



October, 2011

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 buckskimming. 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

November 3 @ 7:00 p.m.

Annual Craft Fair

Club Paper Shoot - Nov. 6
(go back to Standard time)

Club Primitive Shoot - Nov. 20

Bird & Buffalo Results.....

Oh the fun we had!!!!

December 1 - monthly meeting
& Annual Ornament Exchange

President
Joy Hicks
Vice President
Roy Crouse
Treasurer
Gwen Blanchard
Secretary
Lois Schainost
Membership Secretary
Ted Beaupre

Range Officer
Todd Schainost
Assistant Range Officers
Ted Beaupre
Marlin Johnson
Primitive Exec.
Doug Davis
Assistant Primitive Exec.
Tony Hecker
Womens' Primitive Exec.
Judy Sterner
Cannon Master
Richard Stites

**Legislative Liaison
& Webmaster**
Doug Davis

Mountain Man Monthly
Editors
The Webb's

UPCOMING EVENTS: CSML & Statewide

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	INFORMATION
Regular Club Meeting & annual Craft Show	American Legion Colorado Springs	November 3	bring your crafts to sell and be ready to buy early Christmas!!
Back to normal mountain	time; off DST	November 6	turn your clock back one hour!!
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	November 6	range opens at 1:00 p.m.
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	November 20	range opens at 1:00 p.m.
Regular Club Meeting & Annual Ornament Exchg.	American Legion Colorado Springs	December 1	bring a wrapped ornament & take home a new one!!!
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	December 4	range opens at 1:00 p.m.
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	December 18	pistol @ noon; range @ 1:00 pm
No Club Paper Shoot	Sunday, January 1	Celebrate the New	Year with family & friends!!!
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion Colorado Springs	January 5, 2012	wild game potluck & Tall Tales to be told; game trophies given.
CSML Annual Board Meeting	Joy's House 4820 Montebello	January 10 th or 17 th @ 7:00 p.m.	set yearly calendar; start shoot activities; get things arranged
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	January 15, 2012	pistol @ noon; range @ 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	February 2	white elephant gift exchange
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	February 5	range opens at 1:00 p.m.
CSMLA Winter Trade Show & Convention	Holiday Inn Denver East, Quebec St.	February 18-19	traders, gun maker's fair, classes drawing, art show, & more!!!
Club Primitive Shoot???	Ft. Melchert	February 19	pistol @ noon; range @ 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	March 1	annual mailing preparation
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 4	range opens at 1:00 p.m.
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 18	pistol @ noon; range @ 1:00 pm
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 1	range opens at 1:00 p.m.
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	April 5	37 th annual shoot preparation
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 15	pistol @ noon; range @ 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	May 3	last run-through for the shoot!!!
NO CLUB SHOOTS	IN MAY.....	ONLY THE BIG	SHOOT MAY 26-28th

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

October's meeting was a good one. We took care of our business and then Gwen Blanchard showed us how to finger weave. That was a fun thing and she showed us just how much patience she has with us finger-challenged individuals. Thanks Gwen for providing us with a new skill and something to ponder in the upcoming months.

Lots of discussion held on the upcoming Bird and Buffalo event. Plans were in the works and things look to be a good time.

Several requests for our group to do some demos and show up to promote what we do in muzzle loading and black powder. Also the schedule for the remainder of the year's gun shows was discussed. Don Stoner will be out-of-state when the next two are scheduled so we are looking for volunteers to help out with this event.

Everyone reminded about the upcoming craft fair and ornament exchange. These are always annual events and well worth the participation. We have so many crafty folks in our group and this is a great way to get a head-start on the holiday shopping. No charge for tables for anyone who wants to display their wares or trade items.

Also still need to hear from any of our hunters who shot an animal with a muzzle loader. We want to be able to award the trophies in January. We are also planning on the annual wild game potluck in January. Mark your calendars now! The story tellers in our group need to be ready for the telling of the Tall Tales.

PRIMITIVE CHAPTER NEWS

By: Doug "Moose Milk" Davis

The October Primitive shoot was included in the annual Bird and Buffalo event. Thanks to all who came and shot with us. We had a grand time and lots of good food too!!!

