

Thunder Hole Sunday April 18, 2021

Five intrepid souls braved the windy cool temps (low 50s) and gathered at the shooting benches around 8:15 (low 50s) this morning. The cold winds were tricky and gusty all day. The wind flags seemed to have a mind of their own as they flapped one direction, then another, and sometimes not in the same directions. Not to be discouraged three of the five opened fire to sight in their trusty big bore rifles. Doc Jim Harvey and Nile City Slