



February, 2011

Mountain Man Monthly

The Authorized Publication of the
Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders Inc.

The Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, Inc. was chartered in 1969 by a group of men and women interested in their heritage and dedicated to preserving and promoting the sport of muzzle loading and buckskinning. CSML is a family oriented club that holds a broad range of functions such as camp outs, potluck dinners, and black powder shoots. CSML is affiliated with the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the National Rifle Association.

Views and opinions contained within articles submitted to the Mountain Man Monthly are not necessarily those of the editor or CSML. The editor reserves the right not to publish any article submitted but encourages articles on any subject regarding shooting sports and subjects related to the fur trade era.

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Cannon Master
Richard Stites

Legislative Liaison
Doug Davis

Mountain Man Monthly Editors
The Webb's

Regular Monthly Meeting
March 3, 2011
Address & Mail Flyers

Paper Shoot - March 6

Daylight Savings Begins -
March 13

Primitive Shoot - March 20

Shoot Book Ads due - April 7

Shoot Work Party - May 7 - 10 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS: CSML & Statewide

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	INFORMATION
<i>Sell Ads for the Shoot</i>	<i>Book ----- no time</i>	<i>like the present to</i>	<i>sell ads for the shoot book!!!!</i>
Western National Shoot	Phoenix, AZ	March 2-7	huge shooting event for all
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	March 3	address & mail flyers
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 6	check shoot hot line first!!!
<i>Daylight Savings Begins</i>	<i>March 13, 2011</i>	<i>Change your clocks</i>	<i>so you'll be on time for fun.</i>
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	March 20	check shoot hot line first!!!
Newsletter Articles Due	to the Editor	March 24 th	Don't be late with your info!!!!
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 3	pistol at 12, rifle at 1:00 p.m.
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	April 7	meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.
Red River Renegades Shotgun Soire	near Wichita Falls, TX	April 7-10	contact Tom Hart for more info: (719) 275-8418
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	April 17	pistol at 12; rifle at 1:00 p.m.
Newsletter Articles Due	to the Editor	April 21 st	Don't be late with your info!!!!
34 th Annual Squirrel Shoot	near Masonville	April 30-May 1 Snow: May 21-22	.40 caliber or smaller guns (970) 692-4658/(970)635-9544
NO CLUB SHOOTS	IN MAY.....	GEAR UP FOR	36TH ANNUAL SHOOT!!!!
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	May 5	last meeting before the shoot
36 th annual work party for Memorial Day	LaChance Home 665 7 th St., Penrose	May 7; 10:00 a.m.	work party stuff followed by potluck lunch at noon
Boy Scout Demo	Big R @ Falcon	May 14	contact Joy for details
36 th annual Memorial Day Shoot & Rendez.	Florence Mountain Park	May 28-30	lots of shooting, work, fun, and potluck on Saturday night
Regular Club Meeting	American Legion	June 2	wrap up of the shoot
Club Paper Shoot	Ft. Melchert	June 5	pistol at 12; rifle at 1:00 p.m.
Colorado NMLRA Territorial Matches	SPVHS Range Ft. Lupton	June 17-19	Darrel Koleber (970)669-2599 Scott Drake (970) 635-9544
Club Primitive Shoot	Ft. Melchert	June 19	pistol at 12; rifle at 1:00 p.m.
No club shoot on July	3 rd Celebrate the	4 th of July with family	and friends!!!!

For CSML scheduled shoots; CALL SHOOT HOT LINE (719) 632-7690 after 9:00 a.m. on shoot day to be sure shoot is on!!!
Schedule is subject to change at any time and is based on information available at time of publication. On-line check csmlinc.org

PAST THINGS

February's business meeting was short and sweet. Not a lot happening but we sure did talk about the upcoming 36th annual Memorial Day Shoot and Rendezvous. Time to get working on this and get yourself set to help us host this biggest and best shoot in the state.

Treasurer Gwen is tracking all the expenses and income for the 36th annual shoot so we'll have an exact accounting of it and what it takes. She has also taken care of our taxes for the year.

Reminders given about the State Associations Annual Trade Show and Convention (formerly known only as Winter Convention). Please plan on being there to help make decisions and vote on the candidates.

Updates provided on all our friends who are battling back from illness and surgery. Fred and Petra have graciously agreed to host our annual work party at their home on May 7th. Let's get that date marked on our calendars.

