



C.R.R. Trail Blazer



The Newsletter of the California Range Riders



Come one, come all to our annual awards dinner—once again in the beautiful town of Manteca at Kelly Bros Brewery!

Bring a prize for the raffle (horse-related please) and then purchase raffle tickets for the club! Who knows what you could win!

Come dressed in your finest, see your mounted shooting friends before the next shoot, share stories, and eat fine food!

RSVP to Steve—Old Buckaroo

Date: 02/05/11

Time: 5:00pm

Kelly Bros Brewery
112 E. Yosemite Avenue
Manteca, CA

Hope to see you all there!

CRR AWARDS DINNER

Driftin' Along....by Jon Fix alias Tumbleweed

I was just tellin' Scarlet that it seems far too long since shootin' was in my life. Old man winter has sure put the kibosh on my favorite thing to do. I am so distraught that I find myself strapping on the iron, bouncin' up and down and practicing gun changes in my house.

(You are not supposed to know that I am in full shootin' attire, in front of the mirror, pretending I am going full tilt, though stages. I hoot -n- hollar and ya know what??? I never miss.)

So, all winter delays in mind, I don't have any shootin' related stories. I wrote about Pat Anthony last month and I figured I'd use another story 'bout him here. If you don't want to read about Pat, just stop here. I'll see ya'll soon.

I don't know if I told you last time, but Pat died about 10 years ago. I may tell that story later.

Pat and I were out buckin' hay on his farm one day. I would drive his tractor and he would walk beside the trailer, liftin' bales... For hours...Lift some, climb up and arrange, climb down and lift more. Oh yeah, we'd trade off now and then, but I usually didn't last long, liftin'. (remember, Pat was, by far, the strongest man I have ever known. He was well known in all of the towns in Mason County. No one messed with Pat.)

Back to the story: When we finally got done loadin' the hay, we were in a hurry to get it back to the barn. Ya see, this was Saturday and the Pentwater dance was that night. Pat loved goin' to the town dances. The girls loved him. He was "family farm style" polite.

He would freely dance all around the floor, even though he knew he looked like a big trained bear.

Anyhow, Pat was drivin' and we were goin' pretty fast for the load we had. It probably didn't help the situation much for me to jump from the trailer, across the hitch, tryin' to get to the tractor. Losing control I ended up crashing into Pat from behind. He came out of his seat, the load almost jack-knifed, and the tractor went off the road. Not all the way off, the tractor ended up hi-centered on the bank to a creek, not too far below. The back wheels were just scraping the dirt road and the front wheels touched the bank. There was not enough traction to pull back and the fully loaded trailer was at a bad angle.

Well after begging for my life, we decided that if we were gonna make that dance, we'd best figure this out. We tried jumping up and down on the back. We tried loading bales of hay on back of the tractor to add rear wheel weight. We pulled down tree limbs to pack under the wheels. While this all probably helped, it wasn't enough. Damn, it's gettin' dark.

Now ya'll have to understand that Pat had a huge heart and was usually a very calm, kind person. This particular situation obviously had him very pissed off.

Pat says to me "OK, the tractor is in slow reverse. When I tell you to, I want you to give it some gas." Pat worked his way down the creek bank to the front of the tractor. He turned his back to the grill, dug in his heels into the earth, grabbed the front bumper and tried to lift...

I thought, "yeah right, he's gonna lift the tractor, right!" That damned tractor moved... Not much, but it moved... I about s#!t.

Pat turns around to me and says to get ready. Turning back around and grabbing on again, he tells me to give her a little gas. Pat starts bouncing the tractor up and down. With each uplift he growls and lifts harder. I could hear the wheels get the traction and I could feel the load inch backward on every up lift. After about 8 lifts, we were out. I sat stunned. I will never forget that moment.

We laughed our way back to the barn and split up to get ready for the dance. That night, Pat danced freely around the floor and looked like a trained bear.

Tumbleweed

Fetishes and Carvings.....by John Cuneo, alias Johnny Longknife

I have just finished two very interesting books o the fetishes and carvings of the Southwest Native American Tribes.

They explain the role of these small carvings in Native American culture and religion. These books point out the fact that most people are unaware of the foundations behind the belief systems of the many Native American groups. For instance, among most tribes religious knowledge is not a commodity to be sold or bartered. A prayer rite is not something to be learned, it must be acquired by legitimate means from someone with the authority to teach it. A rite performed outside its traditional context is meaningless and will anger the spirits.

These two books explain some of the general purposes and uses of fetishes or amulets or charms as they are sometimes called. Most of these carvings are depicting animals and have various meanings and great power for those who believe. These two books also relate some of the traditional stories and beliefs surrounding the animals themselves.

