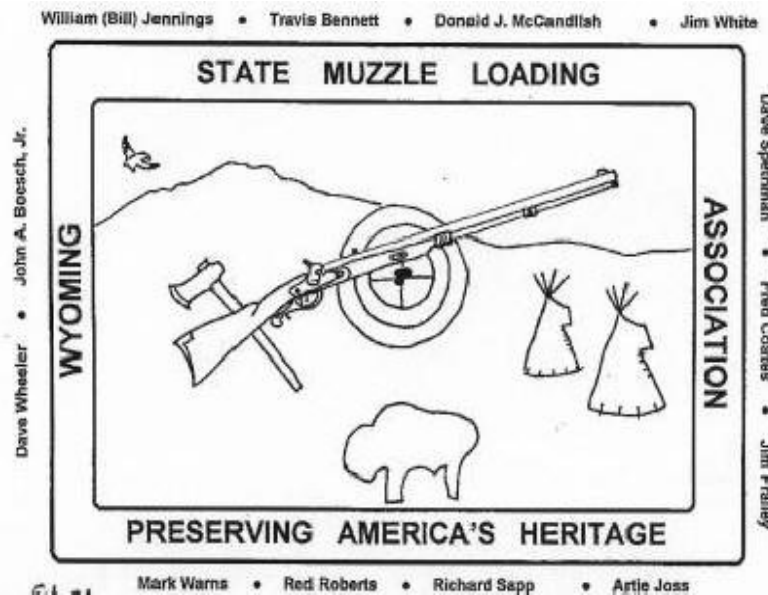


# *Wyoming State Muzzleloader Association's News*

*March, 2020*



*We welcomed a new year and a new decade. 2020 has arrived. I am hoping that all of you will have a great year !*

*This year 's convention has come and gone. A lot of familiar faces were at convention this year, and we even saw some faces we haven't seen in awhile. There were seminars, a dinner, auction, and dance. Hope everyone had a great time.*

*This year at the general meeting, I asked to step down off of the state board. I would like to take a year off. Gary Gillen will be taking over the newsletter. I have offered to help him in every way possible to make the transition a smooth one. As of right now, we are leaving the newsletter email the same, and I will be helping Gary put the newsletter together.*

*So I hope that you will help me in welcoming Gary Gillen to the newsletter.*

*Until next time, Happy Shooting.*

*Sandy Ladwig*

# President's Letter:

## Greetings:

Hope everyone enjoyed the convention this year. With the shooting season getting underway, it is time to get equipment ready and time planned out for upcoming shoots which will be posted in the state newsletter.

Thanks Gary Gillen for taking on the newsletter. A big thank you to the board members and all the other dedicated people that work tirelessly to make the convention and state shoots so wonderful. When you see them, please thank them for all their hard work and commitment to our organization.

Thanks to all the state members for your support. —Frank Elzay

## From the Editor:

Just a brief note to introduce myself. My first effort at putting together the quarterly newsletter went well thanks to help from Sandy and several other board members. I'm a ten-year member of the Sierra Madre Muzzle Loading Rifle Club in Saratoga. I am retired and so have time to attend many of the great shoots hosted by WSML members clubs throughout the state.

Last August I was appointed WSMLA Historian taking over for Mr. Lyle Bader who has been doing a great job for the past several years. Lyle gave me WSML newsletters dating from 1987 to 2011. I plan to use some of the articles from early newsletters in "Blasts from the Past" section starting this issue.

I will be happy to include info from any WSML local member clubs about shoot results, upcoming events etc. So please send me any items you think will be of interest to the WSMS membership. *Gary Gillen*

*Email to [wsmlanews@gmail.com](mailto:wsmlanews@gmail.com) Mail to: P.O. Box 1871, Saratoga, NY 82331*

# WSMLA

## Convention Minutes

Sunday, January 19, 2020

Meeting called to order 8:16 am

**Roll Call:** President—Gary Millhouse (2023)

Vice-President—Rich Wormington (2021)

Treasurer—Crystal Gillen (2022)

Secretary—Paula Sorter (2022)

Frank Elzay (2022)

Trish Miller (2023)

Melissa Conneley (2021)

