



October, 2019

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.

Regular Monthly Meeting

TUESDAY, Nov. 5, 2019

7:00 p.m.

Craft Fair & finger foods

Bird & Buffalo deemed successful fun time!

Next Club Shoot - Dec. 1 Need Shoot Host/Volunteer

December 3rd meeting annual Christmas ornament exchange & treats to share

President

Ted "Dances With Deer" Beaupre

Vice President

John "Semi-Savage" Gloyd

Treasurer

Gwen Blanchard

Secretary

Membership Secretary

Marilyn "Wounded Thumb" Stites

Cannon Master

Richard "Singe" Stites

Club Shoots

1st Sunday each month

Pistols at 12:00 p.m.

Rifle at 1:00 p.m.

Always looking for new
members, shooters,
shoot hosts, and folks
wanting to have a good time!

Mountain Man Monthly Editor
Doreen Webb

UPCOMING EVENTS: CSML & Statewide

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	INFORMATION
Monthly Club Shoot Jack Durbin, Host	Ft. Melchert	November 3	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	Am Legion #209	November 5	craft show & finger foods
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	December 1	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	Am Legion #209	December 3	annual ornament exchange; finger foods and fun!
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	January 5, 2020	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	Am Legion #209	January 7, 2020	wild game potluck & award of trophies for animals taken
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	February 2	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting & white elephant gift xchg	American Legion #209	February 4	bring finger foods and a white elephant to give away and get!!!
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 1	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	Am Legion #209	March 3	who knows; come and see!!!
<i>Daylight Savings Time</i>	<i>Begins Again on</i>	<i>March 8, 2020</i>	<i>set clocks ahead 1 hour!!</i>
CSMLA Winter Convention	Elks Lodge Ft. Collins	March 14	tables of trade items, elections, awards, banquet, lots of fun
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 5	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	Am Legion #209	April 7	club business and fun!
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	May 3	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Regular Club Meeting	Am Legion #209	May 5	monthly business meeting
Regular Club Meeting	Am Legion #209	June 2	monthly business meeting
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	June 7	pistols at noon; rifles at 1:00 pm
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	July 5	weekend of July 4 th /yes or no???
Regular Club Meeting	Am Legion #209	July 7	come see what transpires
Grainger Primitive Camp Out	Grainger's near Victor	July 18-19	camping, shooting, chili cook- off, potluck and lots of fun.
Monthly Club Shoot	Ft. Melchert	August 2	Need a host for this event

For CSML scheduled shoots; CALL SHOOT HOT LINE (719) 442-0150 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

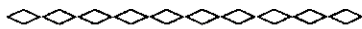
The October meeting was an interesting one. Lots of discussion on whether or not the CSML will be able to host another Memorial Day event. Jim Dennis and Jennifer Sandell came on behalf of all the Cannon shooters. We are still tabled and will finalize at the November meeting.

Bird and Buffalo event was a good time and we had lots of fun. Shooters were up and the potluck was delicious as usual. You'll read more about it elsewhere in the newsletter.

Good to see Fred LaChance at the Bird and Buffalo event. Still a sad time for him and all of us but with the Great Spirit's help, we will heal from this.

Want to thank Dee Beaupre for stepping in to fill the shoes of our auctioneer. She did a great job and we raised some funds for the club. Lots of very interesting items for sale this year.

Was good to have Ron join us in the sunshine and have chili lunch with us. Those that participated in the lunch advised it was pretty good so if you didn't make it, you missed out on some good eats!



Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders Regular Monthly Meeting October 1, 2019

A total of 24 folks came to this meeting of the CSML. President Ted Beaupre banged the gavel and called the meeting to order. We welcomed Jim Dennis, Jennifer Sandell, and Laura (Richard & Marilyn's daughter) The group then proudly pledged allegiance to our flag.

Ted asked if there was a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the *Mountain Man Monthly*. Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed.

Treasurer Gwen gave us a rundown of the treasury. All things in and done, we have a wee bit over \$3,000 in the current treasury. There being no questions raised, a motion was made, seconded, and

unanimously passed for acceptance of this report.

