



July, 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.

Monthly Meeting AUG 7

7:00 p.m.

Grainger Paper Camp Out

August 16-17

State Shoot at Ft. Lupton

August 29 - Sept. 1

September Meeting - 4th

Potluck & Elections

October Meeting on the 2nd

Bird & Buffalo 18 & 19

President

Joy Hicks

Vice President

Roy Crouse

Treasurer

Gwem Blanchard

Secretary

Lois Schainost

Membership Chairman

Ted Beaupre

Range Officer

Todd Schainost

Assistant Range Officers

Marlin Johnson, Ted Beaupre,

Blake Schainost

Primitive Exec.

Doug Davis

Assistant Primitive Exec.

Tony Hecker

Womens' Primitive Exec.

Dee Beaupre

Cannon Master

Richard Stites

Public Relations

All of Us

Legislative Liaison

Doug Davis

Mountain Man Monthly Editor

Doreen Webb

UPCOMING EVENTS: CSML & Statewide

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	INFORMATION
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	Aug. 3	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	August 7	business meeting
Boy Scout Thing	ask Doug	August 9	normal demo stuff...complete certificates needed to participate
Bell's Fort Rendezvous	Bear Basin Ranch Westcliffe, CO	August 13-17	www.bellsfort.com : Joe Cacc. (719) 251-8715
Grainger Paper Camp Out	near Victor	August 16-17	potluck Saturday night; breakfast Sunday morning; lots of shooting
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
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
<i>Daylight Savings Ends</i>	<i>turn your clock back</i>	<i>November 2</i>	<i>to be on time for the events!!!</i>
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	November 2	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	November 6	bring finger foods & treats
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!!!

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

Your editor missed the July meeting because my brother was in surgery for thyroid cancer. While I know the meeting is an important thing to be at there are just some things that are way too important to miss. Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers during this time.

All I can report on the past meeting is that it was held and there were a few members present. It was decided that everyone would bring a prize for the Grainger's Primitive Camp-Out as the funds are low at this time.

Michael Phillapi, Assistant District Commissioner for the Boy Scouts was at the meeting. He discussed the Eagle Rock Rendezvous.

We had a substitute scribe for the minutes so hope that Lois and her family are well. I've seen Blake and listened to his presentation on the Cutco knives he is selling to help finance his continuing education.....and yes, I did buy some. Blake is such a nice kid and is working hard to achieve his goals. I'll do almost anything for the kids and especially those that work as hard as Blake does and has for us in the past!!!!

Trust all the rest of you are doing well and that you are prospering in your goals. Let us know if you know of anyone that may need additional prayers or encouragement. That is also a part of what we do as a club that cares.

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Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, Inc.
Regular Monthly Meeting
July 3, 2014

The monthly meeting of the Colorado Springs Muzzle loading club was called to order by President Joy Hicks at 7:11 p.m.

The Secretary's Report was accepted as posted in the *Mountain Man Monthly*.

Treasurer's Report as recorded by Gwen Blanchard, was accepted and carried.

No change in Membership but a reminder that

dues are now PAST DUE!!!!

For Primitive Report, Doug reminded all of us that Grainger's is coming up in July. There will be the usual chili contest and pancake breakfast. It's a primitive and will be run as such. Camping can start on Friday afternoon. Also, due to the fact that funds are low, Doug suggested that we all bring "blanket" gifts since it is customary for all participants to get a prize. This was accepted and approved.

Report on the Territorial Matches note that it was a great shoot. Joy shot a 45x (third place).....way to go JOY!

New Business: 4th of July Parade. The usual discussion on where to meet, time, etc. At least 7 of our group are expected to participate. Don't forget your parade loads!

Club camp-out July 19 & 20. This is at Grainger's so plan on a fun time!

Michael Phillapi, Assistant District Commissioner for the Boy Scouts, gave a talk about the Eagle Rock Rendezvous. This event will be held July 16-19 at Tarryall Reservoir. They are looking for experienced volunteers to help the Boy Scouts. They have a camp site at Tarryall. Michael gave us lots of information on the "goings'-on" and how they run it. Primitive dress (sessions on Wednesday afternoon, all day Thursday through Saturday). Large variety of activities, including shooting. For more information about the various activities, contact Oshawa: Aaron Gilbert (720-260-4634) or Segundo: Randy Nelson (720-278-1456).