After the meeting we started the fun of the white elephant gift exchange and eating the goodies brought by the best cooks in the west. Numbers were drawn and one-by-one, the surprises were opened and revealed to the crowd. Some very interesting items were displayed and a few were even traded. Someone ended up with only one moccasin (way too small to wear) and the infamous book was passed along to the winner of it.....Tom Faux. Gwen ended up with a package that made some really strange noises as she began to open it and that had the crowd roaring with laughter. She kept it so look out-----it may return next year.

All-in-all we had a grand time and enjoyed the time with good friends. Thanks to all who came to the meeting and participated in our frivolity. Be sure to hang on to those white elephants you get this year 'cause we'll do it again next February!!!

Remember all our friends who have been ill or had recent surgeries: Mark & Liz, Ron & Juanita, Fred, and Duane. Also let's remember Joy's brother and his family in our prayers as he faces this difficult time.

Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders, Inc.

Regular Monthly Meeting

February 3, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Joy Hicks, with a welcome to everyone.

Motion was made to accept the Secretary's report as printed in the *Mountain Man Monthly*. Motion was seconded and carried.

Gwen provided the Treasurer's report, with an ending balance of \$11,161.85 which is a combined balance of the checking, savings, and petty cash. Motion made to accept the report; seconded. Motion carried.

Membership report by Ted Beaupre noted that we had 6 renewals and 1 new member. Reminder given that dues are due and they remain only \$15 per family per year. Also, Ted has the new club phone books for those that don't have them. Membership renewal gets you a free one and additional ones are only \$1.00 each.

Primitive Report from Doug Davis was simple; they had one and no other comments. Use the phone tree and e-mail to check and see if a shoot is on or not.

Memorial Day Report: Ads for the Shoot Book are due by April 7. The work party has been set for May 7 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Fred & Petra LaChance. There will be a potluck lunch following all the work being done.

Committee Lists were passed out and Joy asked for each of us to check it out and find something that interests you or volunteer in several places. Committee heads are always willing to train. If everyone would give just an hour or two of their time, the shoot would be easier for everyone. Who knows, you might even have more fun.

Old Business: State Association Winter Convention is February 5 & 6. No February paper shoot due to the Winter Convention.

New Business: Gun show on February 12 & 13 at the new location near Palmer Park and Academy which is remodeled as the Rustic Hills North Event Center.

May 14 will be the Boy Scout demonstration at the Big R in Falcon. Mark your calendar and come help us with the Boy Scouts. More details will be forthcoming in upcoming newsletters.

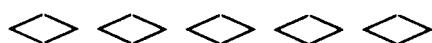
Upcoming events were noted. Next membership meeting is March 3.

Remember our friends: Fred, Mark & Liz, Ron & Juanita, Duane Jones

New sweatshirts and t-shirts have been printed for the club. See Joy for purchases.

Motion made to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Motion was seconded and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Schainost, Secretary



CORRECTION.....

Ron Deurmyer sent us a correction to the minutes of the December meeting and the subsequent report of his hunting story.

"In my story of the elk, the mini-ball, and When Things Go Wrong, Tom Campbell is not the guilty party. Tom introduced me to the on-line site where I met my friend Glenn who was the hunter and the shooter of the miscreant elk."

Correction so noted, Ron. Thanks for clearing this up for us!

Primitive Pistol Match

by: Ken "Suds" West

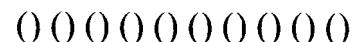
Thought I was going to shoot this one on my own, but before I had finished, Larry McCracken and Ken McDonald showed up to shoot. It was really too cold and windy for good shooting, but some of us are persistent.

Larry had his new .50 caliber but wasn't sure about the sights. Larry and I each hit 11 gongs; Ken hit 10. Larry chose one of the gongs at 40 yards for a tie breaker. We both missed it and decided to call it a tie.

Ken McDonald shot my LePage target pistol; I'm not sure that he had fired a muzzle loading pistol before. Looks like Larry's front sight was in about the right place! Wish all our troops could shoot as well as these guys!

I'm going to be at the Western National Shoot near Phoenix during the next paper shoot on March 6; but have left paper 25-yard targets at Ron's if someone else wants to run the paper pistol shoot!

Fred & Petra LaChance, Marlin & Barb Johnson, and Tom Campbell were at the shoot -- good to see old friends!!!!



Primitive Shoot Report

by: Tony "Tenderfeets" Hecker

While Sunday, February 9 was bright and sunny, it was extremely windy. Didn't matter as the primitive shoot was conducted.