Membership Chairman Marilyn Stites noted that we remain at 63 paid memberships and can find only ten folks who have not yet renewed. Notation also made that dues will be due in January, 2020 and Marilyn will be happy to take your check or money at any time.

Old Business: Discussion were still conducted on whether or not the CSML can host the annual Memorial Day event. Lots of ideas for having the shoot such as reducing the size of the ranges. There were pros and cons both pointed out. The major thing to remind all is that even if we do not conduct the Memorial Day shoot, the Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders are still a club. We can and will plan more events just for club members and invited guests. The club will survive even if we don't have the big shoot any more.

As the discussion grew to a close, a motion was made to table the discussion until more information from the City of Florence could be obtained. The site information is critical to the final decision. Motion was seconded and approved. Doreen will make contact with the City of Florence and report back.

New Business: Bird and Buffalo event is rapidly approaching on October 19 & 20. We decided to have the shooting, potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. and our auction. Pistol and shotgun shooting with no limitations on the type of shotgun, on Sunday after breakfast. Jock Harmon has volunteered once again to be our auctioneer. Folks were reminded not to park on the Ft. Melchert septic system - - if it is green, don't park there.

We were advised that Ron Melchert is getting out of the gun and supply business at the end of 2019. He is selling out everything he has in stock. He will no longer be supplying black powder to muzzle loaders either. Be sure to stop by and see what there is and make your purchases.

Upcoming events were noted. Reminder given that the November 5 meeting will be the annual craft fair so bring your items for sale.

Motion made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting. So done.

Respectfully submitted,
Temporary Scribe Doreen Webb

Crumb Top Pumpkin Cake

by: Delores Beaupre

1 box yellow cake mix; remove one cup & set aside
for topping

1 egg
½ cup melted butter

Mix this well and spread in bottom of
ungreased 9" x 13" pan.

Filling:

3 eggs
1 cup milk (½ fresh; ½ canned)
¾ cup sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 large can pumpkin

Mix well and pour into cake batter.

Topping:

1 cup cake mix
¼ cup sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
2 Tbsp. butter
½ cup chopped walnuts

Mix well until crumbly. Sprinkle on top of
cake in pan. Bake for 45 minutes at 350 degrees.

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October 6 Pistol Match

by: Ken West

The weather couldn't have been better!
We had seven shooters -- two visitors shared a
target. The scores were:

Al Bartok	91
Jim Murray	90-2x
John Udovich	85
Ken West	84
Bruce Partner	69
Jeff Miller	51

Jeff Miller and friend shot only six balls
between them, using Jim's LePage pistol. That
gives an average of 85 for 10 shots. I was sure
that Jay Rathman shot; but cannot find his
target for scoring.

Gossip: Jay and I attended the fall
National Shoot at Friendship this year. We
stopped at the Jim Beam distillery south of
Louisville, Kentucky to pick up a bottle of their
best as a prize for the Bird and Buffalo pistol
match. While waiting for the bottle to be
engraved, we enjoyed a dish of bourbon
flavored ice cream and couldn't resist bourbon-
flavored baked beans -- non alcoholic, but a
unique taste. The distillery has added an air
conditioned dining room for visitors.

The attendance at the Fall National at
Friendship was greater than it had been in the
past. Diane, the lady who scores pistol, said
that she had sold many more targets than usual
--- and not all of the increase was due to me!
I worked up the courage to shoot the grand
aggregate this fall. The grand aggregate consists
of 10 targets, percussion, flint, and revolver
targets at 25 yards, both slow fire and limited-
time fire, for 6 targets; the same pistols at 50
yards, slow-fire for an additional 3 targets and
an international target, slow fire, shot at 25
yards with the revolver. I believe that this is
the first time I've shot the grand aggregate, and
I placed 3rd. You can find the scores at:

<http://nmlra.squarespace.com/scores?rq=shoot%20results>.