Ed Kern (2021)

Brian Speicher (2021)

Bill Morrison (2022) Past President

Ron Pieracini (RIMJP) (2023)

John Nelson (2023)

### Minutes

**Minutes presented by Paula and were accepted as written by Melissa and seconded by Trish.**

### Treasurer's Report

Crystal presented report. Approximate totals for convention—4 comp meals, 104 meals sold totaling \$2,288. Trader table total was \$645, Des—29 members at \$25. Paid \$500 cash to band. Treasurer report accepted by Melissa and seconded by Paula

### Committee Reports

**Convention**—Trish: New traders will be back. A big thank you was given to Trish for all her hard work. Pool was loud. Brought up asking for no pool during auction.

**Auction**—Ed: Donations were down. Made \$1,604 from auction. Liquor was questioned about being auctioned off. Can cause problem in the club without a liquor license. John will check into what it will cost for the temporary liquor license for convention. Will follow up next meeting.

**Entertainment**—Brian: All went good. Band said they would come again next year. Will confirm when convention date is confirmed.

**Photo Contest**—Mike said contest went well. He offered to continue to do photo contest if no one else would do it.

**Hats & Shirts**—Paula: Have some new leads on new printers. Will update at next meeting.

**Traveling Trophy**—Melissa: Went over o.k. Spent \$168 for trophies and medallion.

**Newsletter**—no new update

**Website**—Bill: Nothing has changed.

**Break to eat breakfast 8:49. reconvened at 9:15 a.m.**

## **Minutes from Sunday, Jan. 19 (cont.)**

### **Old Business**

\*Website—got pictures of new board members

\*Wyoming clubs at local level—Confirmed all but one group.

\*Newsletter mailing cost—Members to pay extra cost for printed copy. Motion to table for extra \$5 for print version raising membership to \$30 by Crystal seconded by Trish.

Historian: Gary Gillen

Shoot schedule. New Board Members. Question about still giving grants or not. Permission for a raffle by Wind River Muzzle Loaders to be drawn at convention was motioned by John and Melissa.

### **New Business:**

#### **Election of Officers**

President—Frank Elzay

Vice President—Rich

Secretary—Paula

Treasurer—Crystal

Newsletter—Gary

Historian—Gary

#### **Committees**

Convention—Trish & Brian

Auction—Ed & John

Entertainment—Brian

Photo Contest—Mike

Hats & Shirts—Paula

Traveling Trophy—Melissa

Website—Bill

Raffle for grant will be continued possibly next year.

Motion to adjourn at 9:51 by Ed and seconded by LZ

Next meeting: Sunday May 31, 2020 @ noon.

### **PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS:**

#### **HUMEROUS**

First: Sandy Ludwig

Second: Melissa Connely

Third: Melissa Connely

#### **SHOOTING/ HUNTING**

First: Jerry Ackley

Second: Jerry Ackley

Third: Sandy Ludwig

#### **CAMPFIRE/ PORTRAITURE**

First: Tail Gunner (Ken Hall)

Second: Jerry Ackley

Third: Dave Langerman

#### **SCENERY/NATRE**

First: Sandy Ludwig

Second: Sandy Ludwig

Third: Melissa Connely

## **Wyoming State Muzzle Loaders Rendezvous and Traders Fair Photo Contest:**

### **2020 WSMLA Photo Contest**

The Wyoming State Muzzle Loading Association will feature a photo contest at State Convention in Casper on Saturday, January 18th, 2020. This event is open to all members and your participation is encouraged.

#### **Categories:**

- A. **Humorous**-Relating to our sport
- B. **Shooting/Hunting**-black powder target shooting or hunting
- C. **Camp Life/Portraiture**-rendezvous, primitive camps, people
- D. **Scenery/Nature**-a picturesque view or landscape/wildlife
- E. **Captioned Photos**-photos submitted with a phrase or saying attached to them

\*\*If your photo does not quite fit one of the above categories, we will, with your help place it into one anyway.

