year: You can re-enter ONE of your targets. 100% of the proceeds will go to WSMLA

Camping: The DCML Range on the old Arnold Ranch offers fine primitive and modern camping areas in the cottonwoods. Wood is provided but you will need to bring your own water. Dogs ARE allowed in camp but must be on leash, in control of an adult and kept a safe distance from the range. No horses. Come have a winter rendezvous and burn some powder with us.

Schedule: Friday Feb 13 – Set up your camp, registration and shoot in afternoon
Saturday Feb 14 - Range open 8-5
Sunday Feb 15 – Range open 8-12. Awards at 1:00
Continue to enjoy a winter camp

Information: Phil Nissen, 235-8889, Delbert Lesser, 436-8809, Trish Miller, 234-6591



**Mike Underwood Memorial Shoot
November 22nd 2009**

**This Shoot will be a blanket shoot
Bring something to put on the blanket that is
valued over \$20.00 and is rendezvous related.**

**Everyone will win something off the blanket
and the club will have some prizes also.**

Lunch will be provided by the Host Club

**The shoot will be held at Squirrel Tree Range
in Saratoga November 22nd 2009**

**For more info please contact
Ed Kennaday at 307-326-5059
Or email werendezvous@hotmail.com**

Shoot results from Big Horn Basin Muzzleloaders

September 12-13, 2009 by Mike Chapin president

Thanks go to Tom for a great place to shoot, Bill for putting together a great primitive event (20 stations for a total of 25 points), Terresa Bader for holding down the fort on the registration and target scoring. Attendance was down this year, however, the people who showed up were there to have a good time. We really appreciated them coming and making the shoot a success.

The re-entry paper targets did well this year. There was a lot of competition between shooters. A lot of "Geez, you only beat me by one point. I can do better than that" was heard throughout both days.

Primitive Shoot Results					
Men					
Bill Morrison	22				
Mark Brewster	19				
Tom Brewster	18				
Misfire	18				
Uncle Albert	17				
Mike May	16				
Nick Bader	16				
Willie Felton	15				
Mike Chapin	15				
Ed Kern	15				
Women					
Jane Black	13				
ReEntry Targets					
Pistol					
Mike Chapin	83-x	Uncle Albert	71	Willie Felton	71
25 Yard Squirrel					
Uncle Albert	44	Mike Chapin	42	Ed Kern	40
50 yd Big Bore					
Mike Chapin	43	Misfire	41-x	Uncle Albert	33
50 yd Fleur-De-Lac					
Mike Chapin	36-x	Ed Kern	36	Uncle Albert	36
100 yd Large Bull					
Uncle Albert	43	Bill Morrison	24	Mike Chapin	24
Ladies 25 yrd Double Buf					
Jane Black	42				
Traveling Trophy					
Men		Women			
Mike Chapin	48-2x	Jane Black	45		

WSMLA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WYOMING

JUNE 21, 2009

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Paula Sorter, in President, Charlie Romaine's absence. Members in attendance: Carrie Gavin, Bill Morrison, Phil Nissen, Trish Miller, Dave Lehto, Paula Sorter, Ed Kern, Bryan Youngberg, Angie Frederick, and Ginger Baumann.

Minutes: Ginger passed out copies of the minutes from the last meeting. After the members reviewed the minutes, Trish moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Carrie and motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Carrie gave a complete treasures report.

Committee Reports:

Convention: Trish had no changes to report. Phil said he had set up a verbal contract with the band, Swing Sounds, for the State Convention. Carrie moved to hire "Swing Sounds" for the State Convention in January of 2010. Trish seconded, motion carried.

Auction: Ed reported in order to speed up the auction during Convention; we would try auctioning off items in groups or lots. Glen Stack is donating a pistol for the auction. Angie moved to place the pistol on the Silent Auction table. Dave seconded and motion carried.

Photo Contest: Phil noted that we would be having a contest. He suggested increasing the categories to include Kids less than 12 years of age, and computer photos.

Traveling Trophy: Ginger is ready to take over as chairperson. She may need guidance as the year progresses.

Newsletter: Bill is doing a great job with the newsletter. Thanks for updating the WSMLA State Records on the website.

Historian: Dave had nothing new to report.

Video Library: No report, but need to start rotating the Library among the Clubs.