I went through one of those nightmares that everyone dreads while shooting the flint aggregate. To make sure that the flint fired reliably and fast during the limited time fire match, I purchased three sawed German agates (for \$10 each) at Dixie Gun Works on the way to Friendship. These are the hardest, most reliable rocks for a flintlock! (I convinced Jay that the wheels for the carriage of the antique Gatling gun that Dixie had for sale would not fit in the trunk of my car -- he, reluctantly, left it with them.) I installed one of the agates in my Charles Moore smoothbore for match 25 and it shot like a champ. I installed the second agate in my Charles Moore .45 rifled flint for the limited time fire. The first shot fired instantly -- and I'm on the clock for the next 9 shots. The agate would NOT spark. I beat it to death trying to get it to fire and got 6 more shots out of it. Finally, I changed to a French amber and it shot reliably and fast.

The limited time fire isn't really THAT limited -- after the first shot, you have 10 minutes to fire the remaining 9 shots. Even beating the agate to death with a brass hammer and changing the flint, I got off the 9 shots!

After the match, I discussed the problem with Russ Combs, one of the resident experts, High Master, and occasional International champion in the European matches (he is, literally, a resident -- has a permanent log cabin in the camping area of the Friendship shooting range). Russ said that he had met the Frenchman who makes the sawed German agates while he was shooting the International in Paris. The agates are the sharpest and hardest rocks available. They spark well with

a properly hardened frizzen, but hang up on the ridges in a soft, or much used frizzen and won't spark. Obviously, the steel on my Charles Moore .45 is not hard enough.

The National Championship shoots at Friendship, like our own Graingers' matches, are a chance to visit old friends, swap information and tall tales, see what good ideas anyone else has come up with, and get in some good fall shooting. This fall, I swapped the three pieces necessary to make some very fancy grips for the Colt Navy to Lou Helsel for one of his hand-made staple pullers. There are usually some exotic guns for sale.

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OCTOBER 6 MONTHLY SHOOT

By: Ted "Dances with Deer" Beaupre

What a nice day for a shoot; warm and no wind. I was surprised to see the line full for the pistol shooters when I arrived. The targets for the day were steel at various distances. I had a total of 7 men, 1 lady, and two new shooters who joined us. All had a good time. I hope we see Jeff Miller and Tom Beachy again. They seemed very interested in our club.

Thanks to John and Doug for coaching the new shooters. Scores follow:

Ted	14x
Doug	13
Randy	12x
Bruce	11-2x
Jock	11x
Delores	11x
Tom Beachy	9x
Jeff Miller	8x
Steve	4

Jack Durbin will host the next monthly club shoot on November 3. Come out and support him.

We are also still looking for monthly club shoot hosts for the remaining months. Come on and sign up now; choose your month and shoot whatever you want to shoot.

Thanks!!!



Cub Scout Event at Highlands Ranch

By: Ted Beaupre

On the 26th of October, I was invited to assist with an event promoting the Scouts up to the Bobcat level. I assisted a gentleman by the name of J. C. Bear with telling the Scouts about the fur trade era. Each Scout pack would enter the Chief's Tipi and would go through a secret ceremony while we entertained the others with stories and demonstrations about our trade.

If you haven't had a chance to get involved with Scouts or the Muley Deer event or anything along these lines, you sure are missing out. We are always looking for volunteers for such events when they arise. It's nice to see smiling faces and the enjoyment when a youngster sticks a hawk or hits a steel target.

BIRD AND BUFFALO PISTOL MATCH

By: Ken West

We shot an International target for this match. The International target has 10 rings instead of the NRA/NMLRA target's 5 rings. The "X" is about the size of a quarter. Fifteen shots are fired into the target at 25 yards, and all of them count! This gives a possible score of 150. Leo won the gold in this match in the High-Master class at Friendship in September with a score of 135.

The chili was so good that more than one of us failed to resist the temptation of having a second helping. The camaraderie

seems to improve each year.

The scores were:

Meribeth Zaborowski	129-3x
Al Bartok	126x
Jim Murray	126x
John Udovich	122
Jay Rathman	117-2x
Ron Durmeyer	104x
Ken West	73
Darlene Haina	45

Unfortunately Darlene shot with my .38 target pistol, which was fouling so badly that I'm sure the patches were tearing as I loaded it.

