

Regulator Gazette:

Headline: Regulators Morn Loss Of One Of Their Own.....

Paul "Blacksmith" Huffman passed away last week after a 2 month illness. I don't remember when i first met Paul. It seems like i've known him for twenty years or so or it may have been longer. I could tell you a few stories about Paul's prowess as an auto mechanic but since this is a gunclub newsletter i'll tell you a few gun stories about Paul. I bought a Winchester 97 shotgun from a local crook only to find that the barrel had a big rusty obstruction in the bore. I messed with it for a few days trying to get it out but wasn't having much luck. I stopped by Pauls shop to see what he thought. Paul told me that if i'd leave it with him he might be able to make an extension for a brake cylinder hone and get hone it out with it. Well later that day Paul called me to let me know that it worked like a champ. I still shoot that "97" at the monthly cowboy matches. The next story deals with my Stevens 311 double that i bought from another local crook (Looks like i'd learn after a while about buying guns from all these local crooks) anyway.....the stock was busted and the forearm was mismatched. So i ordered a walnut stock and forearm from Boyts that was supposed to be a drop-in fit.....Well their idea of a drop-in fit and mine was two different things. To say the least, the required woodwork was over my head. Remembering that Paul had a big woodshop and that he was fully retired, i though he may just need a project like the 311 presented.....The long and short of it was that Paul didn't do the woodwork but he stood right beside me while "I" did the work and he supervised. I could go on and on (as you all know i can) about what Paul meant to me and our cowboy posse. On Friday set up day before the match, i would get to the range to find Paul already there mowing the grass. Not to mention the fact that he rebuilt the mower deck so it would mow and he did all the woodwork to make our new horse "Blue". I'm gonna knock it off for now and just say in closing that Paul "Blacksmith Huffman was a true example of the "Cowboy Way" will be missed.

Scores for the January match went like this.....

Traditional:	Seniors	Duelist	Cowgirls
Tightwad	Roberdel	Ragtime	Carolina Rose
Bullseye Mike	Idaho Spud	Cowboy Cloud	
Deacon Dave	Doc Clock		
Silverado			
Stalker			
Shakey Jake			

We had a great time at the January match even though it was cold as Dick Hollidays heart. We appreciate the Jacksonville posse showing up and we wish them the best on their range renovations. Congratulations to Carolina Rose for winning the Long Range Rifle event at a big SASS match down in Florida.....Did you notice that no scores are listed above for Dick Holliday??? Well he couldn't shoot because he lost the keys to his truck and all his stuff was locked under that white bed cover. Along with his stuff was the club timer and some of the props required for the match. Thanks to all involved for rounding up the props ect to have the match.....We'll see you on the third Saturday in February to do it again so in the meantime don't forget.....Take a kid shooting.....Respectfully submitted.....Ned Bluntline