



ALASKA STATE MUZZLE LOADING ASSOCIATION

Fall 2016 Newsletter of the ALASKA STATE MUZZLE LOADING ASSOCIATION

Current Board Members:

Keith Bayha, President: (746-6662) 29792 West Glenn Hwy., Sutton, AK 99674; nohorn@gci.net [term expires in 2019]

Rob Bargewell: Treasurer (cell 355-2952), 7362 West Parks Hwy., #504, Wasilla AK 99623 [term expires in 2019], chiefw5@mtaonline.net

Dale Ogden: (337-3058) 7020 Howard Ave., Anchorage AK 99504, molb@alaska.com [term expires in 2019].

Steve Waggoner: (455-4001), 545 Sprucewood, Fairbanks, AK 99709-3619. waggoner49@hotmail.com [term expires in 2018].

Bill Fox: [455-4868], Box 10601, Fairbanks, AK 00714. willfox@live.com [term expires in 2018].

Jim Kruse: (907 590-8823), 4740 A Villanova, Fairbanks, AK 99709 , kruse@acsalaska.net [term expires in 2017]

Mark Cunningham: 4010 East Horn Way, Fairbanks , AK 99709, marknwen@alaska.net 907- 479-3631. [term expires in 2017]

Pat Reed: (376-6826), 1065 W. Holiday, Wasilla, AK 99645, patreed@mtaonline.net [term expires in 2019].

Report by Rob Bargewell on his Trip to Friendship

As a newly appointed NMLRA Field Representative I decided to go to Friendship, Indiana and the NMLRA Headquarters. I went September 5-18, 2016 and attended the Fall Championship Shoot, plus attend the Muzzle Loading Basic Instructor Course to become certified to instruct the NMLRA/NRA basic muzzle loading course. The NRA has turned over their muzzle loading training to the NMLRA. I also assisted in instructing the Range Officer Course and became an instructor myself. In addition, as a Certified Field Range Officer, I spent some time working the "Bench Line" which includes the bench, silhouette, slug gun, and chunk gun lines. You really need to see it in order to appreciate the distance and obstacles are involved in managing that much. As a result, I became a National Range Officer. In order to become a National Range Officer, you need to work at least 4 hours on the "Bench Line." I ended working 10 hours on two separate days. The Bench Line is a very different situation. I relate it to working as a range officer during my military years.

If you have never been to Friendship you are missing quite an experience and the goings on of the NMLRA Headquarters, the staff, a Championship Shoot, The Primitive Camping area, and traders row. Several of the major advertisers in Muzzle Blasts, Muzzleloader Magazine, and other publications of our sport were there including the Bevel Brothers. And, Carl Dyer moccasins are just a short distance away in the village. A tremendous experience! Rob "Standing Bear" Bargewell

About the 2016 Territorial and Range Improvements at Fort Wick

Following the Territorials of 2015 held at Upper Susitna Range, we were informed that the fees to use the range for our event would increase. There are some who just cannot afford the additional fees and still be able to participate in the Territorial Shoot. So, a few of us got our heads together and decided to ask Ed Wick if it would be acceptable for us to use the West end of the meadow at Ft. Wick in order to conduct Territorials in the future. The answer was yes. The wheels started turning and ideas were passed around. McKinley Mountainmen Muzzle Loading Rifle Club agreed to fund the

initial costs to build shooting tables, loading benches and stools for the “new range.” There were several work parties with several club members attending at Rob Bargewell’s. 6 tables, 6 benches, and 12 stools were constructed. When the weather broke in the Spring of 2016, coordination with Ed Wick allowed start of the construction of a shooting line. Ed, Bear Kelsey and Rob Bargewell spent several days creating a shooting line by smoothing with Ed’s dozer, and bringing in a couple loads of pit run, spreading that and removing the large rocks, smoothing, then bringing in a load of 3/4 minus. This was spread and smoothed and we had a range. The club also rebuilt their target stands, kept at Mat Valley Range, and transported them to Ft. Wick. During this process, Rob Bargewell discovered that the NMLRA has a grant available for charter clubs so took lots of pictures, wrote an article to support them and submitted it to NMLRA by their deadline. Seven clubs had submitted for a grant as well, but McKinley Mountainmen was one of two clubs awarded a \$500.00 grant each. I was in attendance at the membership meeting when the announcement was made and jumped out of my chair. That’s how happy I was. I wish to express my sincere thanks to Ed Wick, and all of the club members who participated in any way to support this endeavor. Rob “Standing Bear” Bargewell

Dick “Beaver Killer” Underwood [1933 --2016]



Dick was born in Roanoke VA and raised in Blackburg VA, Ellett VA, LaMoille IL and Stillwater OK. He earned a BA in chemistry at Oklahoma State University. He then attended seminary for three years. And then he returned to OSU for a Masters in Natural Sciences. He taught a year at Williams AZ and then went to Clarkston WA. He worked for CCI until he moved to Fairbanks in 1967. There Dick was a businessman [Alaska Feed Company, in Fairbanks] until he retired.