Upcoming events were noted which include a gun show on July 12 & 13, the primitive Grainger's camp-out, and the State Shoot.

Respectfully submitted,
Barb (Fire Ant Dancer) Johnson
Substitute Secretary

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EDITOR'S COMMENT.....

I know that we are all busy and have many things on our plate. However, I am always looking for information to publish and to use in our newsletter. The deadline for submission is always the Thursday following the Primitive Shoot, but that

does not mean that if you have something and you don't send it on time, that we won't use it!!!! Send it any way and at any time. We will always find time and space for the articles and things of interest that you send us.

Help us to make this the best newsletter around. Contribute, contribute, contribute!!!!

June 8 Paper PISTOL MATCH

By: Ken "Suds" West

(I know this is way too late; but it's been an interesting month. Got the last Aunt's death properly observed and recovered from the respiratory infection that I picked up on the trip. I'll take antibiotics the next time! 94 degrees Fahrenheit with 100% humidity at Friendship. I'll skip next June's match and concentrate on the Fall National. Graff & Son had no Number 11 caps and little powder. Said that they had not received a powder shipment this year!)

The boards weren't up and none of us felt energetic enough to carry them downrange. By consensus, we converted the match into a primitive match - - the gong were already there!!! The scores were:

John Udovich	12
Fred LaChance	11
Tom Gabor	11
Ken West	11
Jim Murray	9

Did the sight slip on Jim's flintlock for the last three shots?????

THINGS EVERYONE ELSE ALREADY KNEW

The temperature at Friendship, Indiana during the spring National (June 14-22) ran to 94 degrees Fahrenheit with 100% relative humidity. The gun smoke combined with the humidity and hid the targets occasionally. Two of my patches burned on the ground - - probably because there is 30% more oxygen

in the air there. No one paid any attention; the grass was wet and green! The high humidity changed the dimensions of the stock of my flintlock, giving it a twenty-pound trigger pull. We are not talking about my score!

The match was poorly attended the first two days - - the weekend, then the line was full during the remainder of the week. One of the high masters tried my target pistol on a practice target - - everyone admires Bernie Penfield's sights - - and demonstrated that it will put successive balls through the same hole at 25 yards. Now if I can just learn a to shoot it!

The accidental shooting during the match was in the flea market, not the NMLRA range.

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July 6 Paper PISTOL MATCH

By: Ken "Suds" West

A little faster reporting on this one. I normally keep people out of the concussion cone of Doug's cannon during the 4th of July parade in Monument. This year he told me that I couldn't call the people who were walking into the muzzle of a loaded cannon "idiots"; but I could call them Democrats. This turned out to be very politically insensitive - - the Democrat float gave a ride to the inmates of the local institution for the terminally simple-minded. We have agreed that next year, the Democrats will announce that they are mentally handicapped before the parade to prevent a recurrence.

Good shoot on Sunday!!!!

The warm weather and gentle breeze brought out a lot of people and some new faces. The scores were:

Darin Barnes	91
Jim Murray	89
John Udovich	86x
Tiffany Barnes	81
Meredith Zaborowski	79xx
Lue Sterner	76

Connor Thurn	76
Ken West	75
Adrian Zaborowski	61
Fred LaChance	60
Andreas Thurn	44

Luccis Steiner	198xx
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FLINT:

Doug Davis	212xxx
Marlin Johnson	195x
Fred LaChance	189
Tony Hecker	172xxx
Roy Crouse	122

LADIES:

Meredith Udovich	165
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July Primitive Camp-Out

by: Doug "Moose Milk" Davis

Friday had rain, a lot of rain, but by the time Joy and I got there, it was over. Joy pulled the privy; thanks JOY!

The set-up crew had the range set up Saturday morning in record time. I told them they all were getting a raise. You can imagine the remarks.....

