

BUCKHORN SKINNERS NEWSLETTER

www.buckhornskippers.com.

follow us on facebook

Skippers

Skippers please read this newsletter carefully regarding the September Shoot

Water

Skippers please bring water to the shoot for fire suppression



Ken Wee giving instructions to all ages!



Some of Ken's targets



News from the Scribe: Annie

The day before the August shoot was the 2020 Ezinga Family Shoot, sponsored by Ken Wee, which was well-attended and appreciated by all. A series of workday tasks were also accomplished during the shoot and after. A new hooter, courtesy of Ray E., was created as part of the C-19 adaption of the lower range.

The August Shoot, sponsored by Brad and Christian, was another chance to try out the range expansion, practicing social



Two Dogs and Lone EIK



distancing while having fun with black powder. It was a hot, dry day, with little wind. Brad and Christian had planned a shoot that offered a variety of tests of skill, including gongs and paper at varying distances. Additional workday tasks were completed afterwards. Top scores:

Remember the conditions, hot and dry? We had a reminder to stay hydrated and as cool as possible when a member was nearly overcome by the heat. Thanks to the right training and quick thinking of others, there were no long-term ill effects, but let's all remember, the high 90s and dry conditions can take their toll, and not only



Grandpa Ray Ezinga keeping everyone organized!

on the landscape!

Both shoots this weekend were followed by short Range Officer Training sessions led by Bloody Muzzle. 10 number of Skinners have now taken the training and are qualified to monitor safety at shoots. All members will need this safety orientation. More classes will be offered in the up coming months. We are all looking out for one another, these days!

The meeting on Sunday the 16th was largely devoted to the Squirrel Shoot, which was cancelled because of a Countywide Fire Ban from 18 August to 18 September, issued two days later. This ban was in direct response to the conditions that lead to the Cameron Peak Fire which originated near Chambers Lake.

The fire ban has recently changed and we may be able to shoot on the September 20th. Captains Annie and Jerry will check with the land owner to verify. We will plan on the shoot but check the website or facebook page to verify before heading to the range.

From the fill in scribe,

Annie

The following is from Tom Boudreau regarding the upcoming September shoot:

Hello Buckhorn Skinners! It has been many years since I was able to ink my computer quill and communicate with this esteem group of Mountain Men & Women via the newsletter. It certainly brings back great memories of the years when I was the Scribe. Of course back then no one wanted to do it because it was paper copies that were

mailed to each member. As I recall the month I was voted in to the club they offered me the Scribe position, and they did so with a “special dispensation” of the rule that required club membership for one year before being appointed to a leadership position. I was totally excited when I got home to tell my wife that the club members were willing to do this for me. I really felt special. She looked at me like I had lost my mind. “So, they suspended the rules to give you the job no one wanted... You did good dear. They must really think highly of you,” she said in her most sarcastic tone. It took me three newsletters to figure out that I had been had. However, over the years I did manage to get my digs in with every one of them. He who controls the ink & quill wins out in the end!

So, as you can see I might tend to be a bit windy with this particular newsletter. If you just want the facts on the September shoot and would like to skip my ramblings jump down to the large letters below. **You will need to let me know if you are attending the shoot, and that is explained in this section.**

That said, this brings me to the details of this month’s shoot. God willin’ the Governor will lift the fire ban before our shoot on the 20th. Presuming that happens please consider this letter a formal invitation to a real, “Ol’ Timer Rocky Mountain Shoot.” It truly is considered OLD because it will be put on by Lone Elk (Fred Newcomb), Trapper Tom (Dwain Thompson), and Gutshot (Darrell Koleber), and myself. When I approached the guys with the idea of putting on this shoot I was truly honored that they agreed to do it with me. I knew instantly with all of this talent we would put together something that was different, and hopefully special for all of you.

