

## NEWSLETTER OF THE EVERGREEN MUZZLELOADERS August 2021



The Evergreen Muzzleloaders match and meeting were cancelled for this month due to fire danger.

#### THE WASHINGTON HISTORICAL GUNMAKERS GUILD ANNUAL DOIN'S

By Mike Nesbitt

Again the Washington Historical Gunmakers Giuld held their annual Gunmakers' Fair at the Capitol City Rifle and Pistol Club and their guest speaker was the well known Mitch Yates from New York who put on a two-day class on engraving. Several members participated in the engraving class but that was not the only activity for the four-day gathering, with about 32 gunmakers attending.



measured paper cartridges, plus the .50 caliber round ball. For his shot in the match, he only loaded the center barrel and fired the gun much like any other flintlock rifle. (That shot scored an "X"!) Then, for demonstration purposes, he loaded all seven barrels to let us see and hear the volley gun being fired. That was when the photo above was snapped and it caught Pete taking the full recoil. Those seven loads accounted for 294 grains of powder and approximately 1,260 grains of bullet lead. No wonder it kicks...

And the engraving class, while somewhat quieter, had its highlights too. Mitch Yates, seen at the right, calls himself a "Colonial American Artist" and he specializes in silversmithing, engraving, Trade silver, 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> Century long rifles, and accouterments. That gives Mitch a very good background for his engraving students to take advantage of and you can guess that his class was highly appreciated by those attending. I believe this was

One of the usual highlights about the gunmakers' annual gathering is the gunmakers' shoot. This is always held on the Saturday afternoon and previously it was very well attended. This year only two shooters arrived at the shooting shed along with several spectators.

The reason for so many spectators was because Pete Sheeran, from the Spokane area, brought his latest, a volley gun! That gun had seven .50 caliber barrels and, believe it or not, Pete used it in the gunmakers' match. And, he won!

Pete answered a lot of questions about his volley gun. Each barrel received a 42-grain powder charge, which he carried in pre-



the second time Mitch has been the guest of the Gunmakers' Guild. His class was a good one.

As we might expect, the guns which were brought into the club for display or demstration also receiced a lot of attention. The group was brought together, by classmaster Steve Baima, and as the racks of muzzle-loading guns, mostly rifles and smoothbores, were reviewed, the maker of each gun was invited to comment about it. Some of those guns were old originals and if so, the owners would relate as much history of the gun as they could. In the case of new or recently built guns, the maker would offer comments on the gun's design or relate experiences and details about the gun's construction.

It was during this time that I was called "to the front of the class" to talk about the fowler I had built from a Tennessee Valley Muzzleloaders kit. The feature about that 20-gauge flintlock that drew the most attention was the artificially striped stock and I was pleased to tell the group, briefly, how the artificial striping was applied. It's a slower process than what most expect and maybe I'll give a demonstration of that at one of the Gunmakers' Guild fairs to come.

Also on the rack was the "Carson Hawken" built by Allen Cunniff and I was able to offer comments about that gun as well. Of interest were its color casehardened lock and triggers plus the blued barrel.

As we continued to review and comment about each of the guns, we soon got back to Pete Sheeran's volley gun which was on a table resting in its own rack. Pete took the floor and told us a lot about the volley guns, how and when they were used, and some of the tricks he employed in getting those barrels all soldiered



together. Building that volley gun was certainly an accomplishment.

Now, as the applause from Mitch Yate's students and the roar of Pete Sheeran's volley gun fade into recent history, we can look forward to another of the Washington Historical Gunmakers Guild fairs again next year. We can expect that it will be held late in August but watch for announcements.

**<u>OUR NEXT REGULAR MONTHLY SHOOT</u>**: Our next monthly shoot is being scheduled for <u>**October**</u> **<u>9th, 2021</u>**. Please wait for further announcements about this match because we must review the condition of the range before we can make final plans.

**PUGET SOUND FREE TRAPPERS** The Free Trappers will hold their next monthly match on Oct. 2, 2021 down on the Black Powder range at Capitol City R&P club. No monthly muzzleloading matches are held during the summer months. Entry fee plus other details should be announced in a reminder. Contact Bob Gietz for details.

**OLD WEST CENTERFIRES** will enjoy there next match on **November 20th, 2021**. This will be a regular OWC match on the High Powder range at Capitol City R&P Club. Targets will be at 100 and 200 yards, ten shots at each distance. There will also be an after-aggregate match which is undecided at this time. Old or early style costume will be appreciated. Please contact Jerry Mayo (<u>imayo444@gmail.com</u>) for details.

<u>UPPER NISQUALLY SPORTSMAN'S CLUB</u> Contact; Scott Young (253-278-5767) or Tommy Hay (253-222-8497) for their shooting schedule and more details.

