

COWBOY TIMES

AN IRREGULAR PUBLICATION OF THE OAK RIDGE OUTLAWS

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A NEWSLETTER, MAILED TO EACH AND HOPEFULLY TO BE READ AND RE READ HAS BEEN MISSED BY MANY OF US AND IS GREATLY NEEDED TO MAINTAIN OUR CONNECTION WITH SLOWER TIMES. NOW MOST OF US DESIRE FASTER TIMES BUT HEREIN WILL BE THE EXCEPTION. A NEWSLETTER CAN CONVEY A SENSE OF CONNECTION AND HISTORY IN A WAY IMPOSSIBLE WITH MODERN COMMUNICATION. IT CAN BE READ ANYWHERE AND SHARED AND CAN BE KEPT SAFELY TO MARK OUR TIME TOGETHER.

INITIALLY WE WILL ATTEMPT A QUARTERLY PAPER AND WE HOPE TO INCREASE IN VOLUME OR FREQUENCY AS THE CASE MAY BE. THE MODERN ELECTRONIC WEBSITE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SCORES AND IMMEDIATE NEWS ABOUT THE OUTLAWS. THE COWBOY TIMES WILL CONTAIN THE SLOWER NEWS SUCH AS CLUB HISTORY, SOME ENTERTAINMENT AND INSIGHTS ABOUT OUR PARTNERS HERE ON THE RANGE.

WE FIRST CAME TOGETHER AS A GROUP IN 1998. MANY OF THE FOUNDERS ALREADY KNEW EACH OTHER---SOME OF US FOUND THE COWBOY TABLE AT THE LAST GUN SHOW AND SIGNED UP THAT WE WERE INTERESTED. ARIZONA JOE AND YAKIMA CANUTT WERE ALREADY SHOOTING SASS MATCHES AROUND THE COUNTRY BUT MOST OF US HAD NOT EVEN JOINED SASS YET.

FROM MANY SOURCES, CLINT WESTWOOD AND THE OTHERS CONTACTED A DOZEN OR SO OF US TO COME TALK ABOUT STARTING UP A COWBOY CLUB HERE IN KNOXVILLE. WE DIDN'T HAVE A RANGE OR ANY IDEA WHAT WE WERE DOING BUT WE HAD A BEGINNING AND A DESIRE TO DO SOMETHING. WE LISTENED AS THE VISION WAS CAST AND THOSE WITH SASS EXPERIENCE TALKED ABOUT THE RULES, GUNS AND GEAR THAT WE WOULD NEED.

OWLHOOT AGREED TO SUMMARIZE THE MEETING AND HE PENNED THE FIRST NEWSLETTER THAT WENT OUT A FEW DAYS LATER AND SO WE HAVE INCLUDED IT HERE FOR ALL TO ENJOY.

IN THIS FIRST PAGE HE VERY ELOQUENTLY AND BRIEFLY DESCRIBES THE REASONS WHY WE ALL WANTED TO PLAY COWBOY ON SATURDAYS.

COWBOY POETRY

THE OUTLAWS' TALE OF WOE

AH, THE OUTLAWS' TALE OF WOE
FOR YEARS WILD OATS WE DID SOW
WE WERE SOMETIMES COLD, SOMETIMES HOT
WITH BELLIES FULL, AT TIMES NOT
HOUNDED, WOUNDED, OR TAKEN ILL
OR FULL OF POWER, AND STRONG OF WILL
RIDING HARD, AND SHOOTING FAST
WE'LL SOMEDAY END THE TRAIL, AT LAST
OUTLAW MEN, AND EVEN LADIES MAKE THE TRIP
WITH LEAD STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP
WHO WILL REMEMBER IF WE WERE GOOD OR BAD?
BUT, OH, AT THE TIMES WE HAD!

FAST HARLEY- '15

THE BLUE TREES

ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE LEAD MINE VALLEY
BAD MEN ROAMED TOO MANY TO TALLY
T-BONE ANGUS, HORSESHOE JOHN, AND SEVERAL MORE
FOUGHT THESE MEN TO SETTLE A SCORE
SOME WHO JOINED IN WERE FROM THE RIDGE OF OAK
HARD-RIDIN', GUNSHARP FOLK
LEAD FLEW LIKE A SWARM OF BEES
SO WE ALL TOOK COVER IN A GROVE OF TREES
THEIR BARREL-LIKE TRUNKS GAVE SHADE AND SHELTER
BUT BARK, LIMBS, AND LEAVES WERE OF A STRANGE COLOR
TOMBSTONE SAID, "I'VE SEEN TREES OF A DIFFERENT HUE,
BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN A TREE OF BLUE!"

FAST HARLEY

DO YOU KNOW IRON, SON?

REMEMBER THE MOVIE, "YOUNG GUNS" WHERE THE GUN HAND WAS BRAGGING ABOUT HOW HE WAS GOING TO KILL BILLY THE KID ?

THE BOY ASKED TO SEE THE VERY GUN THAT HE WAS GOING TO USE.

LITTLE DID THE GUNFIGHTER KNOW HE WAS TALKING TO THE BOY OUTLAW RIGHT THEN AND THERE ANDWELL... I WON'T SPOIL THE MOVIE FOR YOU.

BUT HOW MANY TIMES HAS THIS HAPPENED TO YOU?

YOU STOP INTO A GUN SHOP AND THERE IN THE CASE IS THE SINGLE ACTION COLT THAT IS BEGGING YOU TO TAKE A LOOK. SO YOU WAIT YOUR TURN AND SAY TO THE FELLOW BEHIND THE COUNTER : "MAY I SEE THAT COLT THERE?"

HE REACHES IN AND PROCEEDS TO CONFIDENTLY FLIP OPEN THE LOADING GATE WITH HIS THUMB AND THEN HE DOES THE UNTHINKABLE---HE GRABS THE CYLINDER AND REALIZES THAT WAIT---IT WON'T TURN. IT IS AT THIS VERY MOMENT YOU NOTICE THE GLOCK SHIRT THAT HE IS WEARING.

NEXT HE REMEMBERS THAT THIS MUST BE ONE OF THEM GUNS THAT YOU PULL BACK ON THE HAMMER A BIT AND SO HE DOES JUST THAT--- BUT ONLY A BIT ---AND THEN HE VERY TIMIDLY TURNS THE CYLINDER WHILE HOLDING HIS THUMB ON THE HAMMER AND YOU ARE HOPING THAT THE UNIVERSE REMAINS IN BALANCE ONLY A MOMENT MORE.

FINALLY YOU ARE HANDED THE PIECE AND SEE THE VERY FAINT LINES ON THE CYLINDER AND YOU KNOW THAT IT HAS TO BE YOU TO RESCUE THIS FINE PIECE OF CLOCKWORK MACHINE FROM THE TACTICAL CASE.

AFTER ALL, THEY DON'T MAKE PEACEMAKER CENTENNIALS ANY MORE.

RIVER