PHILOSOPHY: I long ago gave up finding excuses for my poor shooting; however, I'm going to dust off a new one for both Darlene and I. Good shooting is a combination of natural talent and practice, but it takes a lot of good practice to add up to a little natural talent! I always regard my mistakes as a learning opportunity. For this match, my gun barrel became so fouled that I had difficulty loading - - and I'm sure that some of the patches were torn while loading. I lube my patches with a combination of avocado oil (ignition temperature of 900 degrees Fahrenheit compared to 450 degrees for Crisco) and beeswax. The beeswax cleans the fouling out of the barrel each time a new ball is loaded. Rather obviously, the patches that I was using did not have an adequate amount of beeswax in the lube. I'll carefully sort my patches and avoid that problem in the future!

We'll get 'em next time Darlene!!!!

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BIRD & BUFFALO EVENT

Well folks, the Bird and Buffalo is behind us now. For those of you who weren't there you missed a good shoot. The weather was nice and the food was good. I would like to thank Delores and Jim for helping with the range and Delores for stepping up and being our auctioneer and to Doreen who kept track of all the bids.

For the shoot, we had 10 shooters; 7 men and 3 ladies who tried their skills at shooting 3 paper targets and 5 metal gongs, along with throwing the knife and hawk.

The witches made a fine all-you-can-eat chili lunch with the leftovers being auctioned off. The event ended with a fine breakfast Sunday morning with the fun with shotguns being cancelled due to the high winds that came in Sunday morning.

Thanks to all who came out and supported this fun event!

Ted "Dances with Deer" Beaupre

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Here are some notes from your Editor on the 2019 Bird & Buffalo event.....

By the time I arrived at Ft. Melchert, the awning had been set up and folks were in the process of putting together the chili stove. The day was clear and bright, a bit cool but the sun made it seem warm. We unloaded all the goodies I had in my truck and I want to thank Brandon for helping lift those heavy chili pots and carrying them for me! He was a super hand to have.

Thanks to Charlie Pohl for mowing weeds and getting the grounds ready for us. He is such a good hand and works hard to help out at Ft. Melchert, no matter what the issue is. We also enjoy that he stayed and shared with us through the lunch hour. Thanks Charlie!!!!

The chili was heated up and around 1:00 p.m. the guys started coming in for lunch. We had all-you-can-eat chili, spicy or mild and cornbread, plain or loaded (chilies, cheese, & corn), onions, cheese, Fritos, and peanut butter cookies. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food. We sold approximately 19 bowls of chili and the remaining chili was jarred up to sell at the auction later that night.

Ron joined us for lunch. He sat in the sun and ate chili and cornbread and finished it off with a couple of peanut butter cookies. Was so nice to have Ron with us. Some of the local Cowboy Shooters came to see Ron and take advantage of his going-out-of-business sales. They bought primers and such for their guns. Ron was very happy to see them and we thank them for stopping by. Good to see Rosita Gambler, Samuel Bootz, Grizz, and a few of the old timers.

The pistol shooters were trying out a new International target which had 10 rings. Ken, Al, Jim, and Jake were seen heading for the pistol range. Ken had showed the group the special label whiskey, molasses, and jelly he had for prizes so it must have spurred them on. By the way, they were also first in line for lunch a few minutes before the regular shooters came down.

A head count showed there were 20 folks present when the potluck supper began. The tables were filled with scarecrow decorations, pumpkins, and leaves. A great fall feeling inside the shop. Numbers were drawn and each of the table decorations were awarded as prizes. Thanks to Delores for her cute idea for these decorations and her work in assembling them. Tony Hecker won the first one and Steve Sterner won the last one.

This year's guessing game was a jar containing candy corn and candy pumpkins. All day long folks were given the opportunity to guess how many were in the jar. The total in the jar was 135 and Ted won with a guess of 125.

Ken West took the floor and awarded the day's pistol prizes. Jim Murray took the red whiskey, John Udovich got an NMLRA cup, and Jake Rathman took the orange marmalade.

Ted Beaupre then awarded the prizes to the shooters for the day. John Udovich was first. Everyone remarked that the shooting was fun but the worst part of it all was throwing the hawk and knife. Guess we all need to practice up on those skills some.