**Who may enter:** Any paid up member and their immediate family

#### **Rules:**

\*Photos must be enlarged to 8 X 10 and matted. Digital photos are acceptable but Xerox copies and pictures that are framed will not be allowed. This is to make it fair to all participants. Please try to have your photos turned in at the photo contest table by 10:30 A.M. on Saturday, January 18th. Remember, the earlier you have it on display, the more time people will have for voting on your entry. Limit of three photos per category per person.

#### **Awards:**

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd place prizes will be awarded in each category.
- 1st prize in each division will be \$15.00 in Trader Bucks
- 2nd prize in each division will be \$10.00 in Trader Bucks
- 3rd prize in each division will be \$5.00 in Trader Bucks
- A grand prize for best photo overall will be awarded \$25.00 in Trader Bucks.

\*\*These Trader bucks will only be valid for this year's convention.

#### **Judges:**

All members (including family) will be allowed to vote during the viewing period on Saturday. You will vote for one photo per category plus the best of show. Judging will be closed at 3:00 P.M. to allow for a count of the ballots. Prizes will be awarded during the auction. Photos may be auctioned off at the owner's discretion.

For complete rules, and if you have any questions about the photo contest, please feel free to contact Mike Johnson, at (307) 265-3256.

# 2020 Convention Pics by Trish and Jim Miller



Trader tables filled the main room at the Ramkota

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Marcie and Ken Hall  
(Tail Gunner) The real deal.

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Karen and A. J. White



Doc Bob Eveland president 1992-3  
vice president 1990 on board 1985

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## **Deer Creek Muzzle Loaders State Shoot**

**JUNE 12, 13, 14 2020**

**GLENROCK WY**

Join us at the Arnold Memorial DCML Range. Bring every muzzleloader you own because we'll have every kind of match there is. Registration is \$5 per person with a \$20 maximum per family. All matches are \$2.00 including the aggregate and re-entries are also \$2.00. A fine dinner included with your registration will be provided Saturday around 5:30ish PM or when the cook says it is done!

It'll be the same rules - No optics except by range officers. Open front and rear sights only. NMLRA rules for scoring. Only traditional muzzle loading hunting rifles using patched round balls. No Black Powder cartridge guns.

**At the conclusion of the shoot all posted scores are final! NO EXCEPTIONS! IF there is a question about a target, alert the boothway immediately! All target challenges are \$5.00!**

**\*PRIMITIVE MATCHES:** Primitive woodland park will be set up with some challenging and fun targets. Times and other rules will be posted in the club tent.

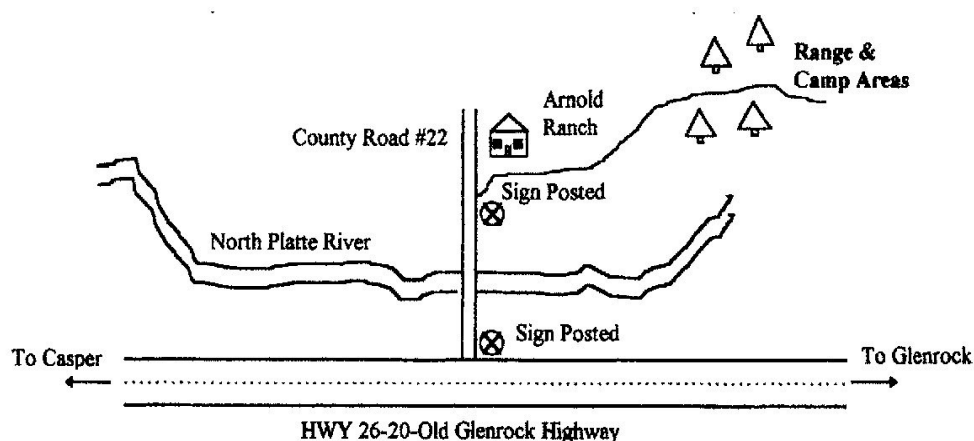
**\*TRADE GUN CLAYS** - Will be held at 4:30 Saturday afternoon. If there is interest

**\*TRAVELING TROPHY SHOOT OFF at 4 pm**

**\*HAWK AND KNIFE MATCHES:** After dinner Saturday

**CAMP RULES:** - Dogs are allowed but must be under adult control and leashed. No horses allowed. No vehicle parking allowed in the primitive camp area except to load and unload. Primitive camping only East of power line that runs North/South just East of the parking area. It looks to be a dry year so no open fires; use a fire barrel, have a fire bucket handy, bury your ashes, and leave your camp clean please.

