



August 2013

Mountain Man Monthly

The Authorized Publication of the
Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders Inc.

The Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, Inc. was chartered in 1969 by a group of men and women interested in their heritage and dedicated to preserving and promoting the sport of muzzle loading and buckskinning. CSML is a family oriented club that holds a broad range of functions such as camp outs, potluck dinners, and black powder shoots. CSML is affiliated with the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the National Rifle Association.

Views and opinions contained within articles submitted to the *Mountain Man Monthly* are not necessarily those of the editor or CSML. The editor reserves the right not to publish any article submitted but encourages articles on any subject regarding shooting sports and subjects related to the fur trade era.

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Membership Secretary
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Ted Beaupre
Marlin Johnson
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Doug Davis
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Tony Hecker
Womens' Primitive Exec.
Judy Sterner
Cannon Master
Richard Stites

**Legislative Liaison
& Webmaster**
Doug Davis

**Mountain Man Monthly
Editors**
The Webb's

Monthly Meeting SEPT. 5
7:30 p.m.
Potluck & Election of Officers
Muzzle Loading Hunting
Sept. 14-22
Time for Reports & Stories
Primitive Shoot - Sept. 15
Next paper shoot - Oct. 6
Bird & Buffalo Event & Craft
Fair Rapidly Approaching!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS: CSML & Statewide

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	INFORMATION
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	Sept 5	Potluck & election of officers
Hunter's Widow Rendezvous	Ft. Lupton	Sept. 13-14	contact Valerie (303) 995-5989
Muzzle Loading Rifle Hunting Season	Statewide	Sept. 14-22	Good luck to all of our hunters!!!
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	Sept. 15	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
CSMLA Club Challenge Match	Rightmire Ranch near Agate	Sept. 21	shooting, food, & fun. Potluck Saturday with roast pig
National Hunting & Fishing Day	Cheyenne Mtn. Shooting Complex Off I-25	Sept. 28 set-up 0800 hrs.	range #6. Need help for hawk & knife, shooting, fire starting, demo materials. Primitive dress.
Colonial Encampment	Ft. Lupton	Sept. 27-28	Stuart & Pat Wier are Co-Booshways
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	Oct. 3	Come see what happens!
Hot Irons Rendezvous	Ft. Lupton	Oct. 4-5	no other details at this time.
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	Oct. 6	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Annual Bird & Buffalo Shoot & Camp Out	Ft. Melchert Penrose	Oct.19- 20	long range, shotgun, and primitive shooting, potluck Sat.
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	Nov. 3	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Annual Craft Fair & Regular Monthly Meet	American Legion	Nov. 7	Free tables to display your crafts; anything accepted
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	Nov. 17	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	Dec. 1	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	Dec. 5	Ornament gift exchange & eats
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	Dec. 15	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	January 2, 2014	Happy New Year!!!!
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	January 5, 2014	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
CSMLA Annual Trade Show & Convention	Clarion Inn Greeley, CO	Feb. 14-16	annual meeting, banquet, awards, and much, much more!!!

For CSML scheduled shoots; CALL SHOOT HOT LINE (719) 632-7690 after 9:00 a.m. on shoot day to be sure shoot is on!!!
Schedule is subject to change at any time and is based on information available at time of publication. On-line check csmlinc.org

PAST THINGS

If you missed the August meeting, you missed a really fun and interesting meeting. The business portion was quick. We now have a total of 89 member families, with 20 new ones this year, and 2 new members who signed up at a Grainger camp out. Welcome to all of you returning and just joining us.

Gwen reported that she had been to Stephen's wedding in Washington. It was a great time and he sends his best wishes back to all of us here in Colorado.

The report from the Primitive Grainger camp out was that there were lots of laughs and a great time. The one question that has not yet been answered is "Whose idea it is to hold a tarp over a raging fire?" If anyone knows the answer to this please let us know. It has caused quite a stir among those that weren't there and they really would like to know "the rest of the story....."

Eternal Range Officer & Instructor Doug gave thanks to all of our group who attended and passed the classes held for muzzle loading rifle instructor. It makes him proud to be part of a group that is as informed and prepared as the CSML.

By the time you read this, the 2014 State Shoot will have been completed at Ft. Lupton. Hope you all were able to shoot well and make us proud at this one. Don't forget the upcoming Club Challenge Match on September 21st. We need a good showing so that we can field the team that will be the winners this time!

We have heard that Dee Jordan, a long-time trader and supporter of the muzzle loaders has passed away in early August. Dee was a frequent attendee at the Rocky Mountain College Rendezvous and many other events throughout the state. Dee had moved to Nebraska but still supported the Colorado muzzle loaders in every way possible. Our condolences and prayers go out to Dee's family and friends.

