

Old North State Posse Chronicle 2015 End of Year Update

Old North State Posse 2015 Activities

For Old North State Posse, the second half of the 2015 year ended up being a bit slower for a change – a stretch of wet weather toward the end of 2015 that did not cooperate. Both the Oct. and Nov. matches were cancelled due to wet/muddy conditions. When the weather impacts attendance, it slows down club/match support activities to match the revenue available. The following is a recap of the major activities which the ONSP team tackled during the second half of 2015.

- **Targets and Target Stands:**
 - Train Wreck was able to get 7 new tombstone targets for a very nice price.
 - We added 10 new tripod target stands – 5 medium height and 5 tall height.

- **ONSP Equipment Shed:**
 - We contracted Three Cut and Red River Ray to put a new metal roof on the equipment shed and to wrap all of the eaves and gables. They did a super job that included some repair work resulting from water damage!
 - We had hoped to get the sides painted to match the new roof and gable color scheme. However, we are still trying to get some dry weather that will allow us to prep the sides and get some paint on them.
 - Still looking at options for additional storage areas for equipment.

- **Prop Activities/Efforts:**
 - Added a new false well prop on which to set the hand pump so we can use it with the new water trough.
 - Finished refurbishing one of the old fake rocks. Finally found a coating made for applying over Styrofoam that is supposed to be weather proof. Plan on starting on the other rocks as time/money permits.
 - Stripped the wheel assemblies off of the train cars for refurbishment and installation of a new mounting system so they are installed only when used. This requires repainting the lower part of the train cars but that has not occurred as a result of the wet weather.

- **KTown has completed the new process for moving the brass picking process to the firing line area and providing a table for the score keeper as well. Umbrellas were acquired so shade is available as needed at the table. This has worked out well – easier on the brass pickers and it has reduced traffic to and from the unloading table. We plan on adding some buckets for discarding hulls at the brass picker station.**

- **Layden Payde made some laminated copies of a new poster that is added to each berm in which an ONSP match setup has been completed on Friday afternoon.**

The wording states the intent of the equipment in the berm and that it is protected from unauthorized use. This was in response to some unauthorized use of equipment on Friday after match setup was completed.

- We continued cleaning up and organizing the prop storage areas – keeping the green stuff cut down, getting rid of props that are no longer useable and keeping the bee population under control.
- On-line Resources:
 - Tracker Mike has continued maintaining the ONSP web site (www.onsp.us). We are always happy to add your cowboy profile to the website or update an existing profile. Just send your request to Mike at trackermike@ymail.com
 - Continued maintaining the ONSP Facebook site – thought we would see how that might be used to keep up with and discuss ONSP activities. This is primarily intended for ONSP members/regulars.
 - ONSP also continues some financial support when requested for the Carolinas Cowboys website which benefits all of the cowboy clubs in the area.
- Upgraded the SASS scoring software a couple of times as well as the range computer software in the RCWA club house. We have started looking at some different scoring software that has a much more integrated approach to capturing scores in real time on the berms. Requires some capital investment for a fairly robust Wi-Fi setup. Noticed at least one other shooting venue (IDPA I think) is using a similar type setup now.
- The ONSP Board decided to apply for club SASS affiliation under the new process. The paperwork was put together and filed. So ONSP is now a SASS affiliated club through Oct. 2016. This process requires annual renewal.
- The weather was not good to us at the end of the year. We did not shoot the Oct. and Nov. matches, it was very wet and muddy. The limited match schedule impacts the club revenue which impacts the ability to tackle some projects.

The ONSP Annual Membership Meeting

A brief ONSP annual membership meeting was held at the RCWA club house after the regular ONSP Dec. match awards were handed out. The following were the major annual meeting activities:

After the ONSP Dec. match awards, the annual ONSP membership meeting was held to allow input and direction from the membership for the coming year.