Randy had modified a steel target to have a hostage; the head of a bad guy behind it. The idea was to shoot the bad guy and not the hostage. Well..... it mostly worked. You had to be there.

The potluck chili cook-off started at 6:00 p.m. at least by my clock. Fine food as always and thanks to the cooks.

Prizes were brought for the prize table as well as some I purchased with club monies. The leftover prizes will be given to Todd for the paper camp-out in August. Thank you to all who brought prizes.

Also thank you to Connor and Andreas, Jim Murray's grandsons. They assisted with the chili judging. Without their help, I would have lost control..... *(as the Editor, Doug, I remind you with love.....you are assuming you ever had control!)*

The scores were:

I know that there were 12 shooters; I must have missed one of the targets! If the missed target was a really good score, I apologize. If it was a bad score, you're welcome!

I considered a "youth" category for Connor and Andreas; but noting that Connor beat me, I decided to fold them in to avoid the embarrassment.

First prize for the pistol match at the Bird & Buffalo this year will once again, be an engraved 750ml bottle of 8-year-old, 86-proof Jim Beam. We toured the distillery this year and I can still get very tipsy on a half-shot of Bourbon!!!!

94 degrees Farenheit and 100% relative humidity on the pistol range at Friendship this year -- - I couldn't wait to get back to Colorado!!!!

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JULY PAPER SHOOT

By: Doug "Moose Milk" Davis

Due to Range Officier Todd having another engagement, Primitive Exec Doug Davis volunteered to host the July Paper Shoot. Fred LaChance brought targets from the club trailer so we had enough of each target. Thanks, Fred!

We shot the 50 yard single bull at 25 yards, the pistol target at 50 yards, and the musket target at 100 yards. The idea was to give the shooters a chance to see where their gun was hitting and would allow them to make adjustments. To keep from moving too many times (it was hot), we shot 10 shots at each of the 25 and 50 yard targets. The 100 yard target was reduced to 5 shots. All were in agreement.....

The scores are as follows:

CAP Things:

Ted Beaupre	223xxx
Randy Ruyle	216
John Udovich	199xx

FLINT

Randy Ruyle	24
Marlin Johnson	18
Singe	18
Roy Crouse	17

PRECUSIN

Ron Deurmyer	32
Randy Ruyle	31
Fred LaChance	31
Tom Gabor	30
John Gloyd	26
Ron Sanchez	25
Ted Beaupre	24
John Udovich	22
Andrew Simpson	21
Red Barraza	21
Joe Unnerstale	13
Terry Clark	

LADIES

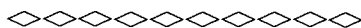
Petra LaChance	29
Cori Hopingardner	28
Barb Johnson	22
Alexis Unnerstale	19
Janie Clark	

PISTOL

Jim Murray	10
Ken West	9
Ron Deurmyer	9
Bart Long	7
Andrew Simpson	3

JUNIOR PISTOL

Connor Thurn	
Andreas Thurn	



GRAINGER PAPER CAMP-OUT

Remember that the Grainger paper camp-out is scheduled for August 16 & 17th. Camping can begin on Friday at noon. Please be sure to return all

gates to the condition that you find them in. If it is open leave it open; if it is closed, please close it!

Plan for a potluck dinner on Saturday night and a pancake breakfast on Sunday morning. Bring enough for your family and a few friends. Also be sure to bring plenty of powder, caps/flints, and balls as there will be plenty of shooting to take up your time.

CSMLA STATE SHOOT August 29-Sept. 1

You may not be aware but due to dwindling numbers of attendees and volunteers to host the State Shoot, it is now being held as a cooperative venture between the Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, the Buckhorn Skinners, and the Ft. Lupton Muzzle Loading Club.

The Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders are responsible for the registration, scoring, medallion stickers, shoot book and range officers. There will be plenty of work for us all to help with.

Mark your calendars and plan now to go to this State Shoot. Camping spaces are limited, but there are lots of nearby hotels/motels and probably some nearby camp sites.

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The September meeting is time for our annual election of officers. As many of you know for the last several years, the train has kept up steam and just gone through the crowd. This year let's get some new folks to volunteer and take a board position. It's time to give some of the current board members a break and to step up to help us keep our group going and growing.

