

## Old North State Posse Chronicle 2015 Mid Year Update

### Old North State Posse 2015 Activities

For Old North State Posse, the first half of the 2015 year was fairly busy – weather has been a major impact on trying to get things done. The following is a recap of the major activities which the ONSP team tackled during the first half of 2015.

- The fifth annual The Big Iron Showdown match was held in April on one of the better ONSP match days during the first part of 2015. We had 64 participants this year. The SASS NC State Black Powder Championship was again included as part of the match with 16 of the 64 participants smoking it up. This annual match date appears to work much better and will be used again in 2016 for the sixth annual The Big Iron Showdown.
- As usual, a significant number of the ONSP club members were involved in supporting the 2015 NC State Championship which is always a major club effort in the first half of the year. Thanks to all who helped – it is much appreciated and we hope that all continue to find ways to assist. It was good to see the very good participation by the ONSP membership again this year in the actual match. The club continues to work with the North Carolina Cowboys, Inc. to refine our support for the annual NC State Championship match, The Uprising at Swearing Creek. ONSP works to stay engaged with the North Carolina Cowboys, Inc. members to ensure that the ONSP owned facilities and equipment are ready to support the annual state match – it was a tough spring to get much maintenance done with the wet weather. As usual, there are also ONSP members that are active North Carolina Cowboys, Inc. members. The North Carolina Cowboys, Inc. provides compensation for the use of the ONSP club equipment so we try to make sure everything is ready for the annual state match. We seemed to have covered it pretty well in 2015 with a number of our ONSP club members helping with the match setup on Tuesday and Wed., running side matches and helping clean up the range and putting the ONSP equipment away on Sunday. Thanks for the help!!
  - We had a number of ONSP members that helped with the match setup on Tuesday. With KTown again coordinating the positioning of the steel and major props, the major equipment was in place on the berms by about 2:00. A very efficient crew – Ace of Clubs, Capt. Jeb Forrest, PaPa Chet, Whisky River Bill, Dingo Dave and Sandhills Slim were some of the ONSP members involved.
  - The range ambiance/decorating crew did good – included ONSP members Colorado Aspen, Stonefire Slim, Green Eyed Indian, Rocky River Jeb, Sixgun Sallie, Dingo Dave, Myra Venge, Earl E. Bird, and Ablazin' Grace and I am sure others.
  - KTown was running the side match berm on side match day with the assistance of ONSP members Rubicon Ryder, PaPa Chet, Whisky River Bill, Early Bird, and Ablazin' Grace. Also thanks to Ten Spot for handling the unloading table on the side match berm even though he was not shooting the match. Long Branch Louie was running the long range side matches up at the club house. Side match day wrapped up with Mustang Dave and Buckshot Bowers sponsoring a pig picking dinner at the range – a new most enjoyable get together.

- Thanks to the ONSP members who helped with tear down on Sat. evening and Sunday morning. Rain was possible later on Sat. so we tried to get everything up on Sat. evening that we wanted to keep dry.

Again thanks to all of the ONSP membership that pitched in to help with the state match efforts!! There were many more in the cowboy community that were major contributors to this effort - just some recognition for the ONSP membership. If we did not include and recognize you, accept our apologies and more than happy to add you to the newsletter.

- The ONSP club members made their presence well known at the 2015 SASS NC State Championship.

The following ONSP members won category related awards at the SASS NC State Championship:

Red River Ray – NC State Champion Cowboy  
Sixgun Sallie – NC State Champion Cowgirl and Top Cowgirl Overall

Red River Ray – 49er State Champion & Cat.  
River Rat Randy – Elder Statesman State Champion  
Brown Summit Kidd – Cattle Baron State Champion & Cat.  
Green Eyed Indian – Cattle Baroness State Champion & Cat.  
Doc Perry – Frontier Cartridge State Champion & Cat.  
KTown – Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter State Champion & Cat.  
Capt. Jeb Forrest – Frontiersman State Champion & Cat.  
Sixgun Sallie – Lady 49er State Champion & Cat.  
Colorado Aspen – Lady Duelist State Champion & Cat.  
Myra Venge – Lady Senior Duelist State Champion & Cat.  
Ms. Jewel – Lady Silver Senior State Champion & Cat.  
Ablazin' Grace – Lady Wrangler State Champion & Cat.  
Tracker Mike – Senior Gun Fighter State Champion  
Rubicon Ryder – Silver Senior State Champion  
Three Cut – Wrangler State Champion

There were many other ONSP members that placed at award levels in many of these available categories.