For more information, contact: Trish Miller (307) 234-6591, Shawn Rothmeyer (307) 267-4879



# Wind River Muzzle Loaders

1/13/2020

WRML Monday2020.jpg

## Wind River Muzzle Loaders MEMORIAL DAY SHOOT

May 22-25, 2020  
RIVERTON, WY

- ★ Evening Council Fire & Activities
- ★ Paper & Primitive Shoots
- ★ Men, Women, Jr & Sub Jr
- ★ Charles Hanson Trade Gun Match
- ★ Hawk & Knife Throw
- ★ Pistol & Revolver
- ★ Kids Games

- ★ Mountain Man Run
- ★ KIDS Mountain Man Run
- ★ Knife Shoot  
10am on Mon, May 25. Calcutta starts at 9am
- ★ Travis Bennett Memorial Match

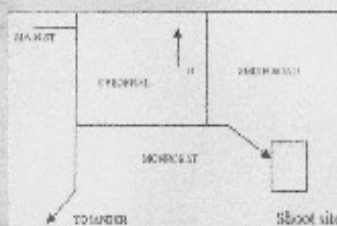
### SATURDAY NIGHT FEED

6pm - \$5 per person or \$15 per family  
(meat provided, bring a side dish)

### Tin Teepee & Primitive Camp

Wood Available - Bring your own water & ice

Information: 307-851-5968



No spotting scopes or loading benches on firing line  
loading from pouch or bag only - range officer is the law.  
Traditional rifle and pistol-patched mind hall only.  
Prizes will be awarded on May 25 following the knife shoot.



# Sierra Madre Muzzle Loading Rifle Club

## Sierra Madre Muzzle Loading Rifle Club 40th Annual Rendezvous July 24, 25 & 26, 2020

Co-Sponsored by the Town of Encampment and in cooperation with the C.C.V.C.

### Camping

All Traders will be asked to donate a prize

Dogs are the responsibility of the owner – Leash law strictly enforced!!

Drinking water and some firewood available

No Horses!

**Pig Roast Saturday Night**  
Bring a side dish to share

**Meal Ticket - \$5 per person**  
12 and under are FREE

All individual shoots will have  
awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

Men Aggregate - \$200.00 Cash  
Women Aggregate - \$200.00 Cash  
Junior Aggregate - \$200.00 Cash  
Sub-Junior Aggregate - \$200.00 Cash

Knife Throw Friday at 3 pm  
Hawk Throw on Saturday at 5 pm

**KIDS GAMES FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY**

### SHOOTING FEES

Single \$20

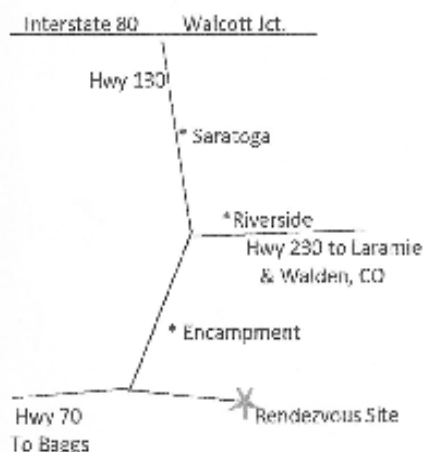
Family \$30

Hawk and Knife \$5 each

Frying Pan, Firestarter, Discs Throw \$5 each

**NO PEEP SIGHT**  
**ROUND BALL ONLY**  
**RANGE OFFICER'S WORD IS FINAL**

**PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ALL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**



For More Information Contact

Josh Saier (307) 326-5503

Crystal Gillen (307) 329-6968

Steve Kerpan (307) 326-8409

Email: [smmlrc@gmail.com](mailto:smmlrc@gmail.com)

Or write:

SMMLRC

PO Box 214

Saratoga, WY 82331

# 1838 Rendezvous

*1838 Rendezvous 2020*



*July 1<sup>st</sup>*  
*Opening Ceremony*

*July 5<sup>th</sup>*  
*Closing Ceremony*

*On Original 1838 rendezvous Site  
Riverton, Wyoming*

*Early Set-up and Camping June 28-30  
(Contact Gary Gavin for anything prior to this)*

*Camp Activities July 1 - 5*

*Primitive Black Powder Shooting Matches  
Hawk / Knife Throws - Games - Nightly Council Fire  
Seminars, Traders and more!*

*Authentic Trapper or Horse Camp Fee \$25  
Authentic Trader Fee \$50 or (\$50 in prizes)  
'Tin Teepee' - modern Fee \$25*

*We focus on authenticity and offering of courses in "skills & history" related to the  
mountain man era but "Everyone" is welcome!*

*Join us and learn what mountain man life was about!  
You do not have to dress primitive to share in our fun!*

*For more information, news, discussions, and updates:*

*[www.1838rendezvous.com](http://www.1838rendezvous.com)*

*Or contact:*

*Booshway: Gary "Big Toe" Gavin - [ggav55@gmail.com](mailto:ggav55@gmail.com) or (307) 851-4059*

*Segundo: Duve "He Who" Lehto - [dlehto@bresnan.net](mailto:dlehto@bresnan.net)*

*Or Write To:*

*1838 Rendezvous Association - PO Box 1838 - Riverton, WY 82501*

*Check us out on Facebook also!!*

*I hope to see you all there!!*

# Big Horn Muzzleloader Bench Shoot

## Big Horn Muzzleloader Bench Shoot



August 22nd & 23rd, 2020  
Matches Begin at 10am

Heart Mountain Shooting Range  
981 Road 5, Powell, Wyoming

### TARGETS

#### YARDS:

- 50 6 Bull
- 75 Buffalo Double Bull
- 100 Buffalo (100)
- 150 50 Yard Pistol
- 200 200 Yard ML

**Entry Fee: \$25**

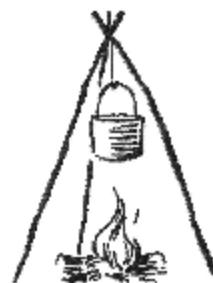
For More Information Call:  
Rich Wormington 307-548-6292  
Ned Dunn 307-754-4498

### RULES

1. Keep fire arms up & down range.
2. Everyone here is a safety officer.
3. While posting targets stay away from guns.
4. Have Fun!

### EQUIPMENT

1. Load into muzzle
2. Patch & Round Ball Only
3. Any Iron Sight
4. Black Powder or a Substitute
5. Flint or Percussion
6. Scopes & In-line will be a different class



Dinner will be provided Saturday  
after the shoot along with scores  
and awards.

### Pistol & Rifle Matches

Awards Given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Shooters

Re-Entry Targets on Sunday with 100% Pay-back!

# **9th Annual Wild's of Wyoming Muzzleloader Skeet and Trap Shoot April 24-26, 2020**



**Guns allowed:** Any front stuff gun, shotgun, trade gun, smoothbore, flint, percussion.

**Where:** Worland, Wyoming, Shooting Complex

3 miles Northwest of Worland on County Rd 15 mile Signs will be posted.

**When: April 24-26, 2020.** Range will be open at 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Friday and Saturday. Sunday range will open from 9:00 till noon for shoot offs and awards.

**Cost:** Entry fees \$20.00 plus \$3.00 per match shot.

If you do not have a smoothbore or shotgun, show up, someone will have one for you to shoot and try out. Powder, shot and caps will be available. We will accept donations to help cover the cost of the powder, shot and caps. This is a family event; we want to encourage more women and youth to participate.

Currently there are 20 scheduled matches. Women: Skeet and Trap, Men's: Skeet and Trap; and Youth; Skeet and Trap. Additional matches for Flintlock and traditional shotguns will be offered. All but one match will be re-entry. You can shoot as many matches as you want. Cost is \$3.00 per round.

**Trap Rounds:** shoot 10-16 birds per match from 10-16 yards.

**Skeet Rounds:** will shoot 16 birds regular or 14 bird report doubles.

**Quick lunch and drinks will be provided on Friday and Saturday. Other meals are on your own.**

**Prizes: Gold, Silver and Bronze** Metals will be awarded to the top 3 of each match. We will also accept donations for additional prizes.

