



August, 2014

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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Doreen Webb



**60 YEARS & STILL
COUNTING!**

Congratulations Ron & Juanita

Regular Monthly Meeting

Sept. 4th

Potluck & elections

UPCOMING EVENTS: CSML & Statewide

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	INFORMATION
State Shoot	Ft. Lupton	August 29-Sept. 1	Camp fee of \$20; contact Joy
Regular Club Meeting & Annual Elections	American Legion	September 4	potluck beginning at 7:00 p.m. then meeting & elections
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	September 7	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Women on Target	Cactus Flats	September 14	women on the range!!!
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	September 21	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	October 2	normal stuff
Regular Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	October 5	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Annual Bird & Buffalo Event & Auction	Ft. Melchert	October 18-19	long range & lots of shooting, potluck Saturday night; auction
Daylight Savings Ends	turn your clock back	November 2	to be on time for the events!!!
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	November 2	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Annual Craft Show & Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	November 6	bring your wares & display for free; do not have to be ML related
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	November 16	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting & ornament exchange	American Legion	December 4	bring a wrapped ornament & some goodies to share
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	December 7	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	December 21	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting???	American Legion	January 1, 2015	do we want to cancel this meet?
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	January 4, 2015	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Annual Board Meeting	Joy's House	January 13	set annual calendar & stuff!!!
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	January 18	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	February 1	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	February 5	white elephant gift exchange
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	February 15	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 1	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm

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

The July meeting was an interesting one. If you missed it, you missed a really good time.

Previous member Don Kenitzer who was a member while stated here at Ft. Carson has retired and re-joined our group. Good to have him back.

We went through the normal stuff pretty fast and then it was time for Marlin Johnson to share some archery facts with us. That was a very interesting talk and we all learned things that we did not know about how much archery has changed and yet remains the same as our primitive forefathers began.

We are not participating in any of the gun shows in August and September. We have too many folks on vacation and planning to hunt. We'll go back later in the year.

Already been a busy summer and more still to come. Reports on the various shoots, camp outs, and participation events were given. Thanks to all of you who have made these events and made them the success that the CSML is known for.

Remember that the September meeting is the annual election of officers so plan to be there or you may end up in an office! The meeting is also a potluck supper so bring your food and some to share. Be sure to bring you a plate and eating utensils as well.

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CONGRATULATIONS!!! RON & JUANITA 60 YEARS

That's right, August 22 was a huge celebration for the 60th wedding anniversary for Ron and Juanita. Several of us got together (spearheaded by Kathi and Tom Hendricks) and went to the Progressive Care Center and held a little party for the Melcherts.

We all felt that this is a huge milestone in the lives of our friends Ron and Juanita and just could not let it pass without some fanfare. Many of you may remember that we helped them celebrate their 50th just a short ten years ago at the August Grainger camp out. Joy and Doreen decorated a cake in the camper

and we had a great group gathered, including their children Tracy and Cindy. Hard to believe that a full ten years has come and gone.

There were balloons, flowers, and big band music in the background. In addition to Ron and Juanita, Tom and Kathi Hendricks, Don and Pat Hansen, Carl and Nancy Howard, Marlin and Barb Johnson, Russ and Sharon Conner, Fred and Petra LaChance, Joy Hicks, Jim and Mary Greene, and Doreen Webb celebrated and visited. There was cake and ice cream with several drink choices.

Your editor learned that Jim and Mary Greene and Ron and Juanita Melchert have remained friends for over 40 years!!! This is another great accomplishment that they remained friends all this time and were able to serve at three military bases together. This goes to show what great friendships are made of.

The afternoon was a big success and a mostly good time. We had one small incident in which Kathi cut her fingers on a spatula/knife combination that Doreen had purchased from Blake Schainost. The good thing was that the Progressive Care Center is right next to the hospital and the emergency room where Kathi was taken for a few stitches and some band-aids. Sorry Kathi, should have warned you that the spatula was sharp!!!! Hope your fingers are better.

Ron has expressed his thanks to all who came and shared this special day with them. Juanita was all smiles so we know she enjoyed it as well.