As an introduction you all know Darrell. He’s a legend extraordinaire, and he will be on the registration/scoring table. However, not as many of you are familiar with Lone Elk and Trapper Tom. These two

guys go way back to the 1970's with the Buckhorn Skinners. As the mountain men were known to say they, "Sure were some!"

I can tell you that Fred won the Colorado State Shoot Muzzleloading Championship at least five times that I can remember. Back in "The day," when you went to a shooting event and managed to out-shoot the Lone Elk you would go home very proud and so excited that one tended to drink a bit too much in celebration. I only know that by hearing about it from others that managed to actually accomplish this feat. Both shooters told me so in person.

The Elk also had a muzzle loading shooting store next to his home that on any given Saturday was really a convention center for club members. Lone Elk's Trading Post was a great place to hang out. However, for all of his skills with a rifle his ability to brew a pot of coffee was in serious need of improvement.

Trapper is one of the all-time accomplished story tellers. He was in the movie, "The Mountain Men" with Charlton Heston, and the TV series "Centennial." Oh, you do know who Charlton Heston was right? In any case Trapper was "Some" with a rifle in his own right, and a Mountain Man's – Mountain Man. He was great at using his mountain skills to gain an edge. I can remember where he used his ingenuity to win a rifle shoot without firing the rifle. Good luck figuring that out.

Speaking of trickery, that reminds me of Gutshot. Once upon a time during a Mtn. man run he ran out of shots having only shot a bad-guy one time that needed to be shot twice. So, he flew down the range (the current hill at Pats' ranch), and stabbed him dead. He won the event.

I digress.... Trapper's wife, Phyllis, was the CO State Muzzleloading Champion in 1972. I believe this was the first year of this state-wide event.

Lastly, I'll close out all of this with a short story. Well, maybe not so short. In any case, several of us were led into the mountains by Trapper Tom for a primitive campout. We spent the evening all sitting around the campfire telling stories, and nursing our blisters. Lone Elk and I shared a canvas tarp tent the first night, and covered up with a wool blanket. During the night the Elk and I froze our you know what's off. We didn't get one minute of sleep. The cold just came up through the ground like it was winter. The two of us froze. We were the first of the group to emerge out of our tent that morning, and found Trapper with his coffee pot going. He was sitting there truly enjoying the morning after sleeping like a rock. The Elk and I walked up to him and spotted his bed of dry needles and pine tree branches. It was a comfy mattress by any standard. We looked at him with our jaws dropped in astonishment. After everyone went to bed Trapper went out and rounded up all of his bedding material so no one would see him do it. So, back to our look of astonishment. Trapper looked at us with a smile and simply said, "I see you boys just learned a little something." The thoughts that ran through my mind at that moment do not meet the club rules for etiquette, and as such I cannot share them.

Then there was the time that Wiley Jamoke..., actually I will save that one for another day.

**The September Buckhorn Skinners' Shoot –
Sunday September 20th.**

Ol' Timer Rocky Mountain Shoot!

If the fire ban is lifted we will have our Buckhorn Skinners' September shoot on Sunday the 20th. I can only tell you to prepare for the unexpected. There will be NO paper targets (animals/bullseye, etc), or gongs to shoot at. Yup, you read that right. Let your mind wonder as to what we are up to? I can only tell you to look forward to a good time.

I do have one special request. Due to the work involved in doing all of this we need to have an accurate count of who will attend. **I am respectfully requesting that you RSVP email me at Tom7Bike@Outlook.com . Please do so at the latest by Tuesday, September 15th.** I truly hate to say it this way, but If you don't tell us you are attending you won't be able to shoot unless someone else doesn't show up. Please don't let it come to that. If you are likely to come just send me an email NOW so you don't forget. All of us putting on the shoot are hoping that you will be attending a very fun and challenging event.

Also, if you happen to have a muzzle loading shotgun, and would like to shoot it this would be the day to bring it.

Respectfully submitted at least for most of it...

Two Dogs X AKA Tom Boudreau