Old Business: Bill faxed permission to the Columbia Pictures to use and/or revise one of our fliers for their movie called "Did you hear about the Morgan's".

T shirt and cap sales are doing well. The membership is responding with many special orders also. A table will be set up at Convention near the registration table for sales.

The board suggested that the Sheridan Bull Shooters Club take advantage of the free vendors table during Convention to raffle off Turkey Hunts. Ed will get back to us on this.

New Business: Phil moved to rename three of the State Aggregates. The Men's Flint will become the Travis Bennett Flint Aggregate; the Cross Sticks will become the Ed Green Cross Sticks Aggregate; and the Small Bore will become the Buster Harlow Small Bore Aggregate. Bill seconded and motion carried.

Bill made a suggestion of creating a Muzzleloader of the Year Award. Clubs could nominate a person in writing, stating the ways this person has helped and encouraged the muzzle loading life and sport. Then a committee would review all the nominees and select a person. Award could be a plaque or a year of state membership paid, or maybe both. This is a really good idea.

The board members would like to have time to think and resume the discussion during the Friday meeting in January.

Adjourned: Bill moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Carrie, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Ginger Baumann
Secretary

Women of the West

By Carrie "Frankie" Gavin

Okay, so, I am always hearing about the "**mountain man**" and all of his journeys to the west but what about all of the women???? I have been doing a little reading lately and would like to share a few stories with you – about **the women of the west**. Women played a huge role in taming the west just as men did. There are several famous women that I would like to acquaint you with. So bare with me as I share some of their journeys with you. 🍷🍷🍷

I will be sending a different "woman's tale" to the editor for each printing. Let me know if you enjoy reading it or if it bores you let me know that also.

My first Woman of the West of course is: Phoebe Moses – or "Annie Oakley" as most of you know her.



◆◆◆◆◆ Annie Oakley

NAME: Phoebe Ann Oakley Mozee. She was named Phoebe Ann by her mother, but called Annie by her sisters. Annie promoted the Mozee spelling of the family name. While it has been variously recorded as Mauzy and Moses, Mosey is the version most commonly found in family sources. She took the stage name Oakley, reportedly after Oakley, Ohio.

BIRTH DATE: Aug. 13, 1860.

BIRTHPLACE: Patterson Township, Darke County, Ohio.

EDUCATION: Annie did not attend school.

FAMILY BACKGROUND: Quaker parents Jacob and Susan were originally from Pennsylvania. After a tavern fire ended their livelihood as innkeepers, they moved to a rented farm in Ohio. Father, who had fought in the War of 1812, died in 1866 from pneumonia and overexposure in freezing weather. Annie was the fifth of seven children. Her mother remarried, had another child and was widowed a second time. During this time Annie was put in the care of the superintendent of the county poor farm, where she learned to embroider and sew. She spent some time in near servitude for a local family where she met with mental and physical abuse. When she reunited with her family, her mother had married a third time.

DESCRIPTION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Whether it be a pistol, rifle, or shotgun, the legendary markswoman Annie Oakley was masterful with them all. Dubbed "Little Sure Shot" by Chief Sitting Bull (she was 5 feet tall), her sharp shooting in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show won her many awards and captivated audiences far and wide. Her name remains synonymous with firearms and entertainment.

Born in a log cabin on the Ohio frontier, Annie Oakley began shooting game at age nine to support her widowed mother and siblings. She quickly proved to be a dead shot and word spread so much that at age sixteen, Annie went to Cincinnati to enter a shooting contest with Frank E. Butler (1850-1926), an accomplished marksman who performed in vaudeville. Annie won the match by one point and she won Frank Butler's heart as well. Some time later they were married and she became his assistant in his traveling shooting act. Frank recognized that Annie was far more talented and relinquished the limelight to her, becoming her assistant and personal manager. In 1885 they joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, run by the legendary frontiersman and showman Buffalo Bill Cody.

For seventeen years Annie Oakley was the Wild West Show's star attraction with her marvelous shooting feats. At 90 feet Annie could shoot a dime tossed in midair. In one day with a .22 rifle she shot 4,472 of 5,000 glass balls tossed in midair. With the thin edge of a playing card facing her at 90 feet, Annie could hit the card and puncture it with five or six more shots as it settled to the ground. It was from this that free tickets with holes punched in them came to be called "Annie Oakleys." Shooting the ashes off a cigarette held in Frank's mouth was part of the Butler and Oakley act. In a celebrated event while touring in Europe, Wilhelm, Crown Prince of Germany, invited Annie to shoot a cigarette held in his own lips. Annie had Wilhelm hold the cigarette in his hand and not his mouth; she accomplished this challenge, as always effortlessly. In this period Annie Oakley was easily recognizable by the numerous shooting medals that adorned her chest.