CAMP & ITEMS FOR SALE

One of our long-time members, Jim Williams, who was also our publicity chairman, has donated his camp and all the accouterments to the CSML to do

with as we see fit. The camp includes a one-pole tent, ground cloth, some hair-on hides, chairs, tent-stove and piping, stakes, ropes, blankets, small wooden tables, and fire irons. We want to thank Jim for this huge donation and the kindness with which it was presented.

We are working on getting pictures taken so that you can see what there is. We will also be measuring the one-pole to give you an idea of the size. Canvas is in great condition and not hardly broken in yet. Anyone interested in the whole package or even part of it, will be given opportunity to make a purchase.

Thank you again Jim for your thoughtfulness and generosity to the CSML!!!!!!

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Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders Regular Monthly Meeting August 6, 2014

The CSML held their monthly meeting on August 6, 2014 with President Joy calling the meeting to order. She welcomed Don Kenitzer who was a member when he was stationed at Ft. Carson. He is now back since retiring on June 30 from the Army.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's report as printed in the *Mountain Man Monthly*. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was not given since Gwen was at work all day and didn't have time to go home before the meeting. She will ensure that we have a report at the next meeting.

Membership Chairman Ted Beaupre reported that we have two new members and nothing else has changed in membership.

Primitive Exec Doug was not present at this part of the meeting.

Old Business: The July 4th parade in Monument was conducted with John and Carol Gloyd, Ken West, Doug Davis, Joy Hicks, Michelle Blanchard, and Ted and Dee Beaupre representing our group. Thank you to this group for being there and keeping our name in the public eye.

New Business: The club was advised that our

benefactor Ron Melchert has been having problems with his car starting. A motion was made to purchase a "jump box" for his vehicle. Motion was quickly seconded and unanimously approved. One will be purchased and given to Ron.

The Shoot-A-Ree on August 9 provided a note to all attending to be there by 9:00 a.m.

Paper Grainger camp out will be August 16-17. Plan for a potluck on Saturday night and potluck pancake breakfast on Sunday morning.

Joy explained that the CSMLA State Shoot this year is a joint effort by three clubs in the state. Our responsibility for this shoot is the flyers, book, scoring, and range officers. Please be sure to attend this on August 29-September 1 so that we have enough range officers for the event. Camping is available.

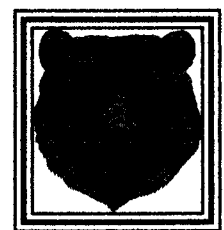
A letter from Richard Truex was received along with his membership dues. Richard was a member while he was stationed at Ft. Carson and has remained a member since he left the area.

Michael, who last month had asked for help with the scouting event sponsored by the Young Mountain Men of Colorado, thanked our group for those who came and assisted in the event. This type of thing makes a positive impact on the young men who attend. Doug, Joy, Ted, and Dee were present to help out.

All the business portion of the meeting being concluded, Marlin Johnson then gave us a presentation on modern day archery equipment. His knowledge was broad and it was interesting to see how the bow has changed over the years. Richard Stites also brought in some older bows made out of different types of wood. Thanks to Marlin for sharing his knowledge with the group.

Motion made, seconded, and passed for adjournment of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Schainost



missed one of the big, easy gongs! A good match amidst pleasant company!

Things everyone else already knew.....

Cutting my pre-lubed patches bigger so that the edges never get caught in the flame-front prevents the patches from burning. Increasing the amount of beeswax in the beeswax/Crisco mixture seems to clean the barrel better when loading -- makes the patches less sticky too!

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Things to Remember.....

State Shoot on August 29 through Sept.1. Need range officers to help with this event.

Club elections on September 6. All offices are open for new blood.

Women on Target September 14. Check with Doug about how you can help with this day at the range at Cactus Flats.

October is fast approaching and will be our Bird and Buffalo shoot, potluck, and auction. Time to get your stuff ready to bring for the auction. Only rule is that if it doesn't sell, you have to take it back home with you.

November is the craft fair. This is a time when anyone can bring their craft items and display them for free. Items do not have to be muzzle loading in nature, and we are always looking for new crafts to be there. This is a great time for the beginning of the holiday shopping season. You may just find the right gift for that special person on your list.

