



Washington State



Muzzleloader's Association

September 2015 Newsletter

www.wamuzzleloaders.com

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Upcoming 2015 WSMA

Sponsored Events

*25-26 September Sacajawea
Heritage Days, Pasco, WA*

*25-26 September Trask
Mountain Primitive Rendezvous*

*3-9 October Early Muzzleloader
Elk Season*

*3-11 October WA Early
Muzzleloader General Deer
Season*

*17-27 October WA General Deer
Season*

*Late November WA Late
Muzzleloader General Deer
Season (see Regs for details)*

*Late November WA Late
Muzzleloader General Elk
Season (see Regs for details)*

"The Revenant"

It's been a while since we've had a new blockbuster Hollywood movie that centered around our sport. There have been a lot of documentaries, and even a few TV shows such as "Turn" and "Sleepy Hollow" that harken back to our era. But it has been since 1980 and "The Mountain Men" with Charlton Heston and Brian Keith that we have had any mountain man movies. In January 2016, Leonardo DiCaprio will star in "The Revenant". For those unfamiliar with the term, a revenant is one who dies and comes back to life. This is the story of Hugh Glass the mountain man, who as part of Henry's brigade got mauled by a grizzly bear and left for dead. He eventually heals himself and meets back up with the brigade. Richard Harris made this story into a movie in "Man in the Wilderness", but the names and events were changed. While there are still some liberties taken with the original story, The Revenant looks to be a great show, and one that hopefully will draw some interest to muzzleloading and buckskinning. Check out the movie trailer at www.IMDB.com.

BSA Pioneer Skills Camp-O-Ree.

The Boy Scouts will be having their District Camp-O-Ree in October and the theme is going to be "Pioneer Skills". They are looking for some instructors or demonstrators who could come out to teach different skills such as blacksmithing, weaving, hide tanning, candle making, etc. The event will be run in a round robin style, with groups of boys rotating through different stations. Ideally, it would be nice to have a project the boys can get their hands on, but demonstrations would work also. It will be held 9-11 October at Ski Park Lake in Orting. Participants will need to take the BSA on-line Youth Protection Training. Contact Mike Moran at michael.moran248@gmail.com if interested for more information.

79th New York Highlanders

Each year at the Seattle Scottish Highland Games, the 79th Highlander's participate as part of the celebration of Scottish history in the "Walk Through Time" area. The 79th is a US Civil War reenactment group which portrays a New York militia unit made up primarily of Scottish immigrants. As part of their uniforms, they wear the typical Union army sack coat with their kilts. For the Highland Games, which is held during the last weekend in July at the Expo Center in Enumclaw, the 79th provides a 21 gun salute as part of the opening flag ceremony. This three volley salute shows clearly how their Springfield percussion muskets are reloaded by pulling a cartridge from their cartridge belts, tearing the paper and pouring the charge down the barrel, stuffing the ball still in the cartridge paper into the muzzle of the barrel, and banging the buttstock of the weapon on the ground to seat the charge. At the next command, the guns are primed with a cap taken from the cap box. They can be found on Facebook.

Goode's Company of Foot.

Another event my wife and I attended this summer was the Renaissance Faire held in Bonney Lake, WA the first 3 weekends of August. What does the Renaissance period have to do with muzzleloading? Well there is a group there known as Goode's Company of Foot, which portrays a light infantry unit during the 1600s. They do demonstrations where they recruit audience members and teach them the use of the pike, and they also will demonstrate the firing of their matchlock muskets. More about them and their upcoming appearances can be found at www.goodescompany.com.

Got a Good Hunting Story?

Share it here. We are looking for more stories, tips, tricks, and other information to share. One thing I've learned about muzzleloaders is there is no shortage of stories told and advice given. Think about writing your story down and sending it in.

Paul Bunyan Summer League Shoot

This year we had 14 shooters from all over come to shoot in the Paul Bunyan Summer League shoot. The shoot is held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in June, July, and August. Attrition got the best of us, and only about half the group was able to fully participate. The targets were the same for all 6 matches, and the overall score was taken as the best 5 scores of the 6. When the smoke cleared, the scores stacked up as follows:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Ron Heilman | 6. Frank Ponceroff | 11. Jayme Haeckel |
| 2. Bill Ellingson | 7. Freek Hoover | 12. Randy Scuka |
| 3. Don Kerr | 8. Jim Haeckel | 13. Nina Baker |
| 4. Mike Moran | 9. Mike Farnum | 14. Keith Beard |
| 5. Joe Carr | 10. Doug Nash | |

WASHINGTON HISTORICAL GUNMAKERS GUILD DOIN'S-2015

By Mike Nesbitt

Once more the Washington Historical Gunmakers' Guild had their annual "gathering of gunmakers" for the year at the Capitol City Rifle & Pistol Club during this month. As I've said before, this



organization's annual 4-day gathering is always so full and well scheduled that you simply can't do everything. Most of the time there are two or more classes or presentation taking place at once. What that really means is you should look over the schedule carefully to be sure you don't miss any of the things you really want to see or hear.