In a train wreck in 1901, Annie suffered a spinal injury that required five operations and even left

her partially paralyzed for a while. Although she recovered very well, Annie toured less frequently during the latter part of her career. Nonetheless, her shooting expertise did not wane and she continued to set records. In a shooting contest in Pinehurst, N.C. in 1922, sixty-two-year-old Annie hit 100 clay targets straight from the 16 yard mark.

Annie Oakley died of pernicious anemia on Nov. 3, 1926, in Greenville, Ohio, at the age of sixty-six. A legend in her own time, the remarkable life of Annie Oakley would be celebrated in the 1946 Herbert and Dorothy Fields musical *Annie Get Your Gun*.

In her life, Annie overcame poverty, mistreatment and physical injury with her determination and strength of character. She played a role in breaking barriers for women with her talent and accomplishments in her sport. She showed great compassion and generosity to orphans, widows and other young women.

DATE OF DEATH: Nov. 3, 1926, age 66.

PLACE OF DEATH: Greenville, Ohio.

MORE RECEIPIES

I found a few recipes in the Fence Post Newspaper during their Hunting edition that I thought I would share as we have space.

Bear Crossing Stew

2 lbs Bear meat cubed

Lard or Bacon drippings.

2 Tbsp Flour

1/4 t Salt

10 Juniper berries

1-1/2 pints water

8 Potatoes, diced

Cook bear meat in lard or bacon drippings in a Dutch oven until done. Add flour, pepper and salt. Once liquids are absorbed, add Juniper berries and potatoes. Simmer for 30 minutes or until potatoes are tender.

Art. XI. Tips for Fast Fires with Flint & Steel, by J. Gottfred.

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[\(See also "Making Fire with Flint & Steel"\)](#)

Lighting a fire with flint and steel at public demonstrations can be a great way to kindle an interest in history. When you make a flame using two very unlikely-looking objects (a hunk of rock and a piece of metal), people's jaws drop in amazement— especially if you are *fast*. Demonstrations often include a flint and steel fire-lighting contest. The winner makes a flame in the shortest time.

In this article, I will give the reader already familiar with flint and steel some suggestions on how to light fires faster. I will explain exactly how flint and steel generates sparks, and then give some tips on how to increase your fire-lighting speed. (If you haven't yet lit a fire with flint and steel, you will want to read ["Making a Fire with Flint and Steel"](#) (Vol. I, p. 2-7) first to learn the basics.) After reading this article, I hope readers will reach the point where lighting fires with flint and steel has become as quick and easy as using a match.

Just how fast are we talking about? In fire lighting contests, my best time has been eight seconds. Usually ten to fifteen seconds is all that is needed in order to go from the first strike to a flame. When I first started learning to do this, my times were much worse— two minutes or longer was pretty typical in those days!

Sparks

Let's start right at the beginning— making sparks. Everyone is probably clear on the general idea : you hit a chunk of flint with a piece of steel, and sparks fly off. But what are the sparks?

You can easily answer this question by conducting an experiment. Lay out a piece of newspaper, and strike a few good sparks above it with your flint and steel. Then pick up the newspaper at the edges and carefully pour the contents onto a sheet of white paper. With the naked eye, it won't look like much— just a little dirty grit and some small rock chips. If you tilt the piece of paper, some of the small gray gritty bits scoot down the page much faster than the rest. The material can easily be sorted into two distinct groups (fast & slow) this way. Have a look at the fast guys with a stamp magnifier or jeweler's loupe. Behold! They are tiny balls : gray, shiny, knobby-surfaced spheres that look a bit like they are made from pencil lead. If you hold a magnet under the paper, the little spheres will roll and cavort, piling one on top of the other in the strong magnetic field. It is clear that they are made of iron.



Captured Sparks— These tiny spheres are formed as molten, white-hot steel flies through the air. These little globules are the sparks that ignite your tinder. (Image taken through a microscope. Printed image 32X actual size.)