Dee came forward and began the auction. She described each item and actively solicited bids from the floor. Lots of unusual items this year, but Dee was able to sell them off. The lowest amount paid for an item was \$1.00 and the highest was \$325 for the Patriot pistol that Ron Melchert donated to the group. Thanks to Charlie Pohl for purchasing this pistol! He got a really good deal through a telephone bid. Hey, we can be just as professional as Christie's auction house - - phone in bids are great!

The auction netted us \$581 and chili sales were \$86 for a total of \$667 for the evening. Not too bad considering there were only 20 or so of us present. If you missed this event, you missed a really great time. You need to plan to be there next year. Who knows what you might get a bargain on.

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TIYATA TIMA TIPI

By: Jean Heimbuch (Buffalo Woman)

Tiyata tima tipi - at home in the lodge. It's awfully easy to say, but doing it is a bit different. First, of course, you must select a lodge. This is not too difficult if you plan to buy a "ready-made" tipi, as there is a fairly limited number of styles on the market. However, if you plan to sew your own there are a few things to consider. If you are considering sewing a four-pole style lodge to live in year-around, I would urge you to reconsider. Such styles tend to have a large smoke hole and sit down on the poles further from the apex than the three-pole tipi cover. That lets more smoke out maybe, but it will also let in lots more rain. And even though thousands of Indians used them in the old days, you have probably not been inured to weather extremes since childhood as they were.

One advantage four-pole covers do have is their wide smoke flaps. In a genuine downpour of rain, you'll want to close your smoke flaps, which is

nearly impossible on some of the Sioux style flaps. I have seen (this is one of the more popular three-pole lodges). Our tipi is a three-pole lodge, similar to a Siouan style, but with Cheyenne smoke flaps. These, being larger, are a good choice for rain protection. Besides being wider they have an over-hanging flap at the bottom which protects an area from rain which otherwise produces an annoying drip in even a moderate rainfall. One other advantage to a three-pole tipi, especially if you live near Big Timber, Montana, or similarly windy country - - is that they are supposed to be more stable. Ours stood last winter on a west-central Illinois prairie, where it was continually buffeted by high winds, without difficulty. This is probably due to its tilted cone shape which a four-pole lodge does not have. It is interesting to note that few of the plains Indian tribes used the four-pole lodge. It was mainly used by the northwest mountain tribes. Also, at least one of the plains tribes who did use the four-pole set-up, the Comanches, tended to camp in timbered areas if possible. This would have afforded them excellent wind protection.

Another decision to be made in selecting your lodge is the size. In the old days this was regulated by the weight and method of transportation. A buffalo hide tipi weights twice that of one made of canvas, and before the horse was introduced, a dog had to haul it all. This kept tipis much smaller than they tend to be today. After the horse was acquired, they became larger, and when canvas was introduced they became even larger yet.

Nowadays it is not uncommon to see really huge lodges at rendezvous and pow-wows. But these, while spacious, are not very practical for the year-around tipi dweller. Eighteen feet is about as large as you should consider. We live in a sixteen foot lodge and find it very comfortable. For two people there is plenty of room, and even more important, it heats easily. I have heard this is not something you can expect from an eighteen-footer. However, curtains can be hung from the liner ropes to reduce the interior space during the coldest days which would correct this problem. If you're really worried about space, that eighteen feet will come in handy. But to my way of thinking, it is pretty unnecessary considering how much space is located just outside the door to my lodge.

One last thing you'll want is a heavy canvas.

Any weight will do actually, but how long it will "do for" is what you want to think on. The average rendezvous tipi is made from 8 oz. or 10 oz. canvas. Ours, on the other hand, is made of 14 oz. canvas - the liner is 10 oz. We expect years of hard use yet from it. It may also help to keep the temperature slightly warmer. The only disadvantage to having it made from the heavier canvas, that I can see, is after the first year the lodge has acquired a great deal of "character". And as every one knew way back when, only the laziest of women failed to replace such a lodge by spring.