Also congratulations to R.J. Gatlinn for his NC Cowboy Top Hand award !! Well deserved !

There were also a number of NC cowboys/cowgirls at the 2015 SASS SC State Championship earlier in the year. The following ONSP members did well:

River Rat Randy – Elder Statesman Champion  
Doc Perry – Frontier Cartridge Champion  
Ms. Jewel – Lady Silver Senior Category Champion

**We also have another ONSP member with a world champion title. Ms. Jewel recently won the Gran Dame World Champion title at EOT at the end of June. Well done Ms. Jewel !! This is her second world championship – the other being Silver Senior World Champion a few years ago.**

Outstanding accomplishments for the ONSP membership so far in 2015 !!

- **Targets and Target Stands:**  
We continue to manage the ONSP target inventory with the help of Train Wreck and Sisco Ron. Thanks guys – your help has is much appreciated. Target inventory remained status quo....
  - We have ordered 10 more of the newer tripod target stands – 5 medium height and 5 tall height.
  - Long Branch Louie fabricated some additional S-hook target hangers for the new tripod target stands that have been ordered.
  - We added some new target hanger bolts for the pole target stands.
  
- **Prop Activities/Efforts:**  
Lots of help in getting some things done in this area. Thanks to everyone!
  - Added some new cow, chicken and people props. KTown coordinated this effort with Green Eyed Indian, Rocky River Jeb and family providing the artistic touch.
  - Ace of Clubs provided some wood shims that we now use to level the train cars.
  
  - Refurbished props:
    - Refurbished the small water trough. Added a base unit for the iron hand pump to use with the small water trough.
    - KTown refurbished a number of the fences in need of some repair.
    - The frames for the fabric building fronts had new velcro applied.
    - The sand bags were re-bagged with new burlap bags – thanks to Tex James for help with that effort.
  
- **Equipment shed:**
  - Added a large ceiling fan to the shed to move some air around on the warmer days. This has helped getting the heat out on match setup days.
  - Added a shelf for storing water coolers to get them out of the way of the carpet storage.
  
- We continued cleaning up 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. Thanks Joe Danby for the weed eating help !
  
- There were some ONSP equipment upgrades. A set of used tires for the ONSP ATV were acquired. The tires were worn out on the ATV when it was acquired last year. In addition, we replaced all of the tires (and wheels) on the two wagons we use for moving equipment. So we should now have good tires on all the equipment for a while.
  
- The computer software in the RCWA club house was updated with the latest versions. The SASS scoring software was upgraded multiple times – much of this to better integrate with the ACES scoring process.

- The match scoring books have been upgraded with new rules sheets to reflect the rewrite of the SASS rules books.
- The ONSP website was maintained with some minor updates. Do not forget about the cowboy profile function on the ONSP web site. Round up that cowboy/cowgirl photo you would like to use and we will be glad to get it setup for you. You can send Tracker Mike your photo and appropriate profile verbiage you would like included. Remember the ONSP web site is available via [www.onsp.us](http://www.onsp.us) .
- Just a reminder - ONSP currently has six Regulators as members:
  - Dingo Dave – currently providing TG services for another club or two
  - Sixgun Sallie - ONSP Territorial Governor (TG)
  - Oklahoma Charlie
  - Tracker Mike
  - Rocky River Jeb – awarded at 2015 EOT
  - Green Eyed Indian – awarded at 2015 EOT

Hopefully this will keep everyone informed as to any of the SASS changes being discussed and/or voted on so everyone has an opportunity to discuss and voice their opinion. Please feel free to contact any of these folks with your input or questions on the various topics of discussion.
- The weather has been a challenge so far this year for our monthly matches. But the cowboy spirit prevailed and with the exception of the Jan. match all of the monthly matches took place. ONSP membership (yearly membership runs from Jan. thru Dec.) is down from last year. We currently have 51 ONSP members for 2015 – down from 62 in 2014.

## **Old North State Posse Plans for Second Half of 2015**

So what are some of the areas that we would like to address in the second half of 2015 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 an ONSP 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. The following will continue to be the focus for 2015.
  - 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 now have handouts available at each match - make sure they are offered a copy. The handouts are now in the back of the score sheet note books.
  - We will hold a stage at the end of a monthly match for potential new members to shoot a stage or two if they are interested. Please let KTown or Tracker Mike know during the match that someone is interested. We will normally try to work them into the end of stages if a berm is not open.
  - We now will work with new shooters on Friday setups for the ONSP monthly matches if we are notified of interest. We are more than happy to run folks

through our new shooter clinic process. We just need to know in advance so we can make sure we have equipment available.