There were a total of 10 shooters; 7 men and 3 ladies. Due to the wind, the ladies were allowed to shoot a shortened course and finished as listed. Men shot the full course.

Ladies:

Delores Beaupre
Joy Hicks
Judy Sterner

Men:

John Udovich	16/22
Steve Sterner	15/22
Jock Harmon	11
Kenny McDonald	10
Ted Beaupre	8
Jim Friedly	7 dnf
Larry McCracken	6

Thanks to all of you who came and braved the wind. We do appreciate your support of our shooting!!!

Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget to set your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday, March 12th. Remember that it's "spring forward; fall back". You don't want to be late for any of our fun and frolics!!!!

SHOOT BOOK ADVERTISEMENTS

Don't forget that our shoot book advertisements are what pay for the printing of this book. Be sure to get out there and sell, sell, sell an ad or two or three. We haven't changed the pricing for the ads and they still remain a great way to advertise your business, service, or events.

Deadline for all ads is April 7th, but please don't wait for that date. Turn in what you sell now so that we can get the layout done early and on time. Be sure that you don't staple or mangle the ad in any way so that we get a great reproduction for the person advertising.

Take a copy of the Shoot Book with you when you sell your ad. Seeing the final results can certainly be an asset in trying to convince folks to buy an ad. Lots of us use the folks that advertise in our book

when we need one of their services.

If you have any questions about an ad or need help with creating an ad for your self, contact Doreen. She is always willing to work and help you design an ad. (719-275-8724 or A business card size ad is only \$10 and is a great way to even say hello, miss you, or good luck to someone near and dear to you.

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36TH Annual Work Party

The 36th annual target painting, card marking, and overall work party will be held on May 7 at the home of Fred and Petra LaChance. This is where we all get together and paint targets, stamp cards, make tags, string beads, and do all the wild and crazy things necessary before the annual Memorial Day Shoot and Rendezvous.

We begin working at 10:00 a.m. Early birds get to help set up the work area. Once the work is all done, then we get to have the potluck lunch. Bring your favorite food to share, eating utensils, and join us. We always have a great time and the food is good. Besides, many hands make light work and we'll be done even faster if you join us!!!

Fred and Petra live at 665 7th Street in Penrose. Just south of the Gooseberry Patch Restaurant and turn left. They are the first house on the left.....you'll see us all there.

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HISTORY BITS

In June, 1835, Ramsay Crooks of the

American Fur Company wrote to Pratte Chouteau & Company in St. Louis that "With regard to Buffalo Robes we will simply remark that we believe 35 or even 40,000 would sell at any price within the bounds of reason. This article has become one of almost positive necessity, and it merely remains for you to determine what it will be prudent to ask."

Bent, St Vrain & Company's imposing adobe post on the Arkansas, established just east of present-day LaJunta, Colorado, in 1833-1834, was built first and foremost for this growing buffalo robe trade. Ceran St. Vrain stated in 1847 that this post, famously known as Bent's Fort, was established "for the purpose of trading with the several tribes of Indians in its vicinity." The primary offerings of these Plains tribes were, of course, buffalo robes and horses. Even the fort's location was determined with an aim toward best facilitating this robe trade, at least according to the Indian testimony obtain by historian George Bird Grinnell. Porcupine Bull, an aged Southern Cheyenne, related to Grinnell that at the first meeting between Yellow Wolf of the Cheyennes and the Bent brothers, that Yellow Wolf told the Bents that their first picket post "on the Arkansas near the mountains {in the vicinity of present-day Pueblo, Colorado} was too far from the buffalo range for the Indians to frequent." Williams Bent's son George told a similar story, writing to George Hyde in 1908 that the Bents were asked to "build {a} trading post further down on the Arkansas River where Buffalo was plenty."

The thousands of buffalo robes traded at Bent's Fort and many other trading posts in the Far West were eventually made into lap robes for use in carriages and sleighs during the winter months in both the United States and Europe; some robes were fabricated into heavy outer garments such as coats, mittens, and hats. The only robes suitable for such cold-weather items were those taken from November to March. All authorities agree that the summer robes were practically worthless as far as the robe trade was concerned. The hair or "wool" was far too thin and short at this time of year. Also worthless were the robes of buffalo bulls, which were too thick and heavy. It was the robes of cows and calves that fueled the robe trade.

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According to surviving records from Bent St.