Since most Native American culture and religion centers around nature, the North American tribes used animal fetishes to control or understand the forces of nature and the environment. While there are many uses, fetishes are generally used to bring success, luck or ward off (in Native American belief absorb) evil spirits and to heal the sick. Some amulets are even used, along with the proper ritual, to cast a spell on an enemy.

In basic terms we can think of such objects as possessing consciousness, will, immortal life and magic powers. They are thought to contain a spirit that provides supernatural assistance if treated with the proper respect. This explanation helps determine the difference between a fetish and a carving. If you believe it is a fetish, it is. If you don't, it is not, it's only a carving. These books explain the difference with examples and interesting stories to prove a point as a fetish spirit will not help an unbelieving owner.

There are legends also of how fetishes came to be and words in different Native American languages for these objects. Along with all these there are detailed descriptions of what these fetishes are made of and why each type of material was used. Along with what animal they represent and the powers of the various animals and birds represented.

So much for the book report. I found all this very fascinating and informative as I did the "Medicine Wheel". I am hoping that if I write some articles on fetishes you folks will find them entertaining and informative as I have.

But before I go any further, I must get the permission of the publishers, as I did for the "Medicine Wheel" and the authors of these two books must be convinced that I am doing this for information and education only, not to exploit or pass judgment on any Native American beliefs.

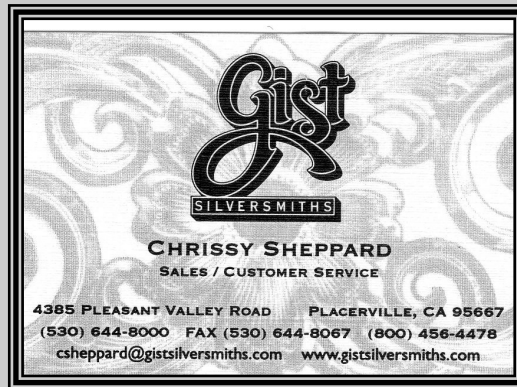
Johnny Longknife

Thought for today-an armed society is a polite society!

California Range Riders 2011

Buckle Series

CR.R is proud to partner with Gist Silversmith for our 2011 season and buckle series



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Reminders

Club dues

(You can join CRR only if you wish)

Joining CRR & CMSA and renewing dues for 2011 **important change, please read carefully.**

CMSA is now running it's calendar year from the World's in October. So as of October 24th, we're officially in the 2011 CMSA calendar year.

If you're planning to shoot at a CMSA match, you must renew your CMSA dues prior to the match.

Another important change is the renewing members dues amount.

Individual membership:

CMSA is now \$60 thru our club, CRR is \$50 total = \$110

Family membership:

CMSA is now \$90 thru our club, CRR is \$80 total = \$170

If you join or renew with CMSA on your own you will not get the \$10 discount**
Please list California Range Riders CA5, as your club.

To get the discount, your new or renewal must be paid by our club check/credit card.
It's important that all club members renew their CMSA membership for 2011, through our club, the California Range Riders.

Go to the CMSA website and **print the renewal form, fill it out and sign it.**

Please make your check out to CRR and send it to our Secretary:

Judy Stewart
C/O CRR
2480 Day Road
Gilroy, Ca. 95020

If you have questions, feel free to call me at 408-710-1616 or email: oldbuckaroo7@aol.com

Your Opinions Count!

Suggestions for improvement of future matches and ideas for prizes have been asked for at the awards ceremonies. If you are too shy to speak up in a group setting take a moment to talk to Steve or one of our board members or send an email. C.R.R. is always looking to make improvements for all of it's members.

Don't forget every now and again you will receive a survey email ranging from practice places, match places and days to awards and many subjects in between. Please fill them out and return them. These surveys are designed to help improve our club for our club members. They are read and go before our board for votes and consideration.

Maybe you have a suggestion you have not seen in a survey or cannot wait to suggest, email it to Old Buckaroo at Oldbuckaroo7@aol.com . The board of members looks forward to your input!

Watch your emails for announcements regarding upcoming practices and fun activities.

Check our [website](#) for 2011 Match dates.

Remember, participating in Demos, Wild West Shows, and Clinics, as well as shooting at matches, will get you credit for CRR year end awards. Volunteer, It's a lot of fun!

Submit your items for sale, stories (two part is OK!) and announcements to add to the newsletter to Debbie, scarletangel86@sbcglobal.net.

If you have any changes in your contact information, please email it to Secretary Judy Stewart at: calgirl101ranch@aol.com

C.R.R. Officers:

President: Steve Holland

Vice Pres: Jerry Bestpitch

Secretary: Judy Stewart

Treasurer: Judy Millikin

Board members:

Constance Jaegel

Jerry Kurtz

Debbie McAlpin

Dan Millikin

Joe Squillacioti

February Dates to Remember.....by Scarlet Angel

February 2nd Groundhog Day

February 12th Lincoln's Birthday

February 14th Valentine's Day

February 15th President's Day

February 22nd Washington 's Birthday

February 25th Pistol Patent Day

If you want to read about the history of Valentine's day check out the February 2010 issue on the CRR website.