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Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, Inc. Regular Monthly Meeting October 6, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the CSML was called to order by President Joy. We welcomed our guest Jeff Hitt. Jeff told us he is a locksmith and safecracker. He must really know this group because he admonished us that he could open safes if they are the ones we own and not someone else's. Jeff also noted that he is looking for some black powder guns so check your supply and see if you have something you want to sell or trade. We've also heard from others that they are looking for some guns as well. Christmas is coming so it may be a good time to do some inventory.

Joy asked for a motion of acceptance of the minutes of the September meeting as printed in the *Mountain Man Monthly*. Motion and second received from the floor. Motion was unanimously approved.

When asked, Treasurer Gwen gave us the total for the month. She broke down for us the deposits and the debits to the account. Joy asked if there were any questions and since none were raised, a motion was made to accept. Motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

Membership Chairman Ted was not present but he had sent his report with his ever faithful backup, Dee. She noted that we have currently 87 paid members and 20 new members for this year. It was also noted that a lot of the new members came from the gun shows where we have been setting up a table and talking with the crowds. Motion was made to accept the membership report. Motion was seconded and unanimously passed.

No Doug so no Primitive Report this month. What a strange thing.....

We had a special guest that Joy gave the floor to. Gary Moody who is the Vice commander for the American Legion Post, presented a proposal to the group. On November 11, they will be dedicating the new flag pole outside the building where we meet. He would like to have three or four of our group in full costume, to be there for a black powder honor guard. The dedication is at 2:00 p.m. and the 11th is a Friday. If anyone is interested in doing this, please give your name to Joy and she will coordinate the details. Gary also noted that there will be a Veteran's parade downtown on November 5th. He will have a float and has some lovely young ladies from one of the schools going to help him out. If anyone wants to be a part of that parade and be on the float, let Joy know and she again will coordinate the information with Gary. By the way, Gary noted that he does have a machine gun that he will have mounted and pointed at the old guys who try to flirt with his young girls!!!! Again, someone who knows us way too much!!!

Old Business: Since Joy was unable to be at the September meeting she welcomed the one new board member, Todd Schainost, and again thanked all the returning board members for their dedication and service. She acknowledged those who were present with some token gifts for their service to the CSML.

New Business: The next gun show is October 29-30. Don Stoner won't be available so we will need someone to head this one up. Don then also advised that the one after this is November 25-26-27 and he

won't be here for that one as well. Again, we'll need someone to step up and help with this important thing. The gun shows are now held at the Event Center at Rustic Hills, 3960 Palmer Park Boulevard. The dates for the 2012 shows are: January 14 & 15, March 10 & 11, May 5 & 6, July 7 & 8, August 11 & 12, September 8 & 9, October 27 & 28, and November 23, 24, & 25. Might want to mark your calendar now!

Bird and Buffalo is fast approaching. Todd, Tom, Doug, and Sandra are busy and working on this already. There are flyers available if you need or want them. Be sure to bring your auction items, potluck sharing food & utensils, and plenty of cash to bid with.

Joy noted that the teacher Tony King had called her about us doing another demo for his special kids. Tony is located outside Calhan and those that did this the last time came back with some very wonderful stories of the impact that we had on these kids. Tony is not picky and will take anything that we can do. Joy asked that Barb Johnson coordinate this and arrange the details. Anyone willing to help with this demo, please call Barb. These students are physically handicapped but the rewards will be huge.

The CSML has a chance to receive a \$225 donation for our attendance at the Lincoln Financial group meeting and doing a small demonstration for them. Additionally, those attending will be fed. The date is October 13th and it will be held at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort Events Center. Joy has asked several folks to attend with her and we'll do our best to meet this obligation.

Doreen briefed the group on the latest change for the State Association. We will be changing the format and size of the CSMLA newsletter and doing a snail mailing again. Too many folks are missing out with only the electronic version and we are trying to get back some membership. Renewal dates are missing and folks are not always able to view the electronic version. We will continue to put the *Poke and Stroke* on the website, but we will also be mailing out the newsletter. We believe that we can do this for about 1/4 of the cost that the current newsletter costs. The Board decided to try this for a year and see what happens. We have even had two donations for postage already!!! This new format will begin with the January-February, 2012 issue.