EACH OTHER!!!! Yes, let's remember each other throughout the days. We all have issues and problems and sometimes we forget that we are not in this alone. Let's take a moment or two and say a prayer for all our members wherever they may be. The Good Lord has blessed us all and we need to share those blessing with others!!!

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THIS & THAT

Beaver Traps:

The steel trap had been developed in Europe in Medieval times, but its most usable pattern was designed and built by American blacksmiths in the late 18th century. Until about 1860, traps were forged by hand one piece at a time and a beaver trap cost about \$1.50 in St. Louis. The mountain man's trap had to be strong enough to hold a beaver and heavy enough to quickly drown the animal. The chain, spring, jaws, and pan needed to be reliable in cold and wet circumstances.

Traps were placed in shallow water at points where beaver regularly entered and left the water, and at small openings made in their dams. The trapper often placed a stick dipped in scented bait above the trap to attract, and distract, the beaver.

When its front foot triggered the trap and the jaws clamped on its leg, the beaver dove for deep water, which the long chain, fastened to a stake, permitted. The heavy trap held the beaver underwater, and it drowned.

Traps were usually set in the evening and checked each morning. The trappers regularly ate the fine-grained beaver meat after the animals were skinned.

Beaver Hats:

Since Medieval times, beaver fur has been used to make fine, waterproof felt for hats. As urban populations grew in the 19th and 19th centuries, the demand for beaver to make warm, waterproof, and stylish headgear increased rapidly.

Up The Wide Missouri:

After the return of Lewis and Clark in 1806, John Jacob Astor tried to establish a permanent post on the Pacific to gather furs for the lucrative China trade. The post, Astoria, fell into British hands.

Many of the Indians of the upper Missouri and Rockies, living in prime beaver country, did not trap, or had no inclination to do so. A fur merchant from St. Louis, Manuel Lisa, organized a brigade of white beaver trappers who worked on shares in exchange for transportation, equipment, and food. With the help of Alexander Henry and Pierre Menard, Lisa tried to

open the upper Missouri-Rocky Mountain fur trade. Indian attacks, accidents, war, and financial panics thwarted Lisa's efforts until his death in 1820.

The Oregon Question:

Following the inconclusive War of 1812, the British and American used diplomacy in 1818 to seek a northwestern boundary between the United States and Canada.

The British claim to the region was based on the coastal explorations of Captains Cook and Vancouver, and those of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, who had crossed North America to reach the Pacific in 1793. Great Britain claimed the Pacific Coast south to Spanish California, while America claimed it north to Russian Alaska.

Americans based their claim on the discovery of the mouth of the Columbia River by Boston ship Captain Robert Gray, the expedition of Lewis and Clark to the Pacific (1804-06), the establishment of Astoria trading post (1810), and the overland travels of Wilson Price Hunt, Robert Stuart, and other Astorians.

Spain (in California) supported American claims, while Russia (in Alaska) supported those of Britain. When nothing could be resolved, the two sides agreed to joint Occupation, which continued until 1846.

The British Invasion:

The Joint Occupation agreement favored the British, for during the War of 1812, its fur traders had taken over the Oregon Country posts established by American John Jacob Astor. In 1812, the Montreal-based North West Company merged with the rival London-based Hudson's Bay Company.

The new HBC monopoly presented a huge threat to American interests. To keep the Americans away from the Oregon country, HBC governor George Simpson ordered his trapping brigades to create a "fur desert" by trapping everything along the Snake and Columbia rivers.

Rendezvous:

In 1822, Missourian William Ashley formed a partnership with Alexander Henry and recruited a brigade of about a hundred trappers to ascend the Missouri to its source and trap beaver. While the new

enterprise suffered setbacks, it eventually made Ashley a wealthy man and in 1826 he retired to run successfully for Congress.

In 1823, Ashley's keelboats were attacked by Arikara Indians on the Missouri in present day South Dakota; fourteen trappers were killed. This convinced him to re-supply his trappers in the mountains and pick up their furs by overland caravan following the Platte River across Nebraska.