February 25th, 1836, was Pistol Patent day. Samuel Colt was granted a patent for a "revolving gun" on this day.

After improvements on this idea he was granted patent No. 1304 on August 29, 1836 for the Paterson Pistol.

Colt strived for a pistol that every part would be interchangeable with each other and produced by machine to keep costs down.

There is much information to be found on Samuel Colt and the invention of his revolvers. Take a look and enjoy reading about some of the history of Colt firearms and their creator.

Samuel Colt died in 1862. His estate was estimated to be valued around \$15,000,000.

Happy Birthday!

Chuck Richmond 02-11

Dan Millikin 02-14

Debbie Phillips 02-20

Gary Ramos 02-23

L a s s o A D e a l :



CRR sponsor, Dave's Hay Barn with 7 locations to serve you.
Squeeze load and delivery available. They grow their own. San Jose store
408-292-3337 Other locations: Santa Rosa, Esparto, Upper Lake, Oroville, Shingle Springs

Portable pens, quick setup, pin together, light weight, fit in the back of a 6' pickup bed,
purchase 5 or more.

Old Buckaroo 408-710-1616

See our list of buckle sponsors on pages 5 and 6

If you have anything to sell or are looking to buy pertaining to Cowboy Mounted Shooting, please email the description and photo if possible to scarletangel86@sbcglobal.net and I will publish it.

President's Message:

Can't wait to get started in 2011

As most of you know, the **weather is changing** and most of our early practices and matches could be adjusted because of rain. So be sure to read your emails and watch for last minute announcements. The **2011 calendar** is available on our website.

<http://www.CaliforniaRangeRiders.com>

As always, a big thank you to **Scarlet Angel** (Debbie McAlpin) for the excellent work on the "CRR Trailblazer", and to **all the contributing writers**...great job!...keep it comin'

Happenings...

We now have a Facebook website...check it out and join. Just type in the search window (upper right) **California Range Riders (CRR)**

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&gid=342606616686>

Click on "**events**" We have 18 events listed, so please feel free to RSVP.

New for 2011: CRR Buckle Series

As you know, **CRR** does many activities in addition to mounted shooting competitions, practices, and clinics. Events are subject to change.

2011 February Dates

5th **CRR Awards Party/Dinner** to be held at the Kelley Bros Brewing Co in Manteca...*watch your emails* for details...we had a great time and good food the last 2 years with 40 + attendees, gift exchange. Friends of CRR and non members are welcome...please RSVP

12 CRR practice/clinic Lone Tree Ranch Tracy "weather"

12 RRRl CMSA "Ranger Roundup Shoot" Winchester, Ca

14 **Valentines Day**

19 CRR practice/clinic Novato Horsemen's Arena "weather"

24-27 **SASS Nationals Winter Range (Desert Hille, Az) SASS**

26 SoCal CMSA "Shootout by the River" Norco, Ca

2011 March Dates

5 CRR practice/clinic Novato Horsemens "weather"

5-6 ACMSA Southwest Regionals (**Globe, Az**) CMSA

12 **CRR St. Patrick's Day Parade (San Francisco)**

26-27 CRR Ghost Riders in the Sky V (Ceres)
(tribute to Nolie Johnson and Tim Foster)

CRR is now affiliated with:

CSA Cowboy Sports Association <http://www.cowboysportsassociation.com/>
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cowboy-Mounted-Shooters/225866044009>
and **WSSA** Western States Shooting Association <http://mountedshooting.net/>

Looking forward to seeing all of our new members and prospective members at these upcoming events.

If you're inexperienced, come ride time-only and learn the "in's and outs" of cowboy mounted shooting.

The reason for Rsvp's

Rsvp's are important. It helps us plan the amount of supplies (ammo, balloons, etc...) we need at each event. Many times the balloon setter groups want to know how much they will be paid (ahead of time). They are paid by the number of contestants and the number of stages run. The Diamond Bar would like to be able to purchase the appropriate amount of food, instead of over buying or having to make a last minute trip to the store.

It's a courtesy and I ask all of you to make an effort in the coming year.

Happy Holidays to all

Old Buckaroo 408-710-1616

Editor's Dispatch:

The Awards dinner is right around the corner!

I'm sure looking forward to seeing everyone and kicking off the shooting year.

Mom & I have been working on something fabulous to wear to the dinner and I think it'll be ready!

See y'all there!

Scarlet Angel

***"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass.
It's about learning to dance in the rain."***

"Dance like no one is watching. Sing like no one is listening. Love like you've never been hurt and live like it's heaven on Earth." – [Mark Twain](#)