### **BUSINESS CARDS**



503-390-5128 Keizer, OR. 97303 E-mail knief@muzzleloadingandmore.com www.muzzleloadingandmore.com

jason@muzzleloader.net www.muzzleloadermagazine.com PO Box 1316 Gallatin, TN 37066 Office: 615-230-9853

## **OLD WEST CENTERFIRES**

By Jerry Mayo

The August 2021 Old West Centerfires match was certainly a high scoring affair, overall a very competitive match. The few weeks since our last match have been full of heat and empty of moisture. Everyone welcomed what little rain that did arrive and it did wonders to clean the air and the slight overcast made for great seeing.

Let me immediately shout about the welcome return of Bob Geitz. It would be an understatement to say Bob is a friend of the Old West Centerfires, he's more of a charter member. Bob has been absent from us not out of desire but out of necessity. What with Covid-19 among other things his well being required his separation from the

group. However, that came to an end today and it was smiles all around as Bob wasted no time jumping in as the Range Master and Range Safety Officer for this shoot and we thank him for that. That kind'a puts the train back on the track, so here we go.

We had eleven shooters with their big-bore black powder cartridge rifles, the buffalo guns. Our format remained unchanged. The aggregate portion of the match consisted of ten shots at 100 yards at a single bullseye target and ten more at 200 yards at a larger 200-yard single bull target. Fortunately our range easily handles this number of shooters in a single relay. For this event our shooters fired from the seated position with cross-sticks. Some may prefer a different, possibly more stable shooting position but the seating position using cross-sticks most closely represents the position of the buffalo hunters of the past.

As I mentioned the scores were competitive this month. Of the eleven shooters, there was not a score below 150 out of a possible 200 and there were 31 X's posted. The winning shooter was Curt Lokovsek. Curt posted a 191-3X with his .45/90 Hepburn, tops in the match. Well done Curt! Coming in second with a score of 184-5X was Allen Cunniff. Allen is no stranger to high scores and he was the top scorer at 200 yards with a 98-4X. Again, well done. Third place was Mike Nesbitt shooting "Hefty Hanna," his 15+ pound .44/77 by C. Sharps Arms with a score of 179-2X . In fourth was Ken Kurfurst with his .45/90 Rolling Block. Ken posted a 178-6X and had the high score at 100 yards with 93-3X. Rounding out the top five was Bob DeLisle, scoring 174-5X. Bob's score was slightly marred by a faulty sight adjustment, or a faulty sight adjuster. Check with Bob for clarification. All were very good scores.

Ashley Ritter shot with us and came in sixth with a 172-3X while shooting a '74 Sharps in .40/65. Ashley had the same score as Loco Jeff but won the tie breaker by having the higher score on the longer distance. Of course, Ashley was shooting Loco Jeff's rifle. Loco Jeff Ritter's score with his .45/90 '74 with the  $\#1 \frac{1}{2}$  Heavy barrel totaled 172-3X putting him in seventh place. Wes Davis scored a 172-X for eighth place. Wes was shooting with his .45/70 Model 1874 by C. Sharps Arms and he also showed us his new .45/90 with a No. 2 Heavy barrel and which has some of the nicest pieces of wood you'll ever see. Several of us stopped by the C. Sharps Arms shop in Big Timber Montana on our way back from the Quigley match this past June. (The Quigley match is held every non-Covid June at Forsyth, Montana and has targets reaching out to 805 yards and, of course, the 350 yard bucket offhand, just like in the movie.) We were able to Ooo and Ahh over Wes's rifle's stock at that time and the final result is certainly no disappointment. That's a very beautiful rifle from C. Sharps Arms and we'll be seeing a lot more of it.

Phil Wiebe posted a 167-X for ninth place. Tom Witt was shooting his recently acquired Pedersoli Sharps in .45/70 and scored 161 for tenth place and I brought up the rear with a 151-2X while shooting

Ashley with a "Trapper's Model" in .45 Colt

my rolling block in .50/70. I want to mention a new shooter. Cameron Ritter had only fired one long gun prior to this match and that was a BB gun. She was given the opportunity to throw a few rounds down range with a .45 Colt in a Model '73 Winchester copy. She said it was a lot of fun but it kicks just a little (as she patted her shoulder). From the smile on her face it seems we may see Cameron on the firing line again.