At the end of the meeting, Richard Stites "Singe" took up his tools and showed us how to knap some flint. He provided us with lots of information on the different kinds of flint and tools to work it with. He also showed great patience and perfection in striking and changing the "rock" into a thing of

beauty

and functionality. His knowledge of the art was impressive and yet he just considers himself a novice. The trays with his completed works and the arrows which had his spear-points were very impressive. We thank you Richard, for sharing this with us and helping us to understand the skills of our forefathers.

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get well blake!!!!

We understand that Blake tore a muscle in his right shoulder at school. He has to see an orthopedic doctor to determine the extent of the injury and his eventual return to normal. At the time of the newsletter Blake is wearing a sling and taking his meds.

We hope for a speed recovery and back to normal for his Senior year!!!

## Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, Inc. Regular Monthly Meeting August 1, 2013

August 1, 2013 was the CSML regular membership meeting. President Joy called the meeting to order and thanked Ron Deurmyer for making the long trip to join us.

The Secretary's report was printed in the *Mountain Man Monthly*. Joy called for any changes or corrections. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as published. Motion carried.

Gwen provided the Treasurer's report. A motion was then made and seconded to approve as given. Gwen then announced that Stephen was married and the wedding was beautiful. Stephen and his new wife will be stationed in Hawaii. Guess where Gwen will be going next spring???????

Membership report by Ted noted that we have a total of 89 member families, with 20 being new and two signing up at the Grainger shoot.

Doug Davis gave a primitive report which sated that you had to be at the Primitive Grainger Camp out shoot to laugh at the teenagers keeping the fire alive through rain and hail. All had a great time at this one.

Doug also noted that Gwen, Michelle Roy, Tony, Tim, and Randy are now certified as muzzle loading instructors. Ken is working on obtaining the certification for a pistol instructor. Good job all who participated.

**Old Business:** There was a gun show on August 10 & 11. These are always good events to get our club out in the public and maybe garner new members.

**New Business:** The CSMLA State Shoot is scheduled for August 30 through September 2 at Ft. Lupton. This is a bracketed shoot so that you can compete with others of the same skill level. There will be camping area available. Since most of our crew will be at this shoot, there will be no regular club shoot at Ft. Melchert on September 1.

Reminder given that the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting is a potluck and election of officers.

Upcoming events were noted.

Meeting was then adjourned by Joy. She introduced Richard "Singe" Stites who provided us with a great demonstration on flint knapping. What an art to watch and learn how to work the tools with the stones. THANK YOU Richard for showing us the talent and patience that you have for this old-fashioned and primitive art.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois Schainost

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# Primitive Pistol Match August 4

by: Ken "Suds" West

It was really too nice a day to do anything but enjoy the weather, but three of us shot pistol. Roy Crouse missed a couple figuring out the right charge for his pistol. Clay Vandenberg and I tied and both missed

Fred's favorite tie breaker - - the gong at 54 yards! We decided to call it a tie, even though Clay's shots were a lot better centered than mine (shooting paper, he would have won by 15 points).

Went up for the grand opening of Cabella's south of Denver on the 15<sup>th</sup> - - - didn't get out of the car! The parking lot was full, two overflow parking lots were full, and people were walking more than a half-mile to get in line. Denver missed a revenue opportunity by not having them in the city.

**Things Everyone Else Already Knew....** You can't load a .32 cal. with a .38 cal. ramrod; but you can load a .36 cal. with a .32 cal. ramrod.

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## National Hunting & Fishing Day

Ted Beaupre had been contacted about the CSML participating in the National Hunting and Fishing Day. He briefed our group on it at the August meeting.

Ted attended the planning meeting and is providing us with the information needed for us to go and be part of this huge event. We understand that there could be up to 1,000 people in attendance. (What a crowd for us to share with and maybe get them to join us.)

This event is on September 28 (Saturday) and we can begin our set up at 8:00 a.m. on range #6. The location is at the Cheyenne Mountain Shooting Complex off of I-25.

Here is Ted's list of supplies and if you can help him, please let him know so that we don't miss something or duplicate others:

Rifles for novice shooters (both P and F)  
powder, balls, caps  
gongs for target  
Ken West has already volunteered for pistol

- Fire starting area:
  - table
  - char cloth
  - tinder
  - strikers & flints
  - canvas table cover
  - water bucket (with water)

- Hawk & Knife area:
  - blocks
  - hawks & knives

We also need folks to come and have static displays of things related to our sport. People will always come by and look and ask lots of questions about our favorite sport and time period.

