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# River Junction Epitaph

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## Presidential Ponderings

As most of you know by now, RJSS and the CAS community lost one of its most devoted participants in the passing of Territorial Governor Fuzzy Gonzalez, a.k.a. William Rustic. Fuzzy embodied the Cowboy Spirit and had a wealth of knowledge of our sport. He was usually the final word on safety or rules issues and always provided useful and direct answers to problems. His wit and wisdom will be sadly missed.

Some of us are counting the days till its shootin' time at RJSS! I gotta start loadin', where has the winter gone but I'm happy to see it go. They'll be some new things this year that many of you will be happy to see. Tombstone Timi has repaired or replaced the targets and stands to better reduce splash back. But remember, never stand beside Irish Grandpa, he's a lead magnet. It can come from as far as two stages away to get him.

We will also have some safety rule changes, some from SASS and others from our insurance carrier. I'll give you the details next month.

The General Store will once again be on the honor system, Deputy Keck will take care of the Flite Line Bullets sales.

Note:

The following articles were written before Fuzzy's passing.



## Mattie's Column

Howdy all. It was great seeing all the pards dressed up in their finery at the Winter Gathering held at Bell's Seafood and Steakhouse in celebration of RJSS birthday. A lot has happened in those 10 short years. I know I am a lot richer due to the friendships that have occurred due to Cowboy Action Shooting. Hats off to Tombstone Timi for securing Bell's for this 10 year celebration. The food was wonderful and the company great. The Bell's did a fine job.

If you didn't know already, applications for both the SASS PA State BP Shootout, "Smoke N Fire at Indian Creek" and Ambush at Indian Creek X are available. We already have folks signing up, so don't be the last one in your neighborhood. If you are unable to download one from the web page, let me know and I will mail you one.

Dip is offering RO1 and RO2, March 22 at the McDonald Sportsman Club. RO1 will start at 8 AM and RO2 will start at noon. Food will be available. This is a great opportunity to receive both SASS courses without having to travel to a State or Regional match. I find that it is a great refresher just to sit in on the courses. Please consider coming and taking the courses.

In response to the trivia questions concerning Smoke N Fire, Alex Karras was the actor playing Mongo and his occupation is football player. Now, for some more trivia, who was originally to play in the 2 leading roles? Email me your response. Answers will be in the next Epitaph.

Take care,  
Mattie

## TREASURER'S 2-CENTS

Winter Gathering was a success. Good food, pretty ladies, and the guys looked good also. Deputy Keck is not letting any grass grow under his boots. He already has been selling ads for the Ambush and the Smoke 'N Fire events this year. Good job, Deputy Keck. Also, we have been receiving quite a few applications for Ambush and for Smoke 'N Fire. I wouldn't be surprised if we had a really nice turnout for the 3-day event. We'd better get our club application in for nice weather, also. So far we have 83 members for 2008. We have 7 signed up for the Ambush and 7 signed up for Smoke 'N Fire.....and it is only February. Thanks to all members who have signed up early and thanks to those who have signed up for the Ambush and for Smoke 'N Fire. These early signups really help your officers in planning the events and this year's monthly shoots. Your Corporate Treasurer.....WHIP WAGNER



## A Word From Dip

Hi Pard & Pardettes

I don't know about you but I can't wait for CAS to start. I had a great time at the winter gathering, good friends and good food. Thanks Timi. As you may or may not know there will be a RO1 & RO2 course at McDonald Sportsmen on 3/22/08, RO1 starts 8:00 am and RO2 to follow @ approx. noon, food and course material will be supplied. Cost is \$10.00--RO1, \$25.00--RO2. Refresher for either is free. This is a opportunity that may never be available for RO2 again in this area. The RO2 instructor is coming from Mid-Ohio and is a great guy by the name of Smokin' Iron. Over the years there have been many changes to SASS rules and this is a good opportunity to hear it from the horses mouth, although I must say Fuzzy does a great job at that. This course is not club exclusive and is available for ALL. In my opinion anyone who participates in CAS should be at least RO1. Pre-Registration is NOT necessary but try to let me know if your coming so the food and course material is available. Feel free to call me or email me. Even if you don't participate in any RO courses you owe it to your fellow shooters to print and study these course materials from SASS website so as to keep yourself and others as safe as possible.

Thanks  
Dip



### The Deputy Speaks

An RO1 class will be held down at Logan's Ferry on the 29th of March at 9:00am. I am holding the class for them and anyone that can't make the class at McDonald can maybe make this one. If interested contact Mariah, at [mariahkid@comcast.net](mailto:mariahkid@comcast.net) I think we should have as many people as we can be to be RO's to give some of the people that are always asked to be one a rest.