Donald MacKenzie, Giant of the Northwest

By: Randell Paisley

The year was 1800 when a young seventeen year old man stepped off a boat in Canada. He had been preparing for the ministry, but letters from an older brother and a cousin had influenced him to join the fur trade in Canada.

He had been born on June 15, 1783 in Ross-shire, in the highlands, near Inverness, Scotland. His father, Alexander, had been killed in a duel in 1789. His ancestry is rich in Sirs, Earls, Lairds, and Baronets making him among the nobility of the Kingdom.

Also in the year 1789, the cousin who helped influence him into coming to Canada, had become the first white man to cross Canada from coast to coast, and discovered the river which bears the family name.

The young lad's name was Donald MacKenzie. He was to become a mountain of a mountain man, internationally famous in his own time, yet nearly forgotten with the passage of time.

After arriving in Canada he signed on with the Northwest Company where three of his brothers worked, Roderick, Henry, and James. He worked for eight to ten years learning the ropes of the fur trade and building his experience and reputation. There is little or no data on this period of his life.

In 1810, his reputation established, he was approached by John Jacob Astor to help form the

Pacific Fur Company. On June 23, 1810 the company was formed and the contract was signed. The partners of Astor were Alexander McKay, Donald MacKenzie, Duncan McDougall and Wilson P. Hunt. Also mentioned are David Stuart, Robert McLellan, Joseph Miller and Ramsay Crooks.

It was Astor's aim to control the fur trade in the West. To accomplish this he intended to establish a trading post at the mouth of the Columbia River with controls running into the interior of the country from the West.

Donald MacKenzie was an impressive man by this time. He was well seasoned to wilderness life. This, tied with extraordinary physical strength and a complete lack of fear gave him two important attributes in dealing with the Indians. He was tall, straight as an arrow and weighed between 300 to 350 pounds.

His contemporaries speak highly of him. Alexander Ross says he was "bold, robust, and peculiarly qualified to lead Canadian voyageurs through thick and thin." Elsewhere, "to travel a day's journey on show shoes was his delight when not asleep, he was always on foot, strolling backwards and forwards, full of plans and projects; so peculiar was his pedestrian habit, that he went by the name "Perpetual Motion."

His skill with a rifle was excellent to say the least. Ross Cox, a contemporary in the fur trade, says he could "drive a dozen balls consecutively one hundred paces through a Spanish dollar." This alone would have been sufficient to win hi fame on the frontier.

He knew no fear and was respected and held in awe by both red and white man. He knew the minds and thoughts of both.

During the 1810 expedition, to establish Astoria, on one occasion he and the 60 men with him were confronted by 600 Sioux warriors. He bluffed his way forward, throwing the Indians into a state of confusion which lead to the chiefs deciding to smoke the peace pipe. The pipe they smoked was described as being six feet long, red in color with red horse hair decorations along the stem.

As the party approached Astoria, the larger party divided into smaller parties for easier going, from the lack of food. His men starving, he continued

to encourage them on. It got so bad that men began to falter. He took the pack and equipment of two other men besides his own and assisted them and encouraged them on. On January 18, 1812 they arrived, Donald being the only one who had withstood the trial well. Over the next couple of months the other small parties arrived.

During the next year they established the trading post and began trapping and setting up trade into the interior of the country. Then in 1813 war with England in the East and with false information passed to him by other trappers, MacKenzie and the other partners decided to sell out and return to New York.

Although Astor was angry and very upset over this turn of events, it subsided with the passage of time. It was on that trip over the Rockies that was to later establish and win for Astor a vast fortune. MacKenzie had established and looked after his partner's interest better than it had appeared at first. Also what he had set up and explored on that trip was later to be used in a boundary dispute between the United States and Canada, to establish the boundary. In 1842, Daniel Webster consulted with MacKenzie and the famous phrase "54-40 or fight" was coined.