On July 1, 1825, Ashley's caravan met his trappers on Randavouze Creek in Southwest Wyoming. For sixteen years, until 1840, the annual rendezvous became a time to sell the catch, buy supplies, have fun, and count the dead. Usually more friendly Indians than trappers attended the gatherings, which sometimes lasted for two weeks.

Blue Lodge on the Green:

Many of the mountain men and most of the leaders were members of the Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons. Special Masonic swords were sent to at least one rendezvous, and the fraternity probably had secret meetings during the festivities.

Rocky Mountain College:

During the months of bivouac in winter quarters, there was time for sports and games. Men learned to read and write, and others shared their knowledge of history, languages, religion, literature, and science with their friends. One beaver trapper referred to this time as his having attended the "Rocky Mountain College".

Shakespeare, Burns, the Bible, and books on history, mathematics, geography, and botany, that were available during the mountain man era.

The rendezvous were times of gambling, drinking, racing, and feasting. Green Rio (South American) coffee, roasted in a pan and then pounded and boiled, sugar in cones, and rare spices such as cloves, peppercorns, and allspice added to the festive fare of the celebration. Hailstorms, mint juleps, shrubs, and bounces pleased the palates of those who preferred alcoholic beverages.

The Mountain Man's Clothing:

A greenhorn trapper, newly arrived from the East, wore regular clothes of wool, linen, and cotton, and boots or shoes. The trapper's cloth outfit was re-

placed by a fringed buckskin jacket, pants, and moccasins. Mountain men came from many different cultures, including American, French, English, Spanish, Hawaiian, and Mexican. Often their nationality was reflected in their clothing.

The Mountain Man's Plunder:

Some mountain men were self-employed "free trappers", and sold their furs to best advantage. Costs for equipment, however, including horses, saddles, traps, gun, blankets, and clothing could reach \$600 per man. Therefore, most trappers worked for a company that furnished food and equipment, and paid the trappers on shares for their catch. Other men, often youngsters, received minimal pay to care for the camp, do the cooking, and care for the pelts, or "plews" as the French called them.

The Mexican Connection:

Along the southwestern border of the United States was the newly independent republic of Mexico. Mexican traders attended the rendezvous, bringing food, fine blankets, brandy and whiskey, riding gear, ironwork, horses, and mules.

Several mountain men moved to New Mexico, took citizenship, and married local women. New Mexican trapping brigades reached all the way to the Gulf of California.

Horse Equipment:

The beaver trappers required large numbers of horses and mules for transport across thousands of miles of plains, desert, and mountains. Mules were tougher, stronger, and more careful than horses and were usually valued at \$150, twice that of a horse. The mountain man shod their horses, which Indians did not do.

Trading for Furs:

Many Indians attended the rendezvous, and the trappers often had Indian wives or girlfriends. The traders from St. Louis found a ready market for regular Indian goods, as well as items intended for the trappers themselves. The trade goods were paid for in beaver skins. Mountain men could also purchase new clothes, hats, boots, and shoes. Trappers frequently carried trade goods with them as presents for Indians they met, or to buy beaver pelts from the. Mirrors,

combs, pipes, axe heads, soap, pencils, and kettles were just a few of the objects that were sold at the rendezvous. About half the goods sold to the Indians at the rendezvous were textiles: blankets, ribbons, sewing silk, binding, woolens, and cottons. Ribbons were among the most popular *fanfaron* as the French Canadians dubbed fancy goods.

Friend or Foe:

The beaver trappers came in contact with an amazing number of different Indian tribes, and those tribes presented the entire gamut of attitudes toward the mountain men. Some, like the Flatheads and Nez Percés, were uniformly friendly with the trappers, while others, like the Blackfoot confederacy (Blackfeet, Bloods, and Gros Ventres), called "Bug's Boys" by the trappers, were their worst antagonists. In the middle, were tribes such as the Shoshonis, Crows, Arikaras, Pawnees, and Sioux who were friendly and helpful one moment, pilfering or murderous the next.

Several small, obscure and poor tribes did great damage to trapping parties. The Yumas of California ambushed and killed 10 in 1828. The Umpquas of southwest Oregon killed eighteen that year, and the Papagos of Arizona, twenty or more in 1826.