Most of the offices of the club do not require a great deal of time and it is fun to learn and help out. Be the first in your group to take on one of the offices and see what happens. Let Doreen know if you plan to run for an office. ALSO, those of you who will run again for a position, please let Doreen know before the meeting.

BIRD & BUFFALO

Mark your calendars, clean out your closets, scrounge in the garage, and gather up your unused and unwanted items. We'll be doing an auction after the potluck on Saturday night. Time is flying by and we are rapidly approaching this event.

This is the annual long range and shotgun shooting event that our club holds at Ft. Melchert. It is where we combine with the primitive shoot and do lots of shooting, eating, and having fun. While all plans are not yet final, I'm sure we'll do some chili for lunch as usual.

Plan for a potluck dinner on Saturday night about 6:00 p.m. followed by the auction. Bring yer' money and yer' goods and see what you can take home. You just never know what will show up and become the most hotly contested item for bid.

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THE WOMAN WHO BROUGHT BACK THE BUFFALO

(Continuation of last month's article).....

The men then knew that it was not an ordinary stone, but a sacred stone. They were anxious to see if it really had any power. The woman then rubbed the Iniskim over her body four times and prayed at great length. Then she sang another song:

This Iniskim, my man, it is Powerful!

During the song she handed the Iniskim to her husband, sitting beside her. He rubbed his body with it and prayed, while his wife continued to sing the sacred songs. The ceremony went on in that way until the Iniskim had gone all the way around the gathered company. By that time most of the men were able to sing one or two of the songs.

Before they left, the woman told them about the warning in the dream. A crier was sent around the camp telling the people to tie down their lodges and prepare for a big storm. They were also told not to

harm the single buffalo bull that was to show up in the camp after the storm. Most of the people followed the advice, but a few laughed and said it was only the crazy dream of a woman.

It was long after dark when the weather began to change. Most of the people had gone to sleep. Only the husband, his wife, and some of the holy men stayed up and continued to sing the Iniskim songs. A breeze started to blow, rustling the covers of the tipis. Before long the breeze turned into a wind, and the tipi covers flapped loudly against their poles. The wind continued to get stronger and suddenly the people were awakened by the cracking sounds of a big cottonwood tree as it was blown down. The unfastened tipis of those who disbelieved the woman were also blown down and their contents hurled away. While the people prayed for safety, they heard loud hoof-beats and heavy breathing in the darkened camp. It was the lone bull wandering through the camp. No one dared to harm him.

In the morning the storm stopped and there was a large herd of buffalo grazing beside the camp. The people were able to bring down as many as they needed, for the animals just wandered around without alarm. The people cried with happiness for having real food again. They were anxious to replace their worn-out bedding and robes, and to fix the holes in their tipis and moccasins. Everyone brought a tiny offering of buffalo meat or fat and placed it before the sacred Iniskim, which was sitting on a little pile of fur inside of the cleared-earth altar at the back of the tipi.

Ever since then my people have had the power of the Iniskims. Every family had at least one of them, and they were contained inside many medicine bundles as well. Boys and girls were sometimes given an Iniskim fastened to the end of a necklace, which they could wear as a good-luck charm.

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## RUNNING EAGLE: Woman Warrior of the Blackfeet

*Visions are sacred to the Plains people. Men*

*or women trying to find their way on the road of life go on a vision quest. The spirit voices tell one what to do and give visions that will determine one's journey in life. Once, a long time ago, a woman took the traditional ways of a man through her vision. She dreamed of becoming a respected, brave warrior. Her dream vision gave her the direction to follow men's ways. She proved her courage time after time and was respected as a great warrior.*

**R**unning Eagle has become the most famous woman in the history of the Blackfoot Nation because she gave up the work of the household in exchange for the war trails usually followed by men. In fact, she became so successful on her war adventures that many men called her a chief and eagerly followed her whenever she would take them. She was finally killed during one of her war adventures.