Please come in your primitive attire and help us with this event. We need lots of help and especially if there are as many folks as are anticipated.

Let Ted know if you have any questions or if you plan to come. Ted has stepped up to the head and is running this. Let's help him out and make ourselves proud!!!!

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**THE ALARM CLOCK TO END  
ALL ALARM CLOCKS**

Gwen Blanchard sent us the following article from some things that she had. The source is unknown. Gwen did say that she thought this clock would really be a good one to wake her kids.

“A late foreign paper has the following description of a new and extraordinary invention: among the list of patents is one taken out by Mr. E. Wheld for a candle lamp of a very novel character. The lamp has a dial or clock face, and, as the candle burns, the hands mark the hours and minutes correctly, and a hammer strikes the time. As a chamber light for a sick room it marks the time and can be set to strike at any given period when the patient requires attention. As a night light, it marks the time on a transparent dial and rings an alarm at any stated period, and in ten minutes afterward extinguishes the candle, or will continue to strike every second until the party gets out of bed and stops

it, and if a vary heavy sleeper requires to be roused, it will fire off a percussion cap. As a table lamp it marks the time and strikes the hours, and has a regulator and index, by which may be ascertained the amount of light and economy of consumption of the various candles of different makers. And all this is affected with very little machinery, which is of the most simple kind.”

Wonder if you need a concealed carry permit to use this clock???????

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**37<sup>th</sup> Annual Colorado Trappers  
Convention & Rendezvous**

We learned of this event through the local radio stations and newspaper so we took time on Sunday, September 1 to go and see what it was all about.

While it was not a rendezvous in the sense of fur trade rendezvous, it was a very interesting event. It was held August 30 through September 2 near Canon City, just off Highway 9.

The program for this event stated that they “welcome trappers, predator callers, fur harvesters, and sportsmen.” The following information was also contained in that program:

*“The Colorado Trappers Association is the State’s leading promoter of trapping and fur harvesting activities while playing an intricate part in the education and management of the State’s fur bearing animals, while upholding the ideals of our unique trapping heritage. The CTA continues to not only be part of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife stakeholders processes but also continues to take on the various non-consumptive groups that are trying to not only take away hunting and trapping but also decide on how all wildlife is managed.*

*The CTA fur auction held in February of each year in Hugo, Colorado provides a venue for trappers and fur harvesters to sell their fur throughout Colorado and the west while allowing them to get their furs to the world wide market and supporting the industry. The auction generates hundreds of thousands of dollars in fur sales while helping to keep*

*alive the fur harvesting opportunities.*

*The CTA also exhibits to over 500,000 people annually at the Denver National Western Stock Show while educating the general public about trapping, hunting and general wildlife management. During this event the CTA continues to donate a fur coat to Miss Rodeo Colorado while continuing to promote the industry.*

*Additionally, the CTA provides scholarships to the NRA Whittington Center Youth Outdoor Adventure Camp to further the education about hunting, trapping, and the need for such activities for future generations. Affiliations with the National Trappers Association and the Fur Takers of America as well as the Furbearers Unlimited have allowed the Colorado Trappers Association to become one of the top advocates in the western United States while defending sportsmen's rights in general. The CTA provides scholarships for continuing education relating to wildlife management, agriculture, biology, forestry, and environmental sciences."*

We enjoyed our tour of the compound and saw lots of traps, scents, calls, and things we had to ask what they were. There were several dealer tents set up as well as individual trapper tents. There was a primitive dressed individual that was showing a young lady how to skin a beaver. That was very interesting and the young lady did a great job for her first time.

Next year's event will be held at New Castle, Colorado. You can go to [coloradotrappert.com](http://coloradotrappert.com) for dates and information. Membership in this organization is \$30 per year which includes their magazines.

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## PAPER GRAINGER CAMP OUT

We didn't make the whole event and haven't received a report, but we did go up on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> and have breakfast with the group.

What a beautiful morning it was. The drive up Phantom Canyon was a trip down memory lane and a very beautiful, but slow, drive. We did scare up a few rabbits, some deer, and several turkeys on the way.

When we arrived the group was setting up and getting ready to cook pancakes. Joy and Petra were

warming up their grills and Ted was cooking eggs to order. The aromas of the food was making us hungry!!!! Lots of food was loaded onto the tables and we all partook of the fine vittles that were there. Can't say I was disappointed but then, I never have been at any one of our potluck events.