- The list of candidates for the ONSP board for 2016 was read – Joe Danby, KTown, Layden Payde, Sisco Ron, Tracker Mike, Train Wreck and Tex James. This list included 7 of the 7 ONSP 2015 board members.
- No other candidates had requested to be included on the board prior to the meeting. The floor was opened for additional nominations – as usual there were none. Thus the seven candidates for ONSP Board members were elected for 2016. If you have interest in serving on the ONSP Board in the future, please let an ONSP Board member know of your interest.
- So the following are the ONSP Board of Directors for 2016.
Layden Payde – President and Match Director
Sisco Ron – Vice President
Train Wreck - Treasurer
Tracker Mike – Secretary
Joe Danby
KTown
Tex James
Note: Joe Danby had requested to take a break from officer duties as Treasurer. Train Wreck has taken over those duties with Joe Danby providing backup services as needed. We would like to thank Joe Danby for quite a few years as the ONSP Treasurer. Job well done !!
- The 2015 Shoot for the Loot program was briefly discussed – it will be run under the same rules as last year. Everyone who becomes an ONSP member for 2016 will again be automatically included in the competition. It is a fun venue for those that like to focus on shooting accurately and are at most of the monthly matches. If you are not familiar with the program, there is a detailed rules description on the ONSP web site – the rules for 2016 have been posted. The competition starts with the Jan. match and includes all ONSP matches held in 2016. The 2016 Shoot for the Loot awards will be presented in Jan. 2017 since the Dec. match(s) results are included in the final results. You can join ONSP at any time during the year and we can go pick up any of your previous monthly match results so they get included.

The following are the 2015 ONSP Shoot for the Loot competition results. Participation by all of the ONSP members resulted in a very competitive event over the 2015 ONSP monthly matches. We ended up with 7 monthly match results and the ONSP annual match that were included. The NC State Match in June is not part of the competition. The following 2015 Shoot for the Loot awards were handed out:

Cowboy – Earl E Bird
Cattle Baron – Salvador Dally
Duelist – Stonefire Slim
Double Duelist – Sisco Ron
Elder Statesman – Rocky River Jeb

Forty-Niner – Six String Jimmy
Frontier Cartridge – Doc Perry The 2015 OSP Club Champion !!
Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter – KTown
Senior Frontier Cartridge Duelist – Train Wreck
Frontiersman – Capt. Jeb Forrest
Gran Patron – Ace of Clubs
Gunfighter – Tracker Mike
Grande Dame – Green Eyed Indian
Cowgirl – Little Boots
Lady Duelist – Colorado Aspen
Lady Forty-Niner – Hillbilly Hannah
Lady Senior – Cherokee Cass
Lady Silver Senior – Ms Jewel
Lady Wrangler – Ablazin' Grace
Senior – Long Branch Louie
Silver Senior Duelist – Rosebrook Kid
Silver Senior – Ten Spot
Wrangler – Three Cut
Wild West – Whiskey River Bill

The overall ONSP club Shoot for the Loot Champion for 2015 was Doc Perry !!

Congratulations Doc Perry with 88 total points ! Capt. Jeb Forrest (84 points) was a close second. The 2015 Shoot for the Loot was very competitive and went down to the last match to determine a winner – as usual the effect of the Big Iron Showdown with double points and clean shoots were deciding factors. A special milestone for 2015 – Doc Perry becomes the very first repeat winner of the championship. There were 6 participants that shot every ONSP monthly match in 2015 – Salvador Dally, Capt. Jeb Forrest, Train Wreck, Layden Payde, Whisky River Bill and Tracker Mike. Let's roll it out and get started again in Jan.!!

Old North State Posse Plans for First Half of 2016

So what are some of the areas that we would like to address in the first half of 2016 and beyond? As usual we have a list of things we think that we need to eventually address. As you will notice, there are plenty of opportunities for club members to participate in some of the activities that it takes to keep ONSP operating effectively. Just get in touch with a Board of Director member if you see an activity with which you would like to assist.

- The ONSP membership feels very strongly that we need to continue our efforts around both recruiting new folks to cowboy action shooting and helping new participants get started and improve. The following will be the focus for 2016.

- Making sure we have a good process at monthly matches to identify potential new participants that drop by and watch. Please take the time to welcome visitors and be willing to answer any questions they may have. Make them feel welcome. We have handouts which are in the back of the scoring notebooks available at each match - make sure they are offered a copy.
 - Make sure we identify new cowboy action shooters (first time shooters) at each match and make sure that we have good mentors/coaches assigned for their first match or two. Help the new folks start off on a positive note.
 - We continue to try to update the ONSP web site info to try to better identify what new cowboy action shooters should expect and how to get ready to participate.
 - We currently have no 2016 new shooter clinics scheduled at this time. However, we can now hold these on Sunday afternoons at RCWA. If we have interested parties, we are happy to schedule a Sunday afternoon. We also will continue to be available at the Friday setup sessions for potential new cowboy shooters that would like to come try it out. We would like to ask that we get a heads up if someone is interested in dropping by on a Friday setup day so we can be prepared. We are also going to try to use our regular monthly matches for allowing potential new shooters some opportunities – we have occasionally done this in the past.
- ONSP will continue to work with the North Carolina Cowboys, Inc. to support the annual NC State Championship match, The Uprising at Swearing Creek, and help to make this a successful event in 2016 – June 2 – June 5 .
 - This will include a work day or two to get the props and equipment ready. Keep an eye open for a notice on the workday(s).
- ONSP will continue running a full set of fun monthly matches. Remember the following schedule of events for 2016:
 - The NC State Championship match will occur on the ONSP June monthly match date. This will be June 2 - June 5.
 - The ONSP annual match, The Big Iron Showdown, will be held on the regular 2 April match date. Match details and applications are available on the ONSP website (www.onsp.us).
 - Monthly match opportunities:
 - We are always looking for help with target setup on Friday afternoon before our monthly matches. They usually get together around 3:00 to 3:30 at the range. Thanks to our usual setup crew – KTown (usually writes the stages), Ace of Clubs, Rosebrook Kid, Tex James, Whiskey River Bill, Papa Chet, Joe Danby and Layden Payde.