Standing; Loco Jeff Ritter, Allen Cunniff, Tom Witt, Ken Kurfurst, Jerry Mayo, Wes Davis, and Ashley Ritter in front of Doc Ritter, kneeling Mike Nesbitt, Bob DeLisle, Phil Wiebe and Curt Lokovsek,

Scores for this Match					
Name	<b>Rifle/Cartridge</b>	100 yd.	200 yds.	Total	Accum
1 <sup>st</sup> Curt Lokovske	Remington Hepburn 45/90	93	98-3X	191-3X	736-12X
2 <sup>nd</sup> Allen Cunniff	'74 C. Sharps Arms .45/70	86-X	98-4X	184-5X	549-13X
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mike Nesbitt	1874 CSA heavy .44/77	86-2X	93	179-2X	707-9X
4 <sup>th</sup> Ken Kurfurst	Rem Rolling Block .45/90	93-3X	85-3X	178-6X	750-17X
5 <sup>th</sup> Bob Delisle	1874 Pedersoli .45-70	78-X	96-4X	174-5X	497-9X
6 <sup>th</sup> Ashley Ritter	Shiloh Sharps '74 in .40/65	81-X	91-2X	172-3X	172-3X
7 <sup>th</sup> Loco Jeff Ritte	r C. Sharps Arms '74 .45/90	89-X	83-2X	172-3X	724-12X
8 <sup>th</sup> Wes Davis	1874 CSA Hartford Target .45-70	80-X	92	172-X	661-2X
9 <sup>th</sup> Phil Wiebe	1874 CSA Sharps .45/90	74	93-X	167-X	622-5X
10 <sup>th</sup> Tom Witt	1874 Pedersoli .45/70	83	78	161	662
11 <sup>th</sup> Jerry Mayo	Remington Rolling Block .50/70	72	79-2X	151-2X	553-3X
Not shooting in this match					
Will Ulry 258-2X					
Jeff (Doc) Ritter 375					
Tom Herman 48-X					

For the yearly aggregate these scores are added to the total of the previous 2021 matches and those new totals appear in the "Accum" (for "accumulative") column. At the end of the year a shooter's lowest score, if they have shot every match, is tossed out and the result is the score posted for the aggregate.

Our after-match (which isn't scored in the aggregate) was shot with our Old West lever guns, what we often call our "camp guns." Bob DeLisle and Mike Nesbitt were tied, Bob with his .32/20, missed his on his second shot and Mike, with a .44/40, missed his fourth, so Bob missed first and therefore Mike was the after-aggregate match winner. That gave us an added bit of drama we don't normally enjoy with the after match. Congratulations Mike!

Check the calendar on the Capitol City Rifle and Pistol Club web site, ccrpclub.org, for our next Old West Centerfires match as well as other upcoming shooting opportunities.

# **DOIN'S YET TO COME**



## CCR&P September Black Powder Shoot

Due the lousey timing of this years shoot schedule including the recent Evergreens cancelations I figure we needed a Sept. shoot.

What: Hangem High

Where: Puget Sound Free Trappers (CCR&P)

When: 11 Sept 2021 9:00 to 2:00

Why: I have a itchey trigger finger

Cost: One can of chili and \$10 or \$15

Needed Firearms: All you got. We will have a Pistol Shoot, Tradegun, Derringer and Aggregate rifle. Oh bring a hawk.

Food: We will eat at noon, chili and things.

Camping: Yes - call

Traders: probably not we will be busy shooting, eating and telling stories.

Contact: Will "Bugler" Ulry 360-701-8105 mcchess4@aol.com

Targets; Squirrel Gun Board, Tradegun Buffalo( It aint no Bison), Gamble (Derringer), Pistol - 10 shots, !3 shot Rifle Aggregate

# LYNCH CREEK LONGHUNTERS

AS MEMBERS OF THE UPPER NISQUALLY SPORTSMAN (LUB WE WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE THE LYNCH CREEK LONGHUNTERS AND ITS NEW MONTHLY SHOOTING EVENTS. THE GOALS OF THE LYNCH CREEK LONGHUNTERS IS NOT ONLY TO PRESERVE THE CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS OF THOSE BEFORE US, BUT TO ESPECIALLY HAVE GOOD OLE FASHION FUN, SO PLEASE COME OUT AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BREAK OUT THE OLE MUZZLELOADER AND SHARPEN THOSE SKILLS,

#### ONLY \$5 TO PARTICIPATE

THE COURSE WILL CONSIST OF TYPICALLY 20 OR SO STEEL TARGETS ON A MARKED TRAIL WALK COURSE, SCORE SHEETS WILL BE TALLIED ONCE COMPLETED,

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING OR PARTICIPATING IN ONE OF OUR MONTHLY SHOOTS ... PLEASE EMAIL THE BOOSHWAY (SCOTT) AT HUCKLEBERRY 1776.SY@GMAIL.COM OR CAN CALL/TEXT AT 253-278-5767

NOTE: DUE TO SCHEDULED EVENTS AT UNSC, RENDEZVOUS EVENTS AND WITH RESPECT TO OTHER GUN CLUB EVENTS, WE HAVE CURRENTLY DECIDED TO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO SCHEDULE LCL SHOOTS ON A MONTH TO MONTH BASIS.