Vrain & Company, is that all robes obtained from the Indians came fully tanned or processed, as opposed to the raw or "green" hides that were the rule during the era of the white buffalo hunters of the 1870s and 80s. The work of tanning these robes fell entirely upon Indian women. Lewis Garrard, who observed Cheyenne women preparing buffalo robes during the fall and winter of 1846-47, later described the tanning process: a robe "is stretched to its utmost, on the ground (the hair side down) as soon as it is brought in from the hunt, by means of wooden pegs. When it dries, the squaws take the adze-shaped instrument, fitted to the angle of an elk's horn [a hide scraper]... and, with repeated blows, chip off small shavings of the raw hide, until it is the requisite thinness." To make the robe even more pliable, a soup-like mixture of the animal's brains, liver, and bone marrow, together with soap weeds, was rubbed into the flesh side of the robe, a process which was repeated for several days. The last step was to expose the flesh side to heavy smoke.

Records indicate that it could take a woman one to two weeks to tan one robe, perhaps longer, but it is estimated that the average was ten days. It is also noted that "it is seldom that a lodge trades more than twenty skins a year."

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Trade goods offered by Bent, St. Vrain, & Company were "red cloth, beads, tobacco, brass wire for bracelets, hoop iron for arrow points, butcher knives, small axes or tomahawks, vermillion, powder, and bullets. The beads were of three different colors, red, white, and blue. The white kind were prized the most highly by all the different Indian tribes, the blue next and the red least." Of the thousands of common beads found during the archeology at Bent's Fort in the 1960s, over half were white and 35 percent were blue. Only 2 percent were red. Prized very highly by the Indians for ornaments were abalone shell.

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Bent, St. Vrain & Company were known to have purchased Navajo Blankets "procured from the Navajoes at great expense by the Company." These striped, handwoven textiles, known today as Navajo chief's-style, first phase blankets, are strikingly evident in watercolor sketches made at Bent's Fort in 1845 by Lieutenant James W. Abert.

Surviving records from Bent, St. Vrain & Co. invoices with Pierre Chouteau Jr. & Co. of St. Louis, shows there were Northwest guns; wool point blankets in blue, green, scarlet, and white; scarlet chief's coats; gorgets; arm and wrist bands; looking glasses; awls; brass rings; brass kettles; oval fire steels; hair plates; gun flints; and much more.



## SIMPLE REMEDIES

Taken from a book published in 1832, here are some simple remedies that a frugal housewife would apply when needed.

A good quantity of old cheese is the best thing to eat when distressed by eating too much fruit or oppressed with any kind of food.

A rind of pork bound upon a wound occasioned by a needle, pin, or nail, prevents lock-jaw. It should always be applied. Spirits of turpentine is good to prevent the lock-jaw. Strong soft-soap, mixed with pulverized chalk, about as thick as batter, put in a thin cloth or bag upon he wound, is said to be a preventive to this dangerous disorder. The chalk should be kept moist till the wound begins to discharge itself; when the patient will find relief.

A tablespoon full of West Indies rum, a tablespoonful of sugar-baker's molasses, and the same quantity of sweet oil well simmered together, is good for dysentery.

Flannel wet with brandy, powdered with Cayenne pepper, and laid upon the bowels affords great relief in cases of extreme distress.

A stocking bound on warm from the foot, at night, is good for the sore throat.

If a wound bleeds very fast and there is no

physician at hand, cover it with the scrapings of sole-leather, scraped like coarse lint. This stops blood very soon. Always have vinegar, camphor, hatshorn, or something of that kind in readiness, as the sudden stoppage of blood almost always make a person faint.

Half a spoonful of citric acid (which may always be bought at the apothecaries) stirred in a half a tumbler of water, is excellent for the head-ache.

Water-gruel with three or four onions simmered in it, prepared with a lump of butter, pepper, and salt, eaten just before one goes to bed, is said to be a cure for a hoarse cold. A syrup made of horseradish-root and sugar is excellent for a cold.

The thin white skin, which comes from suet, is excellent to bind upon the feet for chilblains. Rubbing with Castile soap and afterwards with honey, is likewise highly recommended. But, to cure the chilblains effectually, they must be attended to often and for a long time.

Always apply diluted laudanum to fresh wounds.

Tea made of slippery elm is good for the piles and for humors in the blood; to be drank plentifully. An ointment of lard, sulphur, and cream-of-tartar, simmered together is good for the piles.

The constant use of malt beer or malt in any way, is said to be a preservative against fevers.