When the steel struck the flint, the energy in the blow was converted to the heat of friction between the rock and the steel. This heat was so great on some small portions of the steel that small, white-hot molten blobs flew through the air making glowing sparks. Incredible as it may seem, the spheres were made as the blob of molten steel flew through the air, making a natural spherical shape. (The sphere has the smallest surface to volume ratio of any three-dimensional object). As the tiny spheres cooled, solidified, and dimmed, they disappeared from view.

If you look with your magnifier at the other pile of material (the 'slow' pile), you can see all kinds of other forms. Some pieces of steel haven't melted at all ; they are just shavings. Others look like comets with a round head and one or more tails attached. I have even seen little strings of pearls : little spheres each a little smaller than the next, piled one on top of the other.

So now we know what the sparks are. They come from the steel, not from the flint. The flint simply acts as a knife, slicing off tiny shavings of steel. Does the rock *have* to be flint? The experiment suggests that the only requirement for the rock is that it must be hard enough to shave off bits of the steel, and not the other way around.

Geologists have classified the hardness of rocks into a scale from one to ten, with talc being the softest (1) and diamond being the hardest (10). Talc is so soft that almost anything can scratch it, including a fingernail. Diamond is so hard that nothing but another diamond can scratch it. On this scale a fingernail has a hardness of about 2½, a penny is around 3½, a typical knife blade is around 5½, and tool steel is about 6½ (Hamilton et. al., 10).

Fire steels vary in hardness from about 5½ to 6½, depending on their composition and tempering. Just because a fire steel is made out of tool grade steel or an old file does not necessarily mean that it has a hardness of 6½. The blacksmith who made the steel must re-temper its face to attain the ideal hardness.

The harder the steel is, the more difficult it is for the rock to tear little chunks out of it. To tear out small chunks of progressively harder steel, more and more energy is required. At some point, the energy required to pull a bit of steel from the face of the fire steel is so great that the steel is melted in the process, and a spark results. With a softer steel, slivers of steel can be cut from the face without generating enough friction to melt the steel. Little nearly-invisible shavings go flying, but no sparks are seen.

A fire steel with a hardness of 5½ will generate sparks, but they don't stay hot for long. A fire steel with a hardness of 6½ is capable of generating long lasting, hot sparks ideal for the fast ignition of your tinder. This explains why some fire steels don't seem to work very well – they may not have the right hardness.

What about the hardness of the 'flint' you use? Flint, chert, jasper, and quartzite all have a hardness of about 6½. Granites are in the 6 range. Obsidian (volcanic glass) is in the 5 to 6 range. Any of these rocks are strong enough to generate sparks. Many metamorphic rocks, especially quartzite, are also hard enough to generate sparks.

Although all of these materials will work, obsidian, quartzite, and granite quickly wear away and lose their sharp edges. Only the hard, non-grainy flint, chert, and jasper are strong enough to shave away the hardest steel and resist crumbling away in the process. Incidentally, chert, jasper, and flint are all different forms of the same mineral – chalcedony. They are all composed of precipitated silicon dioxide (Hamilton et. al., 130-131).

There is nothing magical about flint ; many other hard rocks will work to generate sparks. From a historical perspective, this suggests that Natives and fur traders found their own hard rocks to use to make sparks. I have never seen 'fire flints' in lists of trade goods. Flint, chert and jasper are the best rocks for fast fire lighting, and the harder fire steels are better.

Preparing and Holding the Flint

The idea is to use the flint like a knife to shave off tiny bits of steel. Bashing a billiard-ball shaped piece of flint is not going to produce many sparks, yet some folks do just that. The idea is to break that billiard ball so that you have a sharp edge. In fact, the best thing to do is to use a nice, palm-sized flake of flint, and keep its edge sharp by knapping it now and then with a small hammerstone. (See 'Making Stone Tools', *Northwest Journal* Vol. VII, pp. 30-37, for pointers.)

If you hold the flint in one hand with the sharp edge *angled upwards* towards the descending steel, the flint edge will slice off a nice shower of hot sparks.