Food:

Mountain men lived off the land, enjoying buffalo hump rib, the fatty gristle of beaver tail, and honey from wild bees. Sometimes food was scarce and the trappers were reduced to eating rattlesnakes, beaver skins, and their own moccasins.

On the way west, mountain men brought along hams and other food to eat until they reached the buffalo range. The large trading posts, such as Fort Union, had dairy cattle and gardens, and could offer everything from strawberry pies to salads with vinegar and oil dressing.

Along the Missouri River the tribes furnished the trappers garden vegetables, including squash, corn, and watermelons. Western Indians supplied them dried salmon, dried meat, and edible roots. The St. Louis traders brought whiskey, rum, and other liquor to the rendezvous. They sold spices and coffee. At the rendezvous, the Mexicans sold sugar, chocolate, dried breads, beans and flour, and even vanilla.

Canadian trappers had dried peas, barley, and flour from their post gardens, plus tea and even dried cranberries.

Music:

Mountain men lived "a life wild and perilous," and they loved to celebrate with music, song, and dance. In the mountains, trappers carried jew's harps, fiddles, and even guitars. Among their favorite tunes were "Bruce's March" and the "Kosciusko Waltz."

Indian camps had dances nearly every night, with rattle, flute, and drum music. Beaver trappers who visited any of the California, Arizona, or New Mexico villages or missions were treated to bailes or balls.

Lord Grizzly:

Other than Indians and accidents, grizzly bears (*Ursus horribilis*) caused more casualties among mountain men than any other misfortune.

Indian tribes held the giant, light-colored bears in high esteem, and regarded them as great doctors, able to fend off bullets and heal wounds. There were bear cults among Hidatsa, Blackfoot, Crow, and Sioux men, and they equipped themselves with symbols of the bear's power.

A Bonanza of Books:

Beginning with the publication of Washington Irving's *Astoria* in 1835, the mountain men and the fur trade of the Far West has been fertile ground for literature.

Several mountain men, including Warren Ferris, Christopher "Kit" Carson, Rufus Sage, Osborne Russell, and Zenas Leonard wrote their memoirs. Others, such as Jim Beckwourth, Dick Wooten, Joe Meek, and Jim Baker dictated them to others.

Beginning with George Ruxton's *Life in the Far West*, first published in 1847, fictional accounts of the mountain men remain popular today. Kit Carson and Jim Bridger have been the subjects of innumerable books of fiction.

Modern scholars continue to research and reconstruct the lives of trappers, such as William Ashley, Robert "Doc" Newell, William Craig, Alex Godey, and Etienne Provost.

The Legacy:

All over the West, place names memorialize the explorations, the deeds, and the deaths of trappers and traders. They filled in the map of the American West, helped define the nation's borders, and left their names on scores of streams, settlements, peaks, and forests. That is their legacy.

Why it Ended:

The greatest myth about the mountain men is that their reign was ended by the development of the silk hat. Actually, there were too many trappers, who almost exterminated the beaver population in the Central Rockies. At the 1838 rendezvous, 150 trappers brought in just 2,000 skins, or fewer than 14 per trapper for a year's work. In 1840 the rendezvous ended and the mountain men passed from history.

The silk hat was produced in the 1840s and later, along with hats made of inferior fur, such as nutria, muskrat, and raccoon, as a substitute for beaver.

By the 1850s, the beaver population had recovered. In 1852, there were 118,000 beaver skins exported to Europe, a new high. The very best hats available today are still made from beaver fur.

FUR TRADE OPTICS

At a museum in the Texas panhandle, among the many fascinating items of local interest is the remnants of a burial two cowboys had found in the caprock right after World War I. It was a warrior probably Comanche but possibly Cheyenne or Kiowa. The caprock, by the way, forms the break between the eroded plains to the east and the uneroded higher country to the west. The caprock extends from Texas all the way to Canada and the stone that composes it is called caleche in the south and butte rock in the north. It is the most noticeable geological feature of the region. Caves form in the soft earth under the stone and served as a favorite Indian place for interring the dead.