Once again Randy Ruyle has built us another rocking horse for the Memorial Day event. This one is a smaller version but just as beautiful as the one we had last year. The horse is currently stabled at the Ft. Melchert shop and we will begin selling tickets at the bird and buffalo. Yes, this will be a separate drawing item and you can put all or some of your tickets into a special bucket just for this horse. Thanks again to Randy for his beautiful handiwork and donation to us!!!!!!

Upcoming events were noted for all. Please be sure to attend the November 6 paper shoot and support our new Chief Range Officer.

Motion made for adjournment and was seconded and unanimously approved! So done!

Gwen Blanchard then shared her interest and talent in finger weaving with us. She brought us each a kit of the beginning variety and we were able to see how this finger weaving is done. Gwen worked patiently with those of us who were clumsy and did a great job in helping us to figure out what we were doing wrong. She also provided us with printed instructions for a more advanced pattern. It was wonderful to see some of the straps and belts that Gwen has woven for her own use. It was so much fun, that if you missed this, shame, shame, shame on you! Thanks Gwen for your patience and perseverance!

Respectfully submitted,
Temporary Scribe Doreen Webb

Bird & Buffalo Event, 2011

Well, to quote a long time friend, if you missed this one, shame, shame, shame on you!!! We had a beautiful day on Saturday and Mother Nature didn't even try to blow us away. The folks who came had a wonderful time and the scores were very good.

We got a chance to see some long-time friends who came and some who stopped by for a visit. It's always good to see our friends and visit for a spell.

Todd and all his friends put on a wonderful shoot and there were no complaints heard! The tables

were decorated with lots of wonderful fall colors and prizes for later. The witches chili sale brought in \$155 at lunch and at least \$70 at the auction. Thanks to Dee for bringing the good cake for dessert and Joy for the cookies for lunch. Both went rapidly!!!

The potluck table was groaning when the food was all arranged. We had about 45 folks present for supper on Saturday night. Lots of great food and I don't think anyone went away hungry. If you did, it was your own fault.

Once everyone was semi-filled with dessert, Marlin and his lovely assistant Barb began our auction. The auction table was full of wonders to behold. By the time the evening was done, we had made \$913.50 on the auction items. While there were a couple of things that just didn't sell, Marlin managed to get the best price for all the things that did sell. Thanks to all of you who purchased items and helped us sell out!!!!

I heard by the grapevine that Sunday morning's pot-luck breakfast was also a real treat. I am sorry that I missed it. We do have some of the best cooks in the muzzle loading world and they are always glad to share their fixin's with us.....for which we are always grateful.

The shooting finished up on Sunday and the prizes were awarded. All too soon it was time to pack up and go home. For a fall event, this is a grand time and the location couldn't be better. Thanks again to the Melcherts for hosting us and allowing us to invade their home and shop. We love you!!!

Grand Aggregate Winners for the 2011 Bird and Buffalo were:

Doug Davis for the men

Petra LaChance for the women

Clay Stevens for the juniors

Grand aggregate is the total of scores for paper, primitive, and long range targets.

Bird & Buffalo, 2011 SCORES

NAME	Paper	Primitive	Total	Long-Range	Grand Aggregate
Doug Davis	233-2x	13	246-2x	5	251-2x
Marlin Johnson	221-x	10	231-x	5	236-x
Deak Flinchpaugh	204	9	213	2	215
Bill Elliott	193-x	12	205-x	5	210-x
Ron Deurmyer	195	12	207	3	210
Tom Gabor	194-2x		194-2x	2	196-2x
Fred LaChance	166	13	179	4	183
Jock Harmon	165	8	173	1	174
Steve Bingham	151	7	158	1	159
Ted Beaupre	188	10	198		
Steve Sterner	170-x		170-x		
Petra LaChance	192-x	9	201-x	4	205-x
Barb Johnson	160	9	169	6	175
Clay Stevens	127	3	130	0	130
Blake Schainost	105-x	7	112-x	1	113-x
Dillon Reese	85	4	89	0	89

Bird & Buffalo Pistol Matches

By: Ken "Suds" West

We had 5 flint pistol shooters. I did better than usual - - - put twelve holes in the paper in only 20 shots! The scores were:

Jim Murray	79-x
Doug Davis	75
Fred LaChance	75
Ron Deurmyer	69
Ken West	45

Six of us shot percussion - - with Ron Deurmyer winning with my target pistol. This is falling into a pattern! The scores were:

Ron Deurmyer	92-3x
Wild Bill Elliott	91-x
Fred LaChance	87
Petra LaChance	86-2x
Jim Murray	84
Ken West	71

Since Ron won with my target pistol, I'm

going to have to look for another excuse for coming in last.....I think that, once again, I used up all of my good shots on the novelty match.