A poultice made of ginger or of common chickweed, that grows about one's door in the country, has given great relief to the toothache, when applied frequently to the cheek.

A spoonful of ashes stirred in cider is good to prevent sickness of the stomach. Physicians frequently order it in cases of cholera-morbus.

Night sweats have been cured, when more powerful remedies had failed, by fasting morning and night, and drinking cold sage tea constantly and freely.

Boil castor-oil with an equal quantity of milk,

sweeten it with a little sugar, stir it well, and when cold, give it to children for a drink. They will never suspect it is medicine; and will even love the taste of it.

As molasses is often given to children as a gently physic, it will be useful to know that West India molasses is a gentle cathartic, while sugar-baker's molasses is slightly astringent.

As this book may fall into the hands of those who cannot speedily obtain a physician, it is worth while to mention what is best to be done for the bite of a rattlesnake: Cut the flesh out, around the bite, *instantly*; that the poison may not have time to circulate in the blood. If caustic is at hand, put it upon the raw flesh; if not, the next best thing is to fill the wound with salt -- renewing it occasionally. Take a dose of sweet oil and spirits of turpentine, to defend the stomach. If the whole limb swell, bathe it in salt and vinegar freely. It is well to physic the system thoroughly, before returning to usual diet.

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Gruel is very easily made. Have a pint of water boiling in a skillet; stir up three or four large spoonfuls of nicely sifted oatmeal, rye, or Indian, in cold water. Pour it into the skillet while the water boils. Let it boil eight or ten minutes. Throw in a large handful of raisins to boil, if the patient is well enough to bear them. When put in a bowl, add a little salt, white sugar, and nutmeg.

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Do not let coffee and tea stand in tin. Scald your wooden ware often; and keep your tin ware dry.

Keep your salt-spoons out of the salt and clean them often.

Do not wrap forks and knives in woollens. Wrap them in good, strong paper. Steel is injured by lying in woollens.

Suet and lard keep better in tin than in earthen

ware. Suet keeps good all year round if chopped and packed down in a stone jar, covered with molasses.

Always have plenty of dishwater and have it hot. There is no need of asking the character of a domestic if you have ever seen her wash dishes in a little greasy water.

In winter, always set the handle of your pump as high as possible before you go to bed. Except in very rigid weather, this keeps the handle from freezing. When there is reason to apprehend extreme cold, do not forget to throw a rug or horse blanket over your pump; a frozen pump is a comfortless preparation for a winter's breakfast.

Never allow ashes to be taken up in wood or put into wood. Always have your tinderbox and lantern ready for use, in case of sudden alarm. Have important papers all together, where you can lay your hand on them at once, in case of fire.

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## FOOLISH QUESTIONS?

Where can a man buy a cap for his knee?

Or a key for a lock of his hair?

Could you call his eyes academies

Because there are pupils there?

Where are the jewels from the crown of his head?

Who travels the bridge of his nose?

Do the calves of his legs get hungry at times

And devour the corns on his toes?

Can the crook of his elbow be sent to jail?

Where's the shade from the palm of his hand?

How does he sharpen his shoulder blades?

I'll be darned if I understand.



## **Memorial Day Shoot Committees**

**Shoot Book** - Doreen

**Prizes** - Paper Range - Doreen Medallions  
Aggregate - Joy

Mountain Man and MaMa Run

Kids Events - make Feathers May meeting

**Club Tent** - Marilyn Stites

**Traders Row** - Doreen

**Porta Potties** - Tom Gabor & Ron Melchert

**Registration** - Petra, Sandra, & Judy

**Scoring** - Joy

**Drawing Prizes** - Donations - Everyone

**Primitive Camping** - Primitive Guys

**Paper Range** - Tom Gabor

**Primitive Range** - Doug

**Shotgun Range** - Tom Hart & Rady Dyre

**Cannon Range** - Richard Stites

**Knife & Hawk** - Primitive Dudes (Doug, Tony, & Don Stoner)

**Novelty Match** - Primitive Dudes (Doug, Tony & Fred)

**Mountain Man Run** - Primitive Guys & Dee

**Mountain MaMa Run** - Judy Sterner

**Kids Events** - Dee Beaupre

**Spectator Shoot** - Steve Sterner

**Shooter Number Medallions** - Marlin

**Publicity** - Everyone

**Opening Ceremony** - Ted Beaupre

**Tug - O - War** - Ron Melchert

**Clean Up** - Everyone