Because this woman died sometime around 1850 the actual facts of her life are now hard to separate from the popular legends. My grandmothers of today still talk about her, and an old book about her life can be found on some library shelves. However, all the stories agree that this woman was very successful in all but her final efforts, and that she was well liked and respected by her people. It is generally believed that she was also a holy woman who put up Sun Dances, for which she qualified by never marrying or taking a lover in her life. It is said that she pledged herself to Sun, as the result of a vision of power.

The popular story is that Running Eagle began life as an ordinary Blackfoot girl named Brown Weasel Woman. She had two brothers and two sisters, and her father was a well-known warrior. When she became of the age that boys begin to practice hunting, she asked her father to make a set of bow and arrows with which she could practice. He did so, though not without some argument from his wives. It is said that he even allowed her to go with him buffalo hunting, and that she learned to shoot well enough to bring some down.

It was during one of the buffalo hunts with her father that this unusual girl is said to have first shown her warrior's courage. There were only a few Blackfoot hunters in the party, and it was not far from the camps when an enemy war party attacked and chased it. As the people rode toward the camp at top speed, Brown Weasel Woman's father had his horse shot out from under him. One of the bravest deeds performed by warriors in the old days was to brave the enemy fire while riding back to rescue a companion who was left on foot. This is what the daughter did for her father, both of them making their escape on her horse, after she stopped to unload the fresh meat that was tied on behind her. When word of the attack reached the rest of the tribe, a great crowd of warriors rode out after the enemy, killing many of them and chasing the rest away. The young woman's name was mentioned for days and nights after, as the people recounted what had taken place during that particular fight. It is said that some of the people complained and feared that the girl performing men's deeds would set a bad example which might lead other girls to give up their household ways.

However, when her mother became helplessly ill sometime later, the future warrior woman decided on her own to take up household work. Since she was the eldest child in the family, there was no one to do the cooking and tanning while her mother slowly withered away. So she worked hard to learn what she had been avoiding; and she taught her younger brothers and sisters to help out wherever they could.

It is hard to say for how many years this young woman took the place of her mother in running the family household, but it is said that she did it very well. However, it is also said that she did it without receiving any pleasure from it, since she had probably already experienced too much excitement from the adventures of men's ways. At any rate, she had no boy friends and she took no interest in the plans others her age were making for marriage.

The turning point in the young woman's life came when her father was killed while on the war trail. News of his death also killed his widow, in her weakened state. The young woman and her brothers and sisters suddenly were orphaned, and she decided at that point to devote herself to her dream power giving her direction to follow men's ways. She took a widow woman into the lodge to help with the household work, and directed her brothers and sisters in doing their share. She even carried a rifle - - inherited from her father - - at a time when many men still relied mainly on their bows and arrows.

Her first war adventure came not long after she and her family had gotten over their initial mourning. A war party of men left the Blackfoot camps on the trail of Crow warriors who had come and stolen horses. When this party was well under way, one of its members noticed someone following behind, in the distance. It turned out to be the young woman, armed and dressed for battle. The leader of the party told her to go back, threatened her, and finally told her that he would take the whole party back home if she didn't leave them. She is said to have laughed and told him: "You can return if you want to; I will go on by myself."

One of the members of this party was a young man who was a cousin of the young woman - a brother in Blackfoot relationships - - and he offered to take her back himself. When she still refused to go, the leader of the party put this cousin of hers in charge of her well-being, so that they could all continue on their way. She grew up with this cousin, and learned to hunt by his side, so the two got along well, in general.

The war party with the young woman spent several days on the trail before they reached the enemy camps of the Crows. They made a successful raid, going in and out of the camp many times, by cover of night, to bring out the choice horses that their owners kept in front of the lodges. It is said that the woman and her cousin went in together and that she, by herself, captured eleven of the valuable runners. Before daylight they were mounted on their stolen horses and headed back toward their own homeland, driving ahead of them the rest of the captured herd. The Crows discovered their loss in the



morning, and chased the party for some way. But the raiders were able to change horses whenever the ones they were riding became worn out, and in that way they soon left the enemy followers way behind.

However, the most exciting part of this first war adventure for the young Blackfoot woman was yet to come, according to the legend that has survived her. While the rest of the party rested and cooked in a hidden location, she kept watch on the prairie country from the top of a nearby butte. From there she saw the approach of two enemy riders, and before she could alert the rest of her party to the danger, the enemies were ready to round up the captured herd. It is said that she ran down the butte with her rifle and managed to grab the rope of the herd's lead horse, to keep the rest from running away. Then, as the enemies closed in on her, expecting no trouble from a woman, she shot the one who carried a rifle and forced the other one to turn and try an escape. Instead of reloading her own rifle, she ran and grabbed the one from the fallen enemy, and shot after the one getting away. She missed him, but others of the party went after him and shortly brought him down as well. Her companions were quite surprised and pleased at what she had done. Not only had she saved their whole herd from being captured, but she also killed an enemy and captured his gun. She even captured his horse and one of the others took his scalp and presented her with it. It is said that she didn't want it, but she felt better when reminded that she had avenged her father's death.

Although the young woman's first war experience was quite successful, there were still many people who thought that the chiefs should make her stop following the ways of the men. However, the critical talking came to an end altogether after she followed the advice of wise elders and went out to fast and seek a vision. She spent four days and nights alone and the Spirits rewarded her with a vision that gave her the power that men consider necessary for leading a successful warriors life. Such visions were not always received by those seeking them, and very seldom have women received them at all. By tribal custom, no one questioned her about the vision, nor did they doubt her right to follow the directions which she was thus given. From then on the people considered her as someone unusual, with special powers, whom only the Spirits could judge and guide.

The young woman's second war adventure took her west over the Rocky Mountains, to the camps of the Kalispell tribe. Among her companions were some of the same men who had been on her first war raid, including her cousin/brother, with whom she was spending a lot of her time. This time, instead of wearing her buckskin dress, she had on a new suit of warrior's clothing, including leggings, shirt, and breechcloth. She also carried a fine rawhide war shield, that had been given to her by the man who married the widow woman who had moved into the orphan household some time before.

The second raid turned out quite successfully, although one member of the party was killed. They captured a herd of over six hundred horses, and killed a number of the enemy during a fight which followed their discovery during the raiding. The young woman was shot at, and would have been killed, but the two arrows both struck her shield, instead of her body.

The next time that the tribe gathered for the annual medicine lodge ceremony, the young woman was asked to et up

with the other warriors and tell the people about her war exploits. Other women had done so, but they had usually gone in the company of their husbands and had not accomplished such fearless deeds as she. When she finished her stories the people applauded with drum beats and war whoops, as was the custom. Then, the head chief of the tribe, a man named Lone Walker, is said to have honored her in a way never known to have been done for a woman. After a short talk and a prayer, he gave her a new name - - - RUNNING EAGLE - - - an ancient name carried by several famous warriors in the tribe before her. In addition, the Braves Society of young warriors invited her to become a member, which honor she is said to have accepted as well.

From that point on, Running Eagle, the young woman warrior, became the leader of the war parties she went with, no longer a follower. I cannot say how many such war parties she went on, nor how many horses she captured, nor enemies she killed. There are many different legends about them. There are also legends of men who could not accept that this proud woman wanted no husband, so they tried all the ways known of to make her change her mind about marriage. But the issue was settled when she explained that Sun had come in her vision and told her that she must belong only to him, and that she could not go on living if she broke such a commandment.

As Running Eagle lived by the war trails, so she died also. It was when she led a large party of warriors against the Flathead tribe in revenge for their killing of some men and women who had gone from the Blackfoot camps one morning to hunt and butcher buffalo. The revenge party was a very large one and she led it right to the edge of the Flathead camp during the night. In the early morning, after waiting for the camp to be cleared of the prize horses by their herders, she gave the cry to attack. There followed a long drawn-out battle in which many of the enemy were killed. After the initial shooting, the battle turned into a free-for-all in which clubs and knives were the main weapons. Running Eagle was attacked by a large enemy with a club, whom she killed, but another came up behind her and killed her with his club. One of Running Eagle's men in turn killed this man. When the battle was over, the members of her party found her, the large man in front, the other behind, and she dead in the middle. And so ended the career of the woman warrior whose life has become a legend among the Blackfeet.