

The Cowboy Chronicle.

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WINTER RANGE 2001

The SASS National Championships – A Shooters Match

By Mongollon Monk, SASS #303, and Big Fella', SASS #22290

Thieves, thugs, fakirs and bunko artists were given fair notice the property known as the Ben Avery Shooting Facility was OFF LIMITS during Winter Range 2001 to those who don't enjoy the beauty of an Arizona sunrise, the smell of gunpowder, and the garb and hospitality of the Old West.

Ruger's Winter Range 2001, pre-

SASS GREAT ADVENTURES

Traveling History's Trails

By Ron El Escritor Harris,
SASS Regulator # 3497

For students of history, there is no more exciting experience than to be in the place where history happened. There are many methods of studying history, but nothing compares with actually occupying the space once filled with the ghostly others of the past.

Occihistoriophiles, (lovers of Western history), crave the sensation that wells within when riding the ruts of the Santa Fe or Oregon Trails. It wells up again standing in the windswept transept of the Fort Union parade grounds and tingles when we walk the streets of Prescott and Tombstone. It's never satisfied, this need to be where history happened. It's an itch that must be scratched, a palpable thing, visceral and seductive. Some of us pay dearly, one way and another, to endure it again and again.

This includes SASS members, the most avid seekers of physical connection to our Western legacy. Historic places call to canny cowboy actioneers, who search out adventurous holidays whereon this

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Vendors Row at Winter Range was the best ever, fair weather brought out the crowds. Everyone went home happy!

sented by The Arizona Territorial Company of Rough Riders, and sponsored by Vihta Vuori Powder and Wah Maker Clothing, was held February 8-11. It was a record-setting success. There were more shooters, more vendors, and more spectators than ever before. The

stages drew a saddlebag full of compliments, and the weather, which had been threatening, changed its mind and the predicted rain was replaced by sunny skies.

This year's theme was "The Wild Bunch - Remastered." The grounds took on a cantina appearance. Even

the shooters' badges were in the shape of an old mission.

Shooters were invited to join the Wild Bunch of movie fame on their final ride. The team shoot, sponsored by Taylor's and Co., required a squad of four, armed with any firearms

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Special
Issue

SASS GREAT ADVENTURES

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VENDORS



Tuolumne Lawman, SASS #6127

There are times when things seem too good to be true. When I got my first single action back from Eddie Janis of Peacemaker Specialists and cocked it, I thought it was broken. I was crestfallen. High hopes, dashed like a dropped nickel plated Colt onto a pile of granite gravel. But, then I cocked it again and realized the

PEACEMAKER SPECIALISTS

By Rattlesnake Roy, SASS #12786

truth ... it really *was* that smooth. I felt so little resistance because there was, indeed, so little resistance. The words "buttery-smooth" came into my mind as I cocked the hammer yet again, since I had no ability to resist the urge. Again and again ... and again, over and over I did it. This couldn't be true, but it was. I had the truth in my hand. Eddie really was *that* good at it. I was hopelessly hooked, sold entirely, and within the day had the rest of my Colts packed and shipped.

Those of you not familiar with Peacemaker Specialists are in for a treat. Known throughout the world as one of the premier Colt magicians, Eddie Janis, sole owner, proprietor, and gunsmith



Eddie Janis of Peacemaker Specialists working his magic on a Colt in his shop.

of said establishment, works his magic on Colt single action revolvers and no others. Terms like "fastidious" and "nit-picking" are not at all out of line when you talk of Eddie's devotion to his craft. His workmanship is absolutely the best possible. Period. End of story. There is no second place here. As Yoda, of *Star Wars* fame told Luke Skywalker: "Do, or do not ... there is no try." Eddie does.

Eddie is noted for his action jobs, but offers cosmetic make-overs of old and new guns (antiquing), matching new parts to old parts, case coloring indistinguishable from Colt's own, remarking to match first-generation guns, beveling cylinders and more are all part and parcel of what's available. Engraving is available and only limited by your checkbook. Fancy stocks made to your heart's whim from ivory to exotic woods, horn, pearl, and the sky's the limit is a phone call away. Beautiful stuff. I've seen it.

Eddie's extensive personal historical knowledge means all detail work is correct for the gun in question. You won't see any bits and pieces that don't belong together. Got an old "beater" lying around? Grandpa's old

hogleg rusting quietly away in a drawer? Drag it out, send it to Eddie, and let him talk to you about possibilities. You'll find out what's right ... and what's wrong ... about that old gun and the best part of all, you can easily bring it back to life.

Peacemaker Specialists is recommended by the Colt factory and the custom shop for work and a recommendation doesn't hardly get any better than that. Peacemaker Specialists is a parts distributor and offers a line of Peacemaker Parts for all Model P guns. Peacemaker Parts manufactures many out of production Colt parts and maintains a large inventory of both new and used Colt parts. If you need it, they either have it, it isn't available, or they never made it (like a Bisley spur on a single action hammer!).

Eddie's one-man shop means turnaround time is sometimes slow, but a bad job that's done quickly isn't worth the money, no matter how little (or much) you spent. A little patience always pays off in solid gold. I know the man personally and don't lightly make this recommendation. But, you have it from me, or my name isn't Rattlesnake Roy. ♣

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