The Stroke

The trick to generating hot sparks is not to hit the flint *hard*, but to hit it *fast*. The energy contained in the force of the blow is a function of the weight of the fire steel multiplied by the square of the speed. For example, if you hit a flint with a steel of one unit of mass with a speed of one unit of velocity, you will get one unit of energy. If you double the weight of the steel (or 'use more strength' by striking harder with the steel) then two units of mass times the square of one unit of speed will yield twice the energy. But, if you keep the weight of the fire steel the same, and double the *speed*, then one unit of mass times the square of two units of speed yields *four times* the energy.

So speed makes all the difference. It takes a while to get that flint up to speed, so don't use a short stroke with the fire steel! Tapping the flint with a twist of the wrist is not going to give you the energy you need. You must practice taking a long stroke at the flint, bending the arm at the elbow, and accelerating the steel through at least a foot of space before it contacts the flint.

One good stroke should be all you need. A good stroke with a good steel against a sharp freshly-knapped flint will produce extremely hot sparks that fly through the air for at least two feet, make a fizzing sound as they fly, and feel like tiny pin-pricks when they hit the back of your hand. *That's* the kind of spark you want to generate every time you use your fire steel. Incidentally, I prefer fire steels that are at least half an inch thick – it keeps your knuckles away from that sharp flint edge! For the same reason, I always strike the steel against a convex flint edge, never against a concave one. Use the steel itself to guard your knuckles.

Catching the Spark

Once you are generating hot sparks, you need to catch them with your charred cloth. There is a simple trick that I use which almost guarantees catching a spark on the first strike.

Consider again what is happening. The sharp flint is shaving off tiny blobs of molten steel— which side of the 'knife' are the savings going to come from? If you are holding the flint with the edge angled upwards towards the steel, and striking down with the steel, then the shavings are going to scoot along the *top* of the flint. Yet many people are under the impression that the sparks travel downwards from the point of impact. (This view makes perfect sense if you thought that the sparks were coming from the flint.)

To catch the sparks, take three or four pieces of charred cloth, fold it in half, and place the cloth on top of the flint so that the many stacked edges of the cloth are right next to the sharp flint edge. Hold the charcloth onto the flint in this position with your thumb. Make sure that the edges are 'fluffed up' so that you have a large surface area to catch the sparks right next to the flint edge.

One good stroke is all you need to catch a spark using this technique, and best of all, you can do it standing up, sitting down, in a canoe, or on a horse — it's much more convenient than crawling around on your hands and knees in the mud!

The 'Bird's Nest'

To make a fire, you need to have three things : heat, fuel, and air. The spark you caught on the charred cloth is your heat source, but you will need more fuel to make a flame. This is done by placing the charred cloth in a 'bird's nest' of small kindling (dried grass, paper strips, wood shavings, etc.) and blowing on it to create a flame.

Consider what is going on here. The idea is to generate heat, so tune your bird's nest to accomplishing that goal. Many folks start out with a bird's nest of dried grass that is the size of a robin's nest, and so loose you can see lots of daylight through it. This will work, but not in championship time! To get a fast flame, start with a bird's nest about four inches across, and squish it down into a tight compact mass. I use nests that are so small that I can hold them in the same hand as my flint.

You need to compact the small kindling so that it keeps in the heat that your charred cloth is generating. You don't need to keep it 'open for air' because *you* supply the air by blowing on it like mad! Use three or four pieces of charred cloth to generate heat fast.

The Fast Action

Now, here is how I light a fire in championship time.

Before striking :

- Inspect the flint, and knap the edge so that it is good and sharp.
- Find small kindling for your bird's nest. Nice dry grass works just fine for small kindling. Shreds of paper birch and wood shavings from your workbench are great too.
- Crush the small kindling so that the air spaces between the bits of kindling are one-eighth of an inch in diameter or less. Stuff the bird's nest into the palm of the hand that you will use to hold the flint.
- Take three or four pieces of 3" x 3" charred cloth, fold them in half, and place them on the flint as described earlier.
- Hold the charred cloth with your thumb, and support the flint with your fingers. The bird's nest will stay stuck in the palm of your hand, so you don't need to hold onto it at this time.

Now it's time to strike :

- Angle the flint upwards towards the steel.
- With a long, smooth motion, strike the flint with the steel.
- Drop the steel and pick up the charred cloth. Do not blow on the charred cloth at this time! The spark will not go out.

– Drop the flint (but hold onto the bird's nest), and using both hands quickly fold the charred cloth one or two more times to increase its density. Be careful not to smother the spark!