**NMLRA Rules:**

Questions Contact Frank Elsay 307-332-4665 or Bill Morrison 307-347-4002 or 307-431-5614

Dry camp available at Worland Shooting Complex. Camping with or without full hookups Worland Campground 2313 Big Horn Ave, Worland 307-347-2329

Motels: Town House Motor Inn, 119 N. 10th St. Worland 307-347-2426 or Day's Inn 307-347-4251

## Wyoming Clubs at the Local Level

### Big Horn Basin Muzzle Loaders

Tom Brewster (307) 366-2391

### Crow Creek Muzzle Loaders

Mike Penz (307) 635-0791

Chris Allen (307) 635-8425

### Deer Creek Muzzle Loaders

Shawn Rothmeyer (307) 267-4879

Trish Miller (307) 234-6591

### Rusty Buffalo Muzzle Loaders

Karl Milner (307) 299-2074

### Rocky Mountain Free Trappers

Mike Corrigan (307) 237-5136

Allen Herbert (307) 778-7106

### Sierra Madre Muzzle Loaders

Josh Saier (307) 326-5503

Crystal Gillen (307) 329-6967

### Sheridan BullShooters

Albert Pierce (307) 672-6523

Roger Roebeling (307) 655-2583

### Wind River Muzzle Loaders

Terry Hubenka (307) 332-9269

### Smoking Waters Mountain Men

Ray Ferree (307) 864-2649

Charlie Stickney (307) 864-4126

### 1838 Rendezvous

Dave Lehto (307) 856-4457

## Officers and Directors of WSMLA (term expires).

### President:

Frank Elsay (2022)  
391 Amoretti  
Lander, WY 82520  
307-332-4665  
C\_elzay@yahoo.com

### Director/Convention Chair

Trish Miller (2023)  
5531 S. Elm  
Casper, WY 82601  
307-234-6591

### Director

John Nelson  
41 Clearview Road  
Douglas, WY 82633  
307-315-1825  
wyolady64@hotmail.com

### Vice President

Rich Wormington (2021)  
280 Hwy 14A East  
Lovell, WY 82431  
307-548-6292  
bowmaker@tctwest.net

### Director/Auction Chair

Ed Kern (2021)  
316 S. Thurmond St.  
Sheridan, WY 82801  
307-673-1376  
stagecoach@hotmail.com

### Director/Entertainment

Brian Speicher (2021)  
2630 Prairie Lane  
Bar Nunn, WY 82601  
307-247-5172  
rebar5172@att.net

### Treasurer

Crystal Gillen (2022)  
P.O. Box 1871  
Saratoga WY 82331  
307-329-6968  
cgillen618@gmail.com

### Director/State Website

Bill Morrison (2022)  
612 Grace Ave.  
Worland, WY 82401  
307-347-4002  
billm@bearlodgeangler.com

### Director

Ron Pieracini (2023)  
P.O. Box 222  
Lander, WY 82520  
307-332-9314  
pieracini@yahoo.com

### Secretary

Paula Sorter (2022)  
1448 W. 29th Street  
Casper, WY 82604  
307-259-1342  
paulasorter@yahoo.com

### Director /Traveling Trophy

Melissa Connely (2021)  
75 Honeysuckle  
Casper, WY 82604  
307-251-8767  
mconnely@caspercollege.edu

### Director

Gary Millhouse (2023)  
P. O. Box 1044  
Saratoga, WY 82331  
307-332-4665



# 2020

## Deer Creek Muzzle Loaders Winter Challenge Results

[illegible]

## **BLAST FROM THE PAST: MARCH/APRIL ISSUE 1988**

### **Looking for a Shoot by Travis Bennett**

Back in the sixties the state of the muzzle loading in Wyoming was quite a bit different than it is now. There were a few small clubs, meeting and shooting on an irregular basis, and a few individuals around the state that shot by themselves or whenever they could get a few shooters together. There was little or no communication between the muzzle loaders scattered around the state and those interested in the sport were hungry for competition.