Most of the material has been returned to the finders years earlier, but the records remain on file. The mummified man was wrapped in two blankets, wearing a blue army coat, and under it a woman's

corset, which excited interest among the staff. The other remarkable object was a magnifying lens. This led to extended speculation by the examining curators, including the postulation that some later hunter had lost a lens from his rifle scope or binoculars. The lens then fell into a crack in the caprock or a rodent burrow through it, which acted as a viaduct to deliver the convex glass piece precisely into the burial chamber.

A simpler and more sensible explanation is that the Indian had purchased or "obtained" a burning glass or spy glass, either from a trader or from a raid such as the one that netted him the corset, and that he carried the lens with him to start fires instead of a flint and steel, or at the late time represented by the burial (1860-1870), a box of matches. The fur trade brought many optical devices to the Indians, and this is a chronology of the types sold.

BURNING GLASSES

Fire steels and burning glasses were regularly used to make fire until the introduction of matches in the second quarter of the 19th century. Until about 1800 most burning glasses featured a small (less than two inch diameter) convex glass with a wire handle. The later ones had a horn, bone, or ivory case, and the glass folded into the oval case to protect it when not in use. Both these types were popular trade goods and are described and discussed by Charles Hanson, curator of the Fur Trade Museum in Chadron, Nebraska.

In the late 18th century it became fashionable to fit a burning glass with cover into the lid of a tobacco box, enabling the user to light his pipe as well as for other purposes. Again, Hanson wrote an article about this clever innovation.

In the Cragin Papers at the Colorado Historical Society there is a pioneer memoir concerning mountain man Bill Williams. "He always carried a small pocket magnifying glass," which in talking to the Indians, he used as a sort of pretend oracle to consult. When he thought they were lying to him, he would look at them through this glass and make them think he could read the real truth about what they were saying.

SPECTACLES

Eye glasses or spectacles were, of course, common among white people. They are considerably

older than the general public thinks. Possibly invented by Roger Bacon, the scientific monk who studied gunpowder, they may have been in use as early as 1268. However, an Italian has also been credited with the invention at about the same time.

Spectacles were originally made of two small bone, horn, tortoise shell or ivory-framed magnifying glasses that were riveted together at the end of the handles so they could fold together when not in use. Before 1600 the frames had become solid and were sometimes made of metal or leather. This style continued in use into the 20th century. Often known as pince nez, they lacked ear pieces. These were frequently added as "temple spectacles" by the mid-eighteenth century. The ear pieces usually folded to make them fit a case or pocket better, and often they had loops at the ends so they could be secured with string or ribbon in back of the wearer's neck. Lenses were invariably circular until the late 18th century, when oval lenses came into vogue. By the 1820 D-shaped lenses appeared, and they were followed by rectangular and octagonal lenses by 1840.

The artist and fur trader Rudolph Kurz wore glasses; he left us the following account of his encounter with some Hidatsas. "I was first spied by a woman who was walking ahead. Instantly she cried out, "Ista uwatse! Ista uwatse!" (Iron Eyes - Spectacles). That was the name I was immediately given by those Indians, because spectacles on a person were to them such an amazing characteristic. The Iowa called me "Ista mantugra," which has the same meaning as above, but the Assiniboin designated me as "Ista topa (Four Eyes)". The Hidatsa chief, Short Tailed Wolf, "under the impression that he could see as well through my spectacles as with the telescope, he was eager to get possession of them. To convince him of his wrong idea I put them on his nose. With his keen eyes he was unable to see anything at all through the spectacles, of course, and became all the ore thunderstruck. As this is the only pair I have with me, I could not surrender the inartistic but (for me, I am sorry to say) indispensable decoration. What would I not give for a pair of Indian eyes."

(More next issue.....)

C.S.M.L.A. CLUB CHALLENGE MATCH Saturday September 27, 2014

Where: Doug and Bridget Rightmire's property, 37841 Rusty Spur Trail, Agate, CO. 80101 phones- (303)243-1353 (303) 243-1313

What's The "Club Challenge Match"? This is a unique black powder shooting competition between various black powder shooting clubs around the state. Each club sends a team or teams consisting of 5 shooters. Every team shoots the same targets and their combined aggregate determines the winning team. Any group can enter a team, whether they are officially a club or not. Examples might include an all Ladies group (each belonging to various clubs), a bunch of guys from The Aurora Gun Club, or Five neighbors who wish to shoot together, etc. Everyone is welcome.