Dick says he was first introduced to black powder and muzzle loading in the 1950’s but waited to the late 1960’s to discover buckskinning. He used muzzleloaders for non-competitive target shooting and rendezvous beginning in the 1970’s.

Dick learned the blacksmith trade and shared his skill with those who attended rendezvous by setting up his forge and demonstrating the many steps in creating camp tools from wrought iron. He even made me a wrought iron key for my Hawken rifle after I lost one while at rendezvous.

Dick also introduced his son, David, and his grandchildren to the joys of rendezvous and enriched all our lives in the process. Thanks Dick.

And after he lost a leg he showed us all what true grit is by not letting it keep him from practicing the blacksmith trade at rendezvous.

Dick is a member of the Lance Society. Dick also served as the Alaska Governor for Coalition of Historical Trekkers. [KB]

Memorial Day Rendezvous

While I missed this rendezvous, I understand it was well attended and Booshway, Russ Beavais di a good job and folks had a lot of fun. Unfortunately, I do not have a summary of the happenings, but Russ did pass on to Tim Pauloski, next year’s Segundo, his records of events.

2016 Alaska State Rendezvous

Keith and Mary Mathis booshwayed our 2016 State Rendezvous at Fort Wick. We had 68 people there at least part of the time, with 36 full time, including 16 kids! Keith made a summary that was published in the McKinleyMountainman August newsletter. But highlights

included Steve Waggoner emerging as top mountainman or “Best of Rendezvous”. Raffle prize winners were as follows: King size quilt to Dana DeGraw of Wasilla; Scrimshawed horn to Alex Conners of Sterling; Flintlock pistol kit [that raised funds for the Memorial Day boosway Fund] went to Keith Bayha [who gave it to his brother-in-law, Chet Wolfe, to build]. Steve and Kathy Waggoner will team with Rockie and Don Phillips to boosway the 2017 Rendezvous. And Roger King and Ed Wick will handle the 2018 rendezvous.

2016 Alaska Territorial - Keith Bayha assumed the Match Director position again for 2016. Rob Bargewell did a lot work to enable us to host hem at For Wick. It came off pretty well with 26 shooters and most folks expressed their satisfaction with the new venue and voted to hold the Territorial there again in 2017. We are still working to get the results up on the ASMLA website.

Rob has also stepped up to help plan for 2017. While not yet approved by the National Territorial Coordinator, we expect to hold the Territorials again at Fort Wick in July and hopefully will have installed some more improvements. Rob is also working to have a table shoot added to the list of aggregates. [More on this in the spring newsletter].

As in previous years, shooting is expected to begin about noon on Thursday and continue thru noon on Sunday, with awards to follow Sunday afternoon. And another “Great Alaska Burgerfest” is planned for Saturday night. If you have questions contact Keith Bayha at 907-746-6662 or nohorn@gci.net.

Fall Rendezvous was held at Fort Wick with Ed as Boosway.

I missed this Rendezvous! But Keith Mathis sent me this summary: “Very rainy weather, especially Thursday, but the roudy was very successful! First Council Fire was Friday evening. We had 11 camps with 27 souls. We shot gongs Saturday morning, then the trail walk in the afternoon. Sunday morning was rainy so Fairbanks people packed up with rest following in the afternoon. (Fairbanks people were Steve & Kathy Waggoner, Dave & Callie Underwood, Mark & Wendy Cunningham.) Mary and I, Bean, and Tim Pauloski stayed Sunday night as well and I left Monday afternoon. Tim wasn’t leaving till Tuesday. Saturday night the whole camp went out with candles for Wag’s wolf hunt. Six teams of two shooters shot two shots apiece (4 shots per team) with one partner holding the light while the other shot. Only two teams hit a wolf. George Thompson and Bear hit their wolf 3 out of 4 times and Pat and I did also. Pat and I won as we had one eye shot and they didn’t.”

