



# Cowboy Gazette

## Big Doings at Ben Avery

*New stage fronts ease the setup work load and make for better shoots*



The past several years ACSA and Winter Range have met with Ben Avery staff to see if some sort of permanent cowboy facilities could be built at Ben Avery. Finally, this past December things began to move. Ben Avery and Winter Range funded and built

two new permanent stages. There is hope to build two more. In addition, Ben Avery is building a new storage lot just to the west of the parking lot for ACSA, Winter Range and the IPSC shooters. As these new stages are built, it should help reduce setup time.

### *Relighting the Fire*

The economy is down, money is tight and many of us in ACSA are getting older. Turnout at the monthly shoots is good, but membership numbers have been going down over the past few years. It wasn't that long ago ACSA had so many members ACSA actually thought about putting a cap on new memberships. Members use to hang around after the shoots, imbibe adult beverages, and have a social hour after the shoots. SASS itself is changing and much of what we view as "the good old days" seems to be gone. Well, it's time to relight the fire and ensure ACSA remains the crown jewel of Arizona Cowboy Clubs. We need ideas -- YOUR ideas. Please take the time to attend a club meeting or fill in a comment sheet.

- LEP -



### **GETTING BACK TO BASICS, BETTER COMMUNICATION WITH OUR MEMBERS**

When I first joined ACSA one of the things I looked forward to each month was receipt of the ACSA newsletter. It takes contributors to make a newsletter and it also takes money to print and mail it. As contributors waned and costs increased, the newsletter moved from monthly to bimonthly, to quarterly, and then finally it evaporated



into cyberspace. I am not a computer junky and talking to other shooters it is apparent many folks just plain don't go onto the wire to read the ACSA newsletter on their computers. Besides, it's hard to take the computer into the porcelain library. So, we are going to try to publish a quarterly paper newsletter and make it available at the shoots.



Miscellaneous Ramblings



March Shoot

GREAT TURNOUT

We had 129 shooters for the March shoot. Everyone was eagerly anticipating getting to use the new permanent stages for the first time. But, sometimes the best laid plans go awry. When the fronts were being built in December through February we forgot that Ben Avery books the shooting bays months in advance. Even though ACSA had put in the paperwork to use the new props for the rest of the year, someone had booked E and F bays last June. Hopefully, Ben Avery will make sure that if anyone has booked E and F bays before the new props were built, that they get moved to A and B bays in the future.

Miscellaneous Ramblings

The economy is going through hard times and while the Congress is providing all kinds of bailouts, we can be pretty sure there won't be any bailouts for anything affecting the shooting sports. The Board has been reviewing the books and the trends in ACSA over the past several years. While the shooting numbers are holding up well, overall membership has been slowly declining. With less revenue, the board has to pay attention to costs to ensure ACSA does not run in the red. That is why ATR had to be cancelled. ATR's numbers have been declining steadily since it was started in 2004. Last year after Winter Range there were 130 paid entries. This year at the same time there were less than

30. Financially, ACSA can not put on a shoot with only 30 shooters. We are exploring alternatives as ATR was ACSA's primary money maker for the year. Another big ticket item that has to be looked at is the Shooting for the Silver awards. When it started, there were only eight categories, there were a lot more members, and every category had more than ten shooters. Now there are 24. Several categories had only one shooter last year. With only one person, the cost of the buckle exceeds the annual dues and monthly shooting fees for that shooter. In order to ensure ACSA gets the most bang for the buck and the members enjoy themselves as much as possible, we need your suggestions.

Volunteers

How do we get more volunteers for set-up and tear-down? Start later in the day on Friday so people can come after work to help? Other ideas? We need volunteers to help with the newsletter. Can't publish a paper with no articles.

Bringing back the fun

Speeding up the scoring is helping, but how do we encourage people to stay for the awards and bring back the socializing that used to take place after the matches? Barbeques, potlucks, night shoots? Beer?

The Board Needs Your Suggestions

The Board's job is to manage the finances and make sure the members have a great shooting experience at every match. However, ACSA is a club and a club can't function effectively without the active support of its membership. We need your ideas and we need your help. Attached is a comment sheet. Please take some time to give us your thoughts on the direction the club should be taking, your ideas on things you would like to see the club do and how or if you can help with club activities.

YEEHAAA!!!! See you all at the next shoot.

- LEP -

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Thanks go to the March set-up volunteers. Blue Ridge Ranger, True Grit Gary, Arizona Chuck, Deadeye Al, Cactus Wren and Lobo Juan. Thanks guys. Without your help there would be no matches!

Calendar of ACSA Events

- April 11 -- Cowtown
May 9 -- Ben Avery
June 13 -- Ben Avery
July 3 -5 -- Railhead, Williams Arizona

Contributors

EDITOR -- LEP



REPORTER -- LEP



PHOTOGRAPHER -- LEP



YOUR PICTURE COULD BE HERE!!!!!! If you have an article, picture or idea, please send it in. It's the only way you'll get my mug off the page!!!!!!

# Comments

Snail Mail Address  
ACSA  
PO Box 38006  
Phoenix, AZ 85069-8006

### ACSA Board

President Tim Popovich  
"Big Tim"  
(623) 388-9279  
bigtim@acsainc.com



Member At Large Robert Flanagan  
"Deputy Curly"  
(602) 374-5526  
deputycurly@acsainc.com



Vice-President Wayne Nordwall  
"Larsen E. Pettifogger"  
(623) 516-1922  
larsenpettifogger@acsainc.com



Member At Large Wendell Gist  
"Cactus Wen"  
(602) 995-4712  
cactuswen@acsainc.com



Secretary Tara Denzin  
"Lil Guns"  
lilguns@acsainc.com



Range Master Don Burke  
"Dubious Don"  
(602) 809-2302  
dubiousdon@acsainc.com



Treasurer Chuck Emery Jr.  
"Arizona Chuck"  
(602) 795-3123  
arizonachuck@acsainc.com



Territorial Governor Jim Peoble  
"Johnny Meadows"  
(928) 567-9227  
johnnymeadows@acsainc.com