Most of us who shot pistol are enjoying some of Delores' pickles. Really good replacement for the Amish jam!

The food and camaraderie seemed especially good this year!

Long time friend and supporter Bernie Penfield has been in the hospital in the recent weeks. Seems as though he had a heart attack. Doctors have given him a stint and he is on the mend.

We wish Bernie a speedy recovery and a fast return to the shooting sports!!!!

October 6th Paper Pistol Match

By: Ken "Suds" West

Good day for shooting. Light wind from directly behind took the gun smoke away without disturbing your aim. Jim Murray shot his new underhammer - - - after a practice shot accidentally loaded with 95 grains of 3F, didn't seem to harm the barrel! The scores were:

Jim Murray	90-x
Ken West	84
Al Bartok	62
Clint Cole	53

Al and Clint are going to come back strong as soon as they figure out this loading from the front end thing!!!!

REMINDERS.....

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|-----------------|---|
| November 3 | Craft Fair. Bring some goodies to share with everyone. Bring your money to buy, buy, buy!!!! |
| November 6 | Go off daylight savings time. Set your clock back 1 hour. |
| December 1 | Ornament Exchange. Bring a wrapped ornament and your favorite holiday finger foods |
| January 5, 2012 | Wild game potluck and trophy awards. Tall Tale telling. Start selling ads for the shoot book. |
| February 2 | White elephant gift exchange. |
| February 18-19 | State Winter Trade Show & Convention. Election of officers. Banquet, auction, drawing, and lots of stuff!!! |
| April 5 | Deadline for ads to be turned in. |
| May 26-28 | 37 th Annual Memorial Day Shoot and Rendezvous. |

FUR TRADE OPTICS
By: James A. Hanson
Museum of the Fur Trade

This is a continuation of the article which we began last month.

Goggles

Indians had problems with eye strain due to bright sun, wind, dust, and smoke and purchased proprietary eye water medicine containing opiates. Snowblindness was exceedingly painful, so excruciating that sufferers sometimes asked to be killed rather than endure it. (Fred R. Gowans, *A Fur Trade history of Yellowstone Park* (Orem, Utah: Mountain Grizzly Publications, 1989) 68.)

Sybille and Adams, trading with the Sioux in the Fort Laramie area, had two pairs of goggles on hand in 1843. At the junction of the Gila and Colorado Rivers in 1849, Lieutenant A. W. Whipple encountered Pablo, chief of the Yuma Indians, wearing "a scarlet coat trimmed with gold lace, with epaulettes of silver wire, and, to crown all, green goggles." (John Russell Bartlett, *Personal Narrative of Explorations and Incidents in Texas, New Mexico, California, Sonora, and Chihuahua* (New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1854) vol. II, 181.)

The 1867 trade goods requisition for the HBC post, York Factory, asked for five dozen strong wire goggles with colored lenses. These were delivered in 1869. The 1868 order for York Fort included five dozen "strong wire goggles with colored glasses. Another four dozen were shipped to Fort Chipewyan, and Mingan ordered three dozen with blue and green lenses. The York Factory order in 1887 asked for both smoked and green lenses.

For issue at Fort Laramie Treaty negotiations, the Peace Commission ordered eight dozen pairs of "wire eye protectors" at a dollar a pair.

Telescopes

There was obviously a "niche market" for telescopes among the Plains tribes. Henry Boller, trader on the Upper Missouri, wrote, "the Indians are all well armed and equipped with almost every warrior of standing is provided with a spy-glass, thus adding the assistance of the white man's art to his own matchless vision." Alexander Culbertson, in charge at Fort Pierre in 1848 wrote his trader on White River to price the "small spy glasses" at two robes each. In a long inventory of goods remaining in the Chouteau Company warehouse near Fort Laramie after the Grattan massacre in 1854 are listed six "spy glasses".

An undated list of trade goods for the Indians, probably dating to 1766, in the Baynton, Wharton, & Morgan Papers lists "1 mahogany telescope". HBC trader and surveyor Peter Fidler ordered a telescope by Dolland from London in 1820. Peter Dolland was King George III's optician. In 1817 the HBC had ordered a telescope from Thomas Blunt of London.