Along about 1968 I rejoined the NMLRA, after dropping out for several years, and was excited to notice in Muzzle Blasts that Wyoming Muzzle Loading was enjoying a real surge in popularity. On one of the back pages, in the "Shoot Dates" column, I found 8 or 9 clubs listed, all having a regular shoot schedule. Well this was fine news indeed! No longer was I going to feel isolated and alone in my interests. Here was my chance to join other black powder enthusiasts and, with their expert help and advice, improve my own meager knowledge of muzzle loading.

I noticed that one club, "Willow Stage M.L.R.A." of Rawlins had a shoot coming up on the 4th of July, which was only a few weeks away. I spoke to my wife about attending and she agreed that I should and it'd get me out of her hair for a while. It was settled, I would go to my first real shoot. Hot Damn!!

I called the guy listed in Muzzle Blasts for information but whoever answered the phone was really dumb. He didn't know anything at all about any shoot or anything, but could tell me that "Willow Stage" was a couple miles north of Rawlins and I was welcome to come over for the 4th of July.

Well, time dragged on slowly and anticipation built as the July holiday drew closer. I cleaned and re-cleaned my old Tingle Hawken, checked and re-checked all the stuff in my shooting bag and went over everything that could possibly embarrass me if I screwed up, and finally the big day came I loaded all my plunder in the car, kissed the wife and little ones bye and headed for my first formal competition.

It's 140 miles to Rawlins from Riverton and it seemed to take forever to arrive at "Willow Stage" which was on the highway and right where the guy on the phone said it would be. I piled out of my car and headed inside the log building to find out information about the shoot. I did notice an absence of any evidence of a shoot taking place, no targets neatly lined up in the distance, no firing line, no place to register, nothing. Not at all like the pictures in Muzzle Blasts. I did notice the neon signs in the windows of the "clubhouse". COORS and BUDWEISER and MILLER HIGH LIFE blinked at me but nothing about shooting. Well, Willow Stage turned out to be a bar, nothing more, nothing less. If there were any muzzle loaders in the crowd besides me, they didn't come forward and get acquainted, even after I had a heated discussion with the bartender about false advertising, mileage from Riverton, etc. Then it was back in the car and headed for home disillusioned and disgusted.

Only later did I find out that Wyoming had these strange liquor laws that allowed Nationally Chartered private clubs extra privileges like staying open all night and opening on Sundays, which regular bars couldn't do back then. It wasn't until the late 1970's or early 80's that the NMLRA finally pulled the last of this Drinking Club charters. A. J. White and Bill Jennings, acting as Wyo. Field Reps. For the NMLRA were involved in pulling some of these charters and their files make interesting reading.

Continued on next page....

## **Looking for a Shoot Cont.**

As time went on and muzzle loading became more popular, legitimate clubs took the place of the phonies and we've reached the point that no one need shoot alone, if he desires competition or company.

By Travis Bennett

This story is particularly interesting to the members of the Sierra Madre club because we started out at The Brass Rail bar north of Saratoga. A.J White did indeed pay us a visit in the late 70's or early 80's and helped us form a real mountain man club. A. J. said everyone was eager to learn what was required and he sold us hawks and other items to get the club started. He recalled selling over 20 high quality hawks to customers who had no idea what one was or how it was used. We've come a long way! -editor

### **Don't forget our upcoming events:**

**April 24, 25, 26 Shotgun Shoot, Worland, Trap and Skeet.**

**May 22-25, 2020; Wind River Memorial Day Shoot, Riverton**

**June 12, 13, 14 State Shoot. Deer Creek Muzzle Loaders, Glenrock**

**July 1-5, 2020; 1838 Rendezvous, Riverton,**

**July 24-26, 2020; SMMLRC 40th Rendezvous. Encampment,**

**August 22-23, 2020; Big Horn Bench Shoot, Powell**

**September 12, Sheridan Pie Shoot, Sheridan**

**November 8, Sierra Madre Turkey Shoot, Saratoga**

**November 8, Wind River Turkey Shoot, Riverton**

**November 22, Turkey Shoot, Lander**

**December 13, Sierra Madre Christmas Shoot & Party, Saratoga**