- Would someone like to learn how to use our scoring software to do monthly match registration and scoring? Always looking for some more participants. Matches will be cancelled if we do not have anyone available to handle this function. See Tracker Mike if interested.
 - Writing stages – always happy have someone new try their hand at writing stages. Just let us know you are interested and we will walk you through the process. We will need to have the stages written and in KTown's hands a couple of weeks in advance so we can review. The writer must also be available on Friday afternoon before the match for setup so if we need to adjust anything that we have the author available to insure we have not messed up the intent of the stage.
- The maintenance of the ONSP equipment shed and the grounds immediately around the ONSP equipment shed is the responsibility of ONSP.
 - Some monthly maintenance to keep the green stuff under control. Some assistance with this effort would be appreciated – you just need some weed eater skills
 - With the new top on the equipment shed a major priority is the refurbishment of the exterior trim/sides and doors on the equipment shed. This will include a coat of paint on the sides. We are in need of some dry weather to keep this moving.
 - We need additional shelter capacity for prop storage. We have started acquiring some of the materials to extend the shelter on the back of the equipment shed. This will require a work day or two for this to progress.
 - We will be doing some refurbishment work on the range tables prior to the state match – new carpet and/or stability repairs. May even add some new small tables for use on the firing line.
- With our immediate target inventory needs addressed, we continue to look at both adding some specialty target stands to provide some different target scenarios and refurbishing some of the older pole target stands as money allows.
- The range trailer needs a new bed.
- We have a couple of broken timers. Need to get those shipped back to the vendor for repair.
- We will continue to refurbish some existing props as time and money allows.
 - As always, there is some train car refurbishment needed – clean up and painting.
 - The foam rocks will have a new plastic coating applied as time and money permits. One of the foam rocks has been finished. Need some dry weather to proceed.

- We will continue to look for some opportunities to add some new props to the ONSP inventory and repair some of the existing stuff. Probably will schedule some repair work as part of the preparations for the NC State Championship.
 - We would like to add another saloon themed frame store front with traditional saloon type door (doors have been donated by Stonefire Slim/Colorado Aspen). Maybe add a saloon bar.
 - Build a new coffin.
 - We would like to create some new horse props on which we could mount some saddles (we have saddles) for use in that shooting from horseback experience.

- Reminder: We still have a supply of ONSP badges now available. As usual, these are sold at the club's cost - \$50. See Joe Danby or Tracker Mike if you would like an ONSP badge.

REMINDER: ONSP membership dues run on a calendar year. So it is time to renew your membership for 2016. The yearly ONSP membership fee will remain at \$15 for 2016 (\$25 for family). You can renew at your first ONSP match in 2016 or send it in earlier if you would prefer. If it is a renewal and none of your contact info has changed, you do not need to fill out a membership form – just indicate it is a renewal. You can send to:

**ONSP
C/O Mike Linville
3461 Mic Mac Trail
Kernersville, NC 27284**

We had 56 ONSP members in 2015 which was down from our usual numbers in the 60s. Our membership fees are used to cover most of the ONSP annual liability insurance bill which is our largest recurring expense so your support is appreciated !

From the ONSP Board of Directors, we would like to thank all of the ONSP membership and those non-members as well who have provided their support to make this a successful 2015 for ONSP !! It takes the help of all of the membership to make the operation of ONSP a sustainable and successful process. Again the ONSP Board does appreciate the feedback from the membership on what is working and what is not working.

Layden Payde
President

Sisco Ron
Vice President

Train Wreck
Treasurer

Tracker Mike
Secretary

KTown

Joe Danby

Tex James