NMLRA = National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association -- Our NMLRA membership in Alaska has slipped a bit in the past six months. If you need to renew your membership or are not yet a member, there are three Field Reps in Alaska who would be glad to assist you:

Keith Bayha, 29792 W. Glenn Hwy, Sutton AK 99674. 907-746-6662 nohorn@gci.net

Jim Baichtal, PO Box 19515, Thorne Bay AK 99919. 907-828-3339

baichtal@aptalaska.net

Rob Bargewell, 7362 W. Parks Hwy. #504, Wasilla AK 99623 907-355-2952

chiefw5@mtaonline.net

ASMLA's "Alaska Game Animal" Targets are Still Available -

The target set features 10 Alaska animals drawn by Ed Wick and Keith Bayha, consisting of: Wolf, Polar Bear, Walrus head and neck, Caribou, Musk Ox, Dall Sheep, Mountain Goat, Moose head and neck, 5 Ptarmigan, and 5 Snowshoe Hares. When we printed these targets back in 1995 we got the paper given to us at no charge. When we took delivery we found we had 3,000 sets. These are stored in my connex and it seems we still have two thirds of them. And since I front ended the printing costs

and would like to recover a least part of it, I am reducing the price to **\$2.50/set** plus shipping, and inviting large orders. To order a bunch for your shoot, contact Keith Bayha (907-746-6662) or nohorn@gci.net. To save on shipping costs, consider how you might arrange to pick them up or have someone do it for you.

Announcement:

After serving as the principle black powder merchant for the past 28 years, Keith Bayha has decided to pass this “baton” on to Keith and Mary Mathis. They have agreed to prepare to meet your needs for consumable shooting supplies [powder, caps, flints, ball, patches, ramrods, etc.] by having them available at reasonable prices at shooting events in Alaska. Thank you for your support over the years. I am sure you will be well served by Keith and Mary. Their contact information 907-892-8714 or keith.mathis@hotmail.com.

ASMLA WebSite: Our website at < www.akmuzzleloaders.org > is due for an overhaul. You will note the content, including photos in the gallery is dated. Janet Bargewell has volunteered to do this job. If you have good digital photos you would like to share by posting them here, e-mail them to Janet Bargewell at < janet_bargewell@yahoo.com >

Note from Editor: ASMLA publishes two newsletters per year, spring and fall, and attempts to list all muzzle loading events we know of that are scheduled for the next six months or so. Keeping it around as a reference could save you a lot of time. If you have something you think should be added to this list let us know.

COMING EVENTS: UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR [November 2016 - April 2016]

The ASMLA calendar [as best we know it] for the next six months offers lots of opportunity:

Nov. 8	election!	Don't forget to vote!	
Nov. 8 7737]	pistol shoot	Kelly-Reed shoot at Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 6 pm	Mike Kelly [907-232-
Nov 17 4651]	meeting	McKinley Mountainmen meet 7 PM at VFW Hall in Eagle River	Cal Pope [232-
Nov 19 sat 9am 376-6826]	rifle shoot	MMMLRC's monthly rifle shoot Mat Valley OUTDOOR Range, 9AM	Pat Reed [
Dec 9	party	MMMLRC Christmas dinner/auction/meeting, 36 Bistro	Keith Bayha [907-746-6662]
Dec 13 7737]	pistol shoot	Kelly-Reed shoot at Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 6 pm	Mike Kelly [907-232-
Dec 17 376-6826]	rifle shoot	MMMLRC's monthly rifle shoot Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 9AM	Pat Reed [
Jan 10	pistol shoot	Kelly-Reed shoot at Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 6 pm	Mike Kelly [907-232-7737]
Jan 19 4651]	meeting	McKinley Mountainmen meet 7 PM at VFW Hall in Eagle River	Cal Pope [232-
Jan 21 376-6826]	rifle shoot	MMMLRC's monthly rifle shoot Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 9AM	Pat Reed [
Feb 14	pistol shoot	Kelly-Reed shoot at Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 6 pm	Mike Kelly [907-232-7737]
Feb 16 4651]	meeting	McKinley Mountainmen meet 7 PM at VFW Hall in Eagle River	Cal Pope [232-