– Place the charred cloth in the center of your bird's nest, and then hold the nest above your face. Cup the nest with both hands in order to help keep in the heat. Some folks seem afraid to do this for fear getting burned. I assure you that the heat does not build up so fast that getting burned is a danger. (If for some reason the thing suddenly bursts into flame à la Hollywood, at least you have the satisfaction of having won the competition!)

The action so far should have taken you *less than three seconds*.

From this point on things are a bit more chancy. How fast you get a flame depends upon what you have for kindling and how dry it is. Remember that it is very important to hold in the heat until you have a flame. Keep those hands cupped around the bird's nest!

I have found that the best way to proceed at this point is to give the dense piece of charred cloth a long, strong blast of air. Just empty your lungs into the thing. This action will turn the charred cloth into a little nugget of hot coal. If, when you pause for breath, you don't have a flame, then blow again, but perhaps somewhat more gently. However, at this stage too much wind is better than too little wind. When you pause for breath a flame will appear if things are hot enough. Remember, blowing will not make the charred cloth go out!

All of this blowing is another good reason to do this standing up. You can hold the bird's nest over your head so that you don't choke on smoke when you inhale; also, you are in a great posture to let out a good blast of air. Two or three good puffs of air should be all that you need to get a flame.

If blowing makes you faint, and you are not doing this in competition, there are a couple of other methods you can use. You can fold the bird's nest around the charred cloth, and then simply lift it up into the wind. If there is no wind then you can simply wave it back and forth for a while. This will usually produce a flame in a minute or so. Or you can take a tin can, punch a whole bunch of large holes in it, and attach it to a string. Pop your bird's nest into the can and whiz it around with the string for a while until it bursts into flame.

Conclusion

When you have learned these methods for flint and steel firestarting, there is one more thing you can do to increase your speed: practice! The more you use flint and steel, the more natural and familiar flint and steel fire starting will become. Furthermore, flint and steel has two major advantages over matches: it is windproof and childproof! (It can be a bit messier, though.) Use your flint and steel to start campfires and fireplace fires year round and you will be in top form the next time some cocky voyageur challenges you to a contest!

References

Hamilton, W.R., and A.R. Woolley, A.C. Bishop. *The Hamlyn Guide to Minerals, Rocks and Fossils*. Hamlyn Publishing Group: London, 1975. ISBN 0-600-34398-7.

The Pastor's Ass

The pastor entered his donkey in a race and it won.

The pastor was so pleased with the donkey that he entered it in the race again, and it won again.

The local paper read:

PASTOR'S ASS OUT FRONT

The Bishop was so upset with this kind of publicity that he ordered the pastor not to enter the donkey in another race.

The next day, the local paper headline read:

BISHOP SCRATCHES PASTOR'S ASS

This was too much for the bishop, so he ordered the pastor to get rid of the donkey.

The pastor decided to give it to a nun in a nearby convent.

The local paper, hearing of the news, posted the following headline the next day:

NUN HAS BEST ASS IN TOWN

The bishop fainted.

He informed the nun that she would have to get rid of the donkey, so she sold it to a farmer for \$10.

The next day the paper read:

NUN SELLS ASS FOR \$10

This was too much for the bishop, so he ordered the nun to buy back the donkey and lead it to the plains where it could run wild.

The next day the headlines read:

NUN ANNOUNCES HER ASS IS WILD AND FREE

The bishop was buried the next day.

The moral of the story is: *being concerned about public opinion can bring you much grief and misery, even shorten your life.* So be yourself and enjoy life. Stop worrying about everyone else's ass and you'll be a lot happier and live longer!

Have a great day!

FRIDAY AG HUMOR: A man absolutely hated his wife's cat, and he decided to get rid of it one day by driving it 20 blocks from his home and leaving it at the park. As he was getting home, the cat was walking up the driveway. The next day he decided to drive the cat 40 blocks away. He put the beast out and headed home. Driving back up his driveway, there was the cat! He kept taking the cat farther and farther, and the cat would always beat him home. At last he drove far out into the country, turned right, then left, past the bridge, then right again and another right until he reached what he thought was a safe distance from his home and left the cat there. Hours later the man called home to his wife: "Ann, is the cat there?" "Yes", the wife answered, "why do you ask?" Frustrated, the man answered, "Put him on the phone, I'm lost and need directions!"

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