

# The Sentinel

vol 3 Annual Review

Newsletter of the **Valdosta Vigilance Committee**

December 2004

## The Year in Review

This year we were able to hold eleven cowboy matches. February's match was flooded out. While the Hurricanes of the summer threatened us, we were able to hold our shootouts in spite of them. Even though the range was flooded, the waters always seemed to recede in time for us to hold our matches. Only once did we have to move the match to the pistol range, because of the high water. It seems that since the summer, it has rained the day before the match each month. The storefront props have made it possible to shoot, even when the range had standing water and lots of mud. It was good to have the range dry enough at the December shoot to use some of our re-settable targets (poppers, pigeon flippers, and whirligig target). We had 33 different cowboys and cowgirls shoot in our matches, with the largest posse being fourteen – the December shootout.

## Match Winners

We had *eight* different cowboys win matches this year:

- ☞ January – **Rusty**
- ☞ February – *Mother Nature*
- ☞ March – **Jimmy Sawbones**
- ☞ April – **Jimmy Sawbones**
- ☞ May – **Yancey James**
- ☞ June – **Ethan Sackett**
- ☞ July – **Dooley Kid**
- ☞ August – **Maverick Wayne**
- ☞ September – **Dapper Dave**
- ☞ October – **High Ransom**
- ☞ November – **High Ransom**
- ☞ December – **High Ransom**

## Clean Shooters

We had only *two* shooters shoot clean this year:

- ☞ **Ethan Sackett**
- ☞ **Bank Floyd**, who shot clean on two different occasions

## In Memory

This year, we lost one of our early members, **Tallockas Kid**, who passed away after a long battle with cancer. We certainly miss his presence with us.

## Empty Stocking Fund

The proceeds from the December Christmas Shootout were donated to the Valdosta *Empty Stocking Fund*. We donated \$130.00 to the fund. Thanks to all the cowboys who came out and participated in this Christmas Shootout, which supported a very worthy cause here in Valdosta.

## Annual Membership – Dues

The time to pay dues for 2005 is upon us. The dues schedule is as follows:

- ☞ Regular - \$20.00
- ☞ Junior - \$10.00
- ☞ Family - \$30.00

Please fill out a membership application (available on the website, or mailed to you). You may bring it with you to the January 2005 shootout, or mail it in.

## January Shootout

The shootout in January will be held on January 8, 2005, with the safety meeting beginning at 9:00am. The fee for this shoot will be \$15, \$10 for juniors (or \$5 with a paid adult). We will have the usual 4 to 5 scenarios, with some added attractions:

- ☞ **Lunch** – hamburgers and hot dogs provided. If some of the shooters would like to provide side dishes, desserts, etc., they would be greatly appreciated. There are a limited number of chairs, so you might consider bringing your own.

## ☞ Special Annual Awards

- ☞ After-lunch **side matches** to include a Buffalo shoot, and a top gun shootout.

## Buffalo Shoot side match

The Buffalo Side match will entail 10 rounds, 5 at 100 yards, and 5 at 150 yards, standing, offhand. The buffalo targets are approximately 18" tall and 24" long. Acceptable rifles are single shot, lever action, or slide action, shooting **lead** bullets at velocities of *no more than 1400 fps*. These rifles must have open or receiver sights of the period, and exposed hammer. You may use your Winchester or Marlin 30-30's if you like, as long as the ammunition is appropriate. 45-70's are also allowed. You may also use your pistol-caliber cowboy rifles.

## Top-Gun side match

The top-gun side match will be a man-on-man competition, with five knock-down targets at 10 to 15 yards, 8' to 12" inch plates and a pepper popper. You will begin with two pistols on the table loaded with five rounds each (if you don't miss, you may have to use only one of them). First man to clear his targets wins. Best two out of three will determine the winner for each round. The winner is the last man standing. (Bring lots of ammo!)

## Monthly Shootouts

We will continue in 2005 with our monthly shootouts on the second Saturday of each month, starting at 9:00am. We will plan to shoot four or five scenarios, trying to finish in time to get lunch at one of the local eating establishments. The time of sharing stories around the lunch table has been fun for many of us each month.