### Pictures of the Winter gathering



## Ambush March Update

By  
Durango Dave

Winter is winding down and later this month spring will finally arrive, but there were a good many things done and decisions made during these winter months for the Ambush to be a success. As I reported before we have the theme, which is the Lone Ranger, and the stages were drafted out in February. Since this is our 10<sup>th</sup> Ambush, I pulled stages from the last five Ambushes plus Smoke n Fire and reworked the stories around this year's theme. Now we'll revise them, gather the props, and drag out what we need from storage or rebuild it. One new change we made this year was to not have a banquet on Saturday night. Instead we're going to feast on one of Chuckwagon Sam's "gourmet dinners" taking place at River Junction after Saturday's match. It's free to all registered shooters & \$7.00 to non-shooters. Another part of the Ambush that registered shooters enjoy is prizes. This year we took the marketing approach of billing Smoke n Fire and the Ambush as two events over three days. So during late January & early February, emails & a bunch of letters were sent out by Mattie, Deputy Keck, Wild Bill Peterson and me to our past Ambush & Smoke n Fire sponsors and invitations for new sponsors to request their support for the shoots. To our delight we have already gotten back a few responses & deliveries. In addition to donations from our major sponsors, in past years we have also had many prizes donated by fellow shooters. These are special unique prizes both large and small that caught someone's attention thinking "This would be neat to give away at the Ambush." So anyone who wishes to donate an Ambush Prize, like the good folks who helped us last year, we will welcome you with open arms, and thanks in advance. Just contact me by email or phone. (724-228-8999)

Last month we asked our first Lone Ranger trivia question. Let's see how you did.

What does the Lone Ranger and the River Junction Shootist Society have in common?

1. This answer is easy. RJSS has its own Lone Ranger, who was a SASS Southeast Regional 1<sup>st</sup> Place B-Western Costume winner, our own Col. Wm. Hays.
2. The Lone Ranger series started with an "Ambush" of the Texas Rangers, but one "lone ranger" survived. Well, RJSS holds its own "Ambush" too, except each year we all survive.

Our March trivia question is this.

1. What year did the Lone Ranger series begin? a) 1949 b) 1950 c) 1951

Feel free to email me your choice. [durangodave44@comcast.net](mailto:durangodave44@comcast.net). We'll post the answer in next month's update. Until then, "Hi-Yo Silver Away".





## Wild Bill Peterson

I don't know how all of you are feeling right now, but I could use some warmth and maybe even a bit of sunshine. I feel like a ground hog holed up in my basement shop loading up ammo and waiting for spring. In my case, that means stuffing large quantities of Goex FFg into .44 Russian, .44 WCF, .45 Colt and .45-70 Gov't. cases under Big Lube bullets.

For me, this is pretty much standard operating procedure, but for many of you, it just might be a new and somewhat scary proposition. With that in mind and coupled with the fact that those of us in the Black Powder fraternity are just way too happy to share our hobby and to be out there evangelizing and trying to find converts wherever we can.

So why am I blithering on about all of this? Well friends, it is because River Junction is going to be hosting Smoke n Fire II (PA State Black Powder Championship) this coming July 18<sup>th</sup>. I know that those of you who participated last year had a great time and since you are now seasoned acolytes of the Holy Black, you no doubt want to spread the gospel of the One True Powder amongst your friends and neighbors. Well, friends, I am here to help. You go out there and collar those folks still using the heathen, fad powder called smokeyless and we will show them how to load and use the Holy Black.

I figure we can hold a little clinic at each of the regular RJSS shoots to get folks a bit more comfortable with the wonders of the White Smoke so they can join the fun at Smoke n Fire II along with the rest of us. If anybody needs any help prior to that, just drop me an email at [rwp48@taceconsulting.com](mailto:rwp48@taceconsulting.com) or call me at (412) 334-4466 and I will bend your ear as much as you can stand on the topic.

Mattie and Chalk have a great shoot lined up for us the Friday before the Ambush so let's make good use of this miserable winter and be ready come July!  
WBP

**Note: As I prepare to send this issue of the Epitaph out, we've learned of the passing of Wyarno Kid who often shot with us at RJSS. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.**  
CW

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**RJSS MONTHLY MATCHES 2008**

**April 19 - Calvary Days**

**May 17 - Rifleman**

**June 21 - Have Gun Will Travel (Paladin)**

**August 16 - Josey Wales**

**September 20 - Bonanza**

**October 18, 19 - Groundhog Day**

**Registration 8:00 AM to 9:25 AM --- Shooters' Meeting at 9:30AM**

**Extras**

**April 26 - True Grit**

**July 27 - Wild Bunch (Sunday Shoot)**

**September 27 - True Grit**

**RJSS Membership Meeting Dates - Jan. 12, Oct. 25, - Brady's Restaurant - 10:00 AM**

**SASS PA STATE BLACK POWDER SHOOTOUT - July 18**

**AMBUSH AT INDIAN CREEK 10 - July 19-20**

**COMMUNITY DAY WITH ICVSA - July 26**

**<http://www.nauticom.net/www/rjss/>**

**Disclaimer: All articles will be published as received with only spelling or grammar errors corrected and do not necessarily reflect the views of the organization or its officers. Any articles to be published in the Epitaph must be received by the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month. No unsigned articles will be accepted for publication.**

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