He left the Pacific Company in New York and rejoined the Northwest Company. Later when that company consolidated with the Hudson Bay Company his leadership and experience were recognized and he was made a chief factor and sent to the Red River area. In 1825 he was appointed Governor of the Hudson Bay Company and that made him, at 42, second in command to the Governor-in-Chief, and the semi-political and commercial ruler of an area that now comprises three Canadian Provinces. His seat of government was Ft. Gerry, now Winnipeg. 18215 was also the year he was married. Adelgonde Humbert Droz was the daughter of a Swiss immigrant. He ruled for eight years with kindness and in an authoritative manner which won him more respect and acclaim. With failing health and a growing family he decided in 1833 to return to civilization and with his wife and 4 children, Jemima, Catherine, Roderick, and Noel he moved to Mayville, New York.

In Mayville his family continued to grow and nine more children were born to him.

Even in the civilized world he still carried

influence. As previously mentioned Daniel Webster visited him in 1842 on the business of setting boundaries.

He became intimate friends of Judge Peacock, an agent of the Holland Land Company. When a mob of angry land holders stormed and destroyed the land office in Mayville it was Donald who sheltered the Judge. The Holland Land Company, seeking to right the angered people, sent a young lawyer named William H. Seward to Mayville to make the necessary adjustments. Seward remained in Mayville for a year, during which time he probably listened to stories of the Northwest and the influence of the British and the Russian fur traders in the area. It was years later this same William Seward became Secretary of State under President Lincoln and was responsible for the purchase of what is now the State of Alaska.

Donald MacKenzie died as a result of a fall from a horse while on a trip to Buffalo, New York on business. The fall occurred near Silver Creek, New York but did not kill him instantly. He lingered for 8 months, never fully recovering, and finally expiring on January 25, 1851. He now rests in Mayville Cemetery with his Swiss wife and many of his family.

A grandson had possession of the London pistols he had carried over the Rockies in 1810.

Probably the most cherished possession would have been his memoirs, which he had begun. However, his wife decided to burn the half completed manuscript because "that when a trapper turns penman, "it hurts his mind and amiability."

Here was a man who shaped two countries, influenced the fur trade by conceiving the Rendezvous, influenced men and carved out of the Rocky Mountains a place for his name in history. He has been called the "King of the Northwest" and a king he was. His life may not seem as colorful as some of the other greats of his day such as Jim Bridger, Kit Carson, Jed Smith and all the others, but the adventures and the times of trial were there. I have left most of them out for the purpose of giving a brief overview of as many of his accomplishments as possible.

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G	S	U	B	L	E	T	T	E	P	Z	L	R	E	C
R	M	O	O	N	G	R	E	A	G	P	O	E	A	L
C	I	D	F	I	M	A	S	H	L	E	Y	N	R	Y
F	T	E	L	E	P	V	E	N	P	O	F	D	I	M
I	H	O	N	W	H	I	T	M	A	N	B	E	K	A
T	Y	G	L	A	S	S	D	X	T	E	F	Z	A	N
Z	A	M	C	A	R	B	I	N	T	R	I	V	R	P
P	S	T	H	O	L	O	G	F	I	C	T	O	A	G
A	H	V	E	L	B	O	W	I	E	O	Z	U	S	I
T	A	I	B	M	E	T	H	T	P	N	G	S	L	T
R	R	I	E	G	N	E	C	Z	E	M	E	E	K	R
I	P	M	A	N	T	Y	P	Z	T	F	R	A	E	B
C	S	O	R	A	O	R	I	V	E	R	A	E	H	O
K	Q	S	A	M	N	T	O	P	T	A	L	B	A	O
W	A	L	K	E	R	S	I	O	U	X	D	K	A	R

Each clue opens with a first name. The last name is buried in the letters, either right to left, or down.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Milt was knifed in fight over Bannock girl. 2. Bill died at the Alamo. 3. William helped establish annual rendezvous. 4. Hugh had an arrowhead in his back. 5. Marcus cut out Jim's arrow. 6. Jim sailed Salt Lake in a bull boat. 7. Tom had his leg removed by Milt. 8. Sylvester died in a Mexican prison. 9. Jim was a real cut-up. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. John gave Hugh up for dead, as did he. 11. Tom was passionate about Manifest Destiny. 12. Joe discovered today's Yosemite. 13. Joe settled in Merry, Oregon. 14. Henry went with Jim (6). 15. Tom was the last trapper to see Jed alive. |
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