Each year a highly noted guest speaker is invited to share expertise in a particular area of gun building and this year that special guest was

Jack Brooks from Englewood, Colorado. This was Jack's second time to join us and I find him very interesting to talk with because he is very well versed about the Lemman rifles. (You might have seen pictures in the Track of the Wolf catalog of the Lemman style rifles he has built.) Jack knows what he's doing, of course, and this year he led the group with a class in the construction of wooden covered patch boxes.

Dave Rase held another class, like the one he gave last year, about "Before You Make That First Cut." This, of course, is how to start making that first rifle. And, as I have



Pouches made in the class done for the past few years, folks who wanted to learn how to make a traditional (looking) shooting pouch came to the class I was giving. This year I had two pouch makers join me, they were Larry Throe and Rich Littke. We all worked hard, hard enough to finish our pouches early and that gave us time to do other things. Last year Mike Moran joined me in the pouch making course and he made a rather fine pouch, for sure. But then he gave it up when he put it "on the blanket" during the gunmakers' shoot. After that shoot, Mike's pouch ended up in Jim Hayden's (the book peddler) collection of

And, as I have



plunder, maybe Lorraine Hayden won it in last year's match. Anyway, Jim saw Mike at this doin's and gave it back to him, saying they had too many pouches as it was. That was a very fine and friendly move on Jim's part. (When I heard Jim had given Mike that pouch, I ran over and bought another book!)

And Mike was there to enjoy the Open Forum and do some good work on his Northwest Gun kit. By doing his work at the Gunmaker's Guild, he could quickly get some assistance or advice with any questions he might have. I snapped the picture above just as he was finishing the inletting of the lock plate. Saturday is the big day of this event with time spent on special interest topics. Those subjects fill the morning. On Saturday afternoon the annual Gunmakers' Shoot is held on the black powder range. That's the match where each shooter uses a muzzleloading rifle or smoothbore they had built, usually a flintlock but not necessarily, and offer a "blanket prize" which they also made. Those blanket prizes are usually shooting pouches, powder horns, knives or powder measures, appropriate accessories to the muzzle-loading rifles. This year, however, participation was low for blanket prizes so those were omitted from the awards.



Group "shot" of shooter in the Gunmakers' Match



Steve Baima, front row in the yellow shirt, won the Gunmakers' Match with a score of 42 on the 6-Bullseye target.

Participation in the shooting match was still very good and one interesting part of that match is the Luck Shoot. This is where each shooter fires just one shot at a special target which has a hidden spot on the back. That spot is covered so not even the folks who set out the target know where the spot is. And the shooter who comes the closest to that hidden mark wins the match. What he wins is the target, after all shooters have signed their bullet holes, and the task of putting on the luck shoot next year. This year that winner was Rich Downs and his shot was just a little bit closer to the unknown mark than my shot.

Then on Saturday evening there is the big dinner for the gathering and the presentation of awards, identifying and honoring outstanding

This is the Luck Shoot target Guild members. That is followed by the annual auction where donated items are auctioned off in order to raise money for next year's gathering.

Throughout the 4-day event there are fine things to eat and all meals area provided with costs included in the registration fees. The excellent cook, once again, is Steve Skillman and the coffee is always on in the kitchen. This year I offered to give Steve some help in the kitchen but he turned me down saying he didn't want to hurt his fine reputation for putting on a good feed. To get more information about the Washington Historical Gunmakers' Guild you should contact Mr. Steve Baima, at percman48@comcast.net. There are no membership dues and becoming a member is based entirely on participation. The schedule for 2016's annual gathering has not been fully completed but it will be held again in August and I'm already planning to be there, maybe to put on another class.

THE DOIN'S AT TENINO, 2015

By Mike Nesbitt

The doin's at Tenino was again the site for the **WSMA Formal Rifle Championships**, like last two years. This was the 38th year for these matches, held at the Tenino City Park in conjunction with the town's Oregon Trail Days. Once again, the "formal" part about these matches is based on the fact that this competition is all on paper targets for score and the rifle shooting done here is what makes up the WSMA Rifle Championships. There are some other matches held along with the rifle competition, such as a Trade Gun Match and a Pistol Match as well as some one-shot novelty rifle matches which are not part of the championships or the rifle aggregate but certainly a good part of these doin's at Tenino. There is also a Ladies' Match and special matches for the young ones which are not part of the main aggregate. Those other shoots make the Tenino shoots more of a doin's for the whole family and they certainly add to the fun.

Something for everybody.

This report, maybe you've noticed, is basically a re-write of last year's report with updates to show the participants and winners for this year. There are some new names and new credits to be given.