We have an intimate little range nestled in the pines. The match shall consist of 5 targets shot offhand (3 at 25 yards and 2 at 50 yards, and a Tomahawk and Knife relay. There are no restrictions on the type or caliber of your guns, only that they load from the front. Open sights please. Limit your powder charges to 60 grains or less. Normal CSMLA and NMLRA Range rules apply.

After the match concludes, we shall have a "Pot Luck" community dinner. We will furnish roasted critter (usually a 200 lb hog- but not always), a roasted or deep fried turkey or chicken, sometimes brisket or steak (depending on what we come up with), soft drinks, a pot of beans **and Side Dishes**

(if you bring them). For those who wish to stay over until Sunday, camping and trailer space is available. If you want breakfast we will have coffee and pancakes. Go fight the hens in the coop for your eggs.

Itinerary: (Friday P.M) Those that wish to come early are welcome to set up

(Saturday) 10:00 am.-2:00pm **The Club Challenge Match**

(Saturday about 3-4pm)- **EATS!!** The dinner should be done about 3:30)- For those who stay, (Sunday AM)- Pot Luck Breakfast.

The Cost: \$15.00 entry fee per shooter. Dinner is free, but donations are always welcome!! We have to cover the costs of this event (hooters, insurance, etc). **Each family (or individual) should bring a side dish to share.** Camping fee \$5.00 per night.

Pets and kids are ok, but be mindful of them for their own safety! This is a ranch with livestock. It's a long way out here so drive safely and plan accordingly. Hope to see you here!



Directions: (GPS= 39degrees 24min 59.25sec N by 104degrees 14min 36.43sec W) Basically we are 17 miles NE of Kiowa, or 15 miles SW of Agate. **From Denver (I-25)-** South on I-25 to Founder's Parkway (Castle Rock). Turn East 5miles to Hwy 86. Turn east and stay on 86 through Franktown, Elizabeth, and Kiowa. From Kiowa east about 4 miles to Comanche Creek Road (Rd 61-69). Turn North. Stay on Comanche Creek about 7 miles to County Road 150. Turn east and stay on this road (about 6.3 miles) down through the basin and up the other side to Rusty Spur Trail. Turn north. Go .08 miles to 37841 driveway and follow black roadway (.03 miles) to blue house. **From Colorado Springs-** We usually take Hwy 24 to the Elbert Road through The town of Elbert and continue to Hwy 86. Turn east at Kiowa, and follow the same directions as above. **From Denver I-70:** I-70 east to the Kiowa exit. Turn south and take the Kiowa-Bennett Road (Arap Rd 137) 11.4 miles to Arap Rd 50 (aka Elbert 194). There is a sweeping right curve on the Kiowa- Bennett Road at this point. Don't take it, go straight to the dead end and turn left. Take Rd50 / Rd 194 (2.7 miles) to CR 65. Turn right and follow this (6.6 miles) to dead end. Turn left onto CR 166. Go east (.06 miles) where the road will turn abruptly right. You are now on Comanche Creek Road. Go (4.4 miles) to CR 150. Turn left. Go (6.3 miles) to Rusty Spur Trail. Turn left. **From Ft. Lupton:** East on Hwy 52 thru Hudson to Prospect Valley. Turn south on Hwy 79 (21.4 miles) to Bennett. Turn left Hwy 36 (1.0 miles) to Kiowa- Bennett Road. Proceed as directions from I-70 above.

From Denver- about 79 miles (1.5 hours). From Loveland about 125 miles (2.25 hours). From Limon via I-70 to Hwy 86 (40 minutes). From Colorado Springs (about 1 hour). When you get close- look for the signs. **If you get lost Call us!!**

For those of you that were here last year, you pretty much know the routine. The targets and itinerary will remain the same. For you newcomers, Welcome! **It's all about having a good time and enjoying camaraderie with our friends, both the old ones, and hopefully the new ones!**