- Make sure we identify new cowboy action shooters at each match and that we have good coaches assigned for their first match or two.
- 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.

Please note that we did not schedule any new shooter clinics for 2015. We just have not been able to generate enough participation recently to justify the effort. As noted above, we will be glad to work with any potential new shooters that will let us know they are interested. We have updated the ONSP website to reflect this change. There has been a change in RCWA policy that does give us more options for holding new shooter clinics. RCWA is now allowing center fire shooting after 12 noon on Sundays. This would allow ONSP to now hold new shooter clinics on a Sunday afternoon as opposed to just 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays which had been our previous option.

- 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 thru 4.
- ONSP will continue running a full set of fun monthly matches for the rest of the year. Remember the following schedule of events for the rest of 2015:
  - After the December monthly match, the annual ONSP membership meeting for electing your Board of Directors for the next year and deciding on club direction/priorities will take place. Details on location and time will be provided closer to that event. Please plan on attending – your input for the next year is needed and appreciated.
  - Monthly match opportunities:
    - We are always happy for help with target setup on Friday afternoon before our monthly matches. They usually get together around 2 to 3 at the range. Thanks to some of our regulars that help with this the first part of the year: KTown (who usually writes the stages), Joe Danby, Ace of Clubs, PaPa Chet, Layden Payde, Tracker Mike, Tex James, Whisky River Bill, Yankee Dude and Rosebrook Kid. Buckshot Bowers usually drops by.
    - Always looking for anyone who would like to learn to run the scoring software – this includes both the pre-match registration process and the post-match scoring and match results processing. This has been a collaborative effort of a number of the members. Thanks to Colorado Aspen, Stonefire Slim and Sixgun Sallie for their ongoing help. Train Wreck has learned the match registration and setup process and has recently been handling that process. This is a critical monthly match process that needs some additional member involvement – without match registration and match setup getting done matches can be cancelled.
- The maintenance of the ONSP equipment shed and the grounds immediately around the ONSP equipment shed is the responsibility of ONSP. We have paint colors approved by RCWA.
  - 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.

- A major priority is some refurbishment of the exterior of the equipment shed.
    1. Finish sealing the roof shingles on both ends of the shed – wind blows water under the shingles in heavier rain events. The door end of the shed has been done.
    2. The original trim has started to deteriorate and needs to be replaced before it starts causing other problems. The trim around the roof line also needs some refurbishment. We have colors approved by RCWA. We are currently talking with Three Cut about hiring his skills on this effort.
    3. Paint the external shed surfaces.
  - 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 would like to pour a concrete pad under the shelter for parking for the 4 wheeler. Need to check with a couple of concrete companies and see what the minimum amount of concrete they will deliver.
- With most of our target and standard target stand inventory needs currently addressed, we are going to look at adding some specialty target stands (for example a vertical rack). Hopefully this will allow us to provide some different target scenarios.
  - 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 ONSP annual match and the NC State Championship.
    - We have started a new round of some minor train car maintenance – mostly paint.
    - We have started acquiring the components to add a saloon themed frame store front with traditional saloon type doors (doors have been donated by Stonefire Slim/Colorado Aspen). This will include a saloon bar prop as well.
    - Build a new coffin.
    - We would like to refurbish the fake rocks and get them painted so they are useable again. Currently working on testing some new plastic material used specifically for coating foam objects. Slow progress.....
    - 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.
    - We have some 55 gallon metal drums that we would like to have painted so they look like old wooden barrels – improve the ambiance.
    - We will be repairing some existing range tables and building some new smaller range tables.
  - The ONSP website needs some additional updates. Some of the documentation that is listed is dated and needs updating. We have talked for some time about adding a forum capability to the ONSP website to facilitate ONSP specific discussions and interaction. We have decided to add an ONSP Facebook site to handle this function – less coding on our part. Anyone interested in administering an ONSP Facebook site??
  - We have ONSP badges 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.

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 first half of 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

Joe Danby  
Treasurer

Tracker Mike  
Secretary

KTown  
Match Designer/Director

Train Wreck  
Member

Tex James  
Member