One of those "new names" is actually someone who we should all be familiar with, Steve Skillman. Steve didn't shoot with us this year but he did step into Harold Moore's shoes somewhat by making and donating three buffalo horn powder horns to be awarded at the Trade Gun Match. Harold Moore has provided powder horns for the Trade Gun Match for a good number of years but he recently moved and his new shop is not up and running. Steve made sure the top three trade gun shooters received memorable prizes.

In the listing of the match winners, the top three in each of the categories, you'll see some names that have been mentioned before. That simply means those good shooters are still good shooters. It doesn't mean they have the matches "sewn up" before the shooting begins, just that they did so well again this year. There were a couple of first-time shooters on the firing line this year and there were a lot of shooters from past years who did not come to this doin's for whatever reasons. This does its part in bringing new names into the winners' circle and those new names are always good to see.

Of course, you'll recognize some of the old names too such as Tom Brown who returned to act as our Range Safety Officer again this year. And, once again, very big, sincere and multiple Notes of Thanks go to both Will Ulry and Bob Gietz for being the ramrods for running this shoot. Let's also mention Jan Sampson who ran the registration tent for these events. There are actually a lot more names who should be mentioned and thanked for their participation in helping with the set-up and operation of this event, in addition to those who have donated prizes

for either the raffles or the shooting aggregate. Those aggregate prizes are the excellent and varied items that are “for grabs” by all shooters who shoot in the aggregate, are more than enough to be very good “bait” for bringing shooters back to these events in Tenino. Those prizes almost covered the “prize blanket” at the beginning of the awards ceremonies. Many of the names you’ll read in the list of winners will be familiar to you if you have shot at Tenino or simply read a report on such doin’s from a previous year.

Once again I’ll mention how it is a tradition at Tenino for the overall match winner to take the wooden chair that Will Ulry donates as a shooting prize. This year Bob DeLisle followed that great tradition by winning the chair. With luck, Bob will add even more chairs to his camp furniture like other shooters have.

Let’s hope there are a lot of shooters next year who want to win that chair for themselves because that will simply mean more shooters. We can all get in practice to see if such a win comes our way. Along with the chair comes the gold WSMA medal for taking 1st place in the aggregate. 2nd and 3rd place winners also receive medals in addition to their picks of the prizes.

The annual shooting matches at Tenino are, in my opinion, too good to pass up. Even so, our turnout this year was quite low, only 29 shooters. That really isn’t enough and maybe you will join with me in reaching out for more support of this shoot that has been going on for almost 40 years. It’s really too good to lose.

MAIN AGGREGATE

- 1. BOB DELISLE**
- 2. ADAM SAMPSON**
- 3. CALEB SMITH**

JUNIOR AGGREGATE

- 1. KHARISSA YEAGER**
- 2. CARSON EDMINSTER**
- 3. DYLAN KELLEMS**

UNDER 12 SUNDAY ONLY

- 1. DYLAN EGGE**
- 2. EMILY KEIHN**
- 3. TINA KEIHN**

MATCH #1 90 YD SINGLE BULL ANY POSITION

- 1. KENT DUNN**
- 2. TOM DWYER**
- 3. JOHN RHODES**

MATCH #2 75 YD SINGLE BULLSEYE

- 1. BOB DELISLE**
- 2. SHARI EDMINSTER**
- 3. CALEB SMITH**

MATCH #3 50 YD SINGLE BULL BUFFALO MATCH

- 1. ADAM SAMPSON**
- 2. ANDY MCCOY**
- 3. JOHN VLADEFF**

MATCH #4 25 YD NIGHTMARE TARGET

- 1. ANDY MCCOY**
- 2. ADAM SAMPSON**
- 3. BOB DELISLE**

MATCH #5 25 YARD CROW

- 1. ADAM SAMPSON**
- 2. ANDY MCCOY**
- 3. STEVE ANDREWS**

TRADE GUN MATCH

1. ADAM SAMPSON
2. BOB DELISLE
3. MIKE NESBITT

LADIES MATCH

1. KHARISSA YEAGER

KNIFE AND HAWK

1. CALEB SMITH
2. KEN EDMINSTER
3. CHASE SMITH

PISTOL MATCH

1. BOB DELISLE
2. ROWLAND ZOLLER
3. FRANK PONCEROFF

CANDLE MATCH

1. BOB DELISLE
2. TIM SAMPSON
3. BRIAN RHODES

VEE NOTCH


1. CALEB SMITH
2. JOHN VLADEFF
3. TIM SAMPSON

MIKE FINK MATCH

1. MIKE ARNOLD
2. JOHN RHODES
3. ROWLAND ZOLLER

STAKE SHOOT WINNING TEAM

CALEB SMITH, CHASE SMITH, KEN EDMINSTER AND CARSON EDMINSTER



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