Feb 18 376-6826]	rifle shoot	MMMLRC's monthly rifle shoot Mat Valley OUTDOOR Range, 9AM	Pat Reed [
Mar 14	pistol shoot	Kelly-Reed shoot at Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 6 pm	Mike Kelly [907-232-7737]
Mar 16 4651]	meeting	McKinley Mountainmen meet 7 PM at VFW Hall in Eagle River	Cal Pope [232-
Mar 18 376-6826]	rifle shoot	MMMLRC's monthly rifle shoot Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 9AM	Pat Reed [
Mar 30 - Apr 2	show	Great Alaska Sportsmens Show, Sullivan/Ben Boeke, Anchorage	
Apr 11 Tues	pistol shoot	Kelly-Reed shoot at Mat Valley INDOOR Range, 6 pm	Mike Kelly [907-232-7737]
Apr 20	meeting	McKinley Mountainmen meet 7 PM at VFW Hall in Eagle River	Cal Pope [232-4651]
Apr 22-23 0751]	gun show	AGCA Gun Show, Raven Hall, Fairgrounds, Palmer	Jim Anderson [952-
May 6 & 7 6662]	pistol shoot	Alaska Regional 1000 Point Pistol Shoot, Mat Valley Range, Palmer	Keith Bayha [746-
May 27-29 688-4018]	rendezvous	Memorial Day Rendezvous, Ft Wick	Tim Pauloski [907-
June 3	youth day	AGCA's Annual Youth Day, Birchwood Range	
June 24-July 1 [907-455-4505]	Rendezvous	Alaska State Rendezvous, Delta Bison Range	Kathy Waggoner
July 13-16 746-6662]	shoot	Alaska Territorial Matches, Fort Wick	Keith Bayha [907-
July 28-30 232-6052]	fair	Deltana Fair, Delta Junction Fairgrounds	Mary Mathis [907-

News from Darrell Aleckson, Soldotna

They have made substantial progress on developing the muzzle loader range down there and are thinking they may be in position to host a "range opening shoot" sometime this fall if there is sufficient interest, not only from the folks on the Kenai Peninsula but from further out areas such as Anchorage and the Matanuska Valley. They have a covered firing line, down-range berms and side berms that separate this range from the machine gunners' range. They also have camping alcoves in the spruce forest nearby and a fire circle for group gatherings in the evening. Does this sound inviting or what. If you would consider attending such a shoot let Darrel know and nominate the date[s] you would like for them to consider. You can reach Darrell at shirleya@ak.net or 907-262-9654. Copy me with your email so I will know of your response nohorn@gci.net. KB



ASMLA
 29792 W. Glenn Hwy
 Sutton, AK 99674

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: _____

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN CONTINUES -- Dues received since our last newsletter in spring 2016 include: Anchorage: James Killeen [1 year], Dave Mero [1], Bill Paton [10], Hank Wilson [5]; Big Lake: Michael Hayward [3]; Eagle River: Chris Tomsen [1]; Fairbanks: Robert Spooner [5]; Port Lyons: Ron Paull [2]; Soldotna: Darrell Aleckson [1]; Wasilla: Craig Ingraham [1], Mark Miller [5]; Willow: Dave Filkill [4], and from Loveland, Colorado: Peter thoSeeth [5].

Check the expiration date on your mailing label. If it is your turn, please fill out the form below and send in your **\$5/ year**. We are still the best bargain around. Buy several years now before subscription rates go up! If your label has the word **"courtesy"** instead of an expiration date, this means you have been newly added to our mailing list or retained on our mailing list in hopes that you will find sufficient value in this newsletter to decide to join, or you are still active in muzzleloading and we have just not yet got your attention! If it says **"welcome"** you are receiving this issue because we recently got your address. We hope you will want to join ASMLA too. Check out our web site for more information on us. **Warning:** If your label reads **"last issue"** it means you are long past due [two years or more in arrears] and on the cusp of being culled from the ASMLA list. We really hate to cull the mailing list because history has shown that sometimes we get delinquent members back if we stay in touch. But there is a limit to everything. Some of you have been active and have been retained on our mailing list for years for that reason alone. **This is the last issue you will receive unless you join or rejoin.**

Name _____ New ___ Renew ___ Enclosed is \$
 _____ for ___ years.

Address _____

Phone _() _____ E-mail: _____ @

 NMLRA Member? # _____ Would like to join NMLRA? _____
 Member of local club? _____ Would like my name forward to club? _____

Send in name and address and e-mail address with your check to the address below.