Some of the folks that I saw at the event were:

Jane Lewis  
 Jock & Pat Harmon  
 Doug Davis  
 Fred & Petra LaChance  
 Tom & Sandra Gabor  
 Randy Ruyle  
 Janie & Terry Clark  
 Craig Thomas  
 John Udovich  
 Corisa Queuillon  
 Lynn & Matthew Wheat  
 Roy & Vivian Crouse  
 Leon & Peggy Basdekas  
 Gwen & Michelle Blanchard  
 Ted & Dee Beaupre  
 Jim Murray  
 Joy Hicks

If I missed some of you, I'm sorry. Hard to eat and count noses and keep up with all the hustle that was happening.

Saw several folks go down the hill and tear down the range right after the eats were done. Others were busy packing up their camp. Everyone seemed to have a good time.

Jim Murray and Ted Beaupre went down to the shotgun range and fired off a few birds. The let me join them and shoot a few myself. Nothing any more fun than shooting the birds and watching them disintegrate. For me, any time shooting a shotgun is a grand time and when I break a few, it's even better!!!!

All too soon the camp was deserted and left quiet. We will return next year and I'm sure that we'll have just as much if not more fun than we did this time. If you didn't make it, you can plan now to come next year and join us. Mother Nature will welcome us back with open arms and show us her beauty and splendor that is unmatched.

I'm sure that there is a really good story that goes with the hints I heard about a tarp and a fire and the rain and hail but so far, no one has shared it.

**Season of Terror - The Espinosas**  
**in Central Colorado**  
**March-October, 1863**

For those of you out there that like to read, this sounds like a great book. It is written by Charles F. Price, and published by University Press of Colorado.

Touted as the complete story of the Espinosa incident and its entire cast of participants, Charles Price has provided the first fully sourced and researched non-fiction book about the Espinosas. It is a story that includes all of the elements that one would expect to find in a best selling Western novel, except that it is non-fiction.

This book is a great one and is enthusiastically recommended if you are interested in Colorado history and especially if you live in Fremont County or other parts of south-central Colorado. It is available at Amazon.com; both in hardcover and Kindle versions.

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## TIDBITS OF INFO

### **Shipping Vermillion from Canton, 1857**

Vermillion is a red colour formed of mercury and sulphur melted together and heated to redness. East India Company's ton 20 cwt (hundredweight, 112 pounds); a bag of vermilion weighs 50 pounds; a Chinese box weighs 50 cattie; a Chinese box containing 90 papers measures one cubic foot; 50 boxes go to a ton of 50 cubic feet.

----- from Robert White Stevens, *On the Stowage of Ships and their Cargo* (Plymouth, Longmans, Green, Reader, and Dyer, 1858), 771.

### **The Cost of Beaver Hats**

Here are a couple of references from the mountain man period on the price of a beaver hat versus the price of beaver fur, silk hats, felt hats, etc.

*St. Louis 1823*: Beaver wholesale \$2.50 to \$3.25 per pound; retail \$4 per pound. Beaver hat, drab color, \$10 retail. Beaver hat, Roram (also known as a plated hat; it consisted of a felt body with a napped cover of

beaver fur) \$4.50 to \$6.00 retail. Common hat (wool felt) \$2 retail.

*St. Louis 1840*: Beaver hat sold to Sarpy, \$5

*St. Louis 1841*: Silk hat sold to Drips \$3.50

*St. Louis 1847*: Beaver hats \$21 dozen wholesale. Silk hats \$18 dozen wholesale. Wool felt hats, drab, \$1.50 dozen wholesale. Palm leaf hats, \$1.50 dozen wholesale.

(Information from Chouteau Collection ledgers, BB, FF, and LI. Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis).

### **Marbles**

A fairly common artifact from trading post and Indian village sites located east of the Mississippi valley is the marble. Indians enjoyed games of chance and skill; so did whites. President John Tyler was apparently an avid marble shooter in his adult years. Over half a century ago, marbles was the most popular boys' game during recess in small town Ohio.

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## **CSMLA Annual Trade Show & Convention**

The Colorado State Muzzle Loading Association is in the process of planning their 2014 Annual Trade Show and Convention. It will be held at the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center in Greeley, Colorado.

Dates for the convention will be February 15-16, 2014. There will be the annual meeting, trade room, classes & demonstrations, auction, silent auction, and drawings throughout the weekend.

Reserved room rates will be \$89 which includes breakfast. Dogs will be welcomed with an additional pet fee of 25. Contact number for room reservations is 970-353-8444. Be sure to mention that you are part of the Colorado State Muzzle Loading Association when you make your reservation. It is advised that you make your room reservation early as there are other conventions at the same time.

Banquet prices are \$25 per person and includes the tax and gratuity. Choices are beef, chicken, or vegetarian and include dessert.

Reservation forms and further information will be in the next newsletter.