William Ashley ordered "3 spy glasses with achromatic object glasses with shades" in 1832. Prices were \$9.50, \$12, and \$13. The achromatic feature meant that the lenses did not act as a prism to form a visible rainbow. The shade merely covered the front lens, eliminating glare.

On August 8, 1867, the Peace Commission bought six telescopes for Indian presents from longtime St. Louis fur trader Robert Campbell for \$6.50 each. As late as 1920 the HBC was still ordering a few telescopes, "cheap kind" for its customers.

Besides Indian customers, both traders and mountain men carried telescopes. Osborne Russell recorded in his diary in 1837 that Jim Bridger regularly mounted a high bluff with his telescope to look for inclement weather coming toward their camp. James Willard Schultz recorded that he used his telescope to scout for enemy war parties in the 1870's: "I was the fortunate owner of a three-joint English telescope of 35 diameters (power) and with it we scanned the country near and far." In his biography of HBC trader and mountain man Hugh Monroe, Schultz wrote

that Monroe was provided a forty-power telescope when he first began trading on his own. Monroe, known as Rising Wolf, used it to spot two enemies who were then ambushed and killed. Blackfoot warrior Lone Walker told him: ‘that far seeing instrument would be of great help to us. I tell you now that you must take the best care of it; sleep with it; never under any circumstances let it out of your sight.’ The late artist Bob Scriver collected three early brass draw tube telescopes from the Blackfeet.

When Diamond Jenness was conducting field research among the Canadian Eskimo just before World War I, he showed them his telescope. Jenness rested it on sticks and spotted a herd of caribou so far away as to be invisible to the naked eye. The men were impressed, and asked where the caribou would be the next day when they planned to hunt. When he responded that he had no idea, the hunters lost interest. They informed him that their shaman was able to see where the herds would be tomorrow, unlike his tube which only saw them now.

A large brass draw-tube telescope was found during the archeological excavation of Bent’s Fort, Colorado.

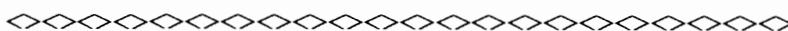
Field Glasses

In the 1830s the American Fur Company ordered six dozen “field glasses” for the Yankton Sioux, and also sent a dozen to Fort Union for the Upper Missouri trade. The problem with these references is that the prices for them are very low, just 33 cents a dozen - - - too low to be what we think of as field glasses, and probably refers to small mirrors. In fact, the *Oxford English Dictionary* lists its first reference to the term “field glasses” as occurring in 1836. Field glasses were ubiquitous by the time of the American Civil War.

George Bent, mixed blood son of a fur trader, wrote of attacking Platte Bridge at present Casper, Wyoming in 1865. He and another Cheyenne warrior examined the bridge and the soldiers’ camp with “our field glasses. The Indians had captured several pairs of glasses during the raids on the South Platte the winter before, and these proved a great help to our scouts.”

Margaret Carrington, widow of an army officer killed in the Fetterman Fight at Fort Phil Kearny, wrote that, “the Indians not only use mirrors and flags for signal purposes, but many carry with them good field and spy glasses, some of English styles, procured from Canada, and others are supplied by traders on the frontier.” In discussing Indian scouts, army scout William Clark stated that, “of late years, in addition to their arms, the scouts carry a mirror and field-glass, which are furnished by friends if they do not themselves possess them.”

The 1874 inventory of the Blackfoot trading post at Badger Creek, Montana, listed three pairs of field glasses on hand. They were priced at \$9.40 and \$11.25 each.



“Billy Elkins”

You remember
Bill from the
family picnics
he always came
and his wife

Mildred (made the
best potato salad)
After I was fifty
I learned he as
illegitimate.

After the war
he was a bit
quieter still
played hard

with the kids
and wore his
baseball cap
off to one side
he drank chocolate
milk every day.

There was no
pair of scissors
or John Deere
tractor he could
not fix with
some time and
he still went
hunting but he
always said he

forgot his ammo.

He had no kids
and sometimes
wished for some
took a lot of
responsibility on
at work got lots
of awards and
promotions sat
down and died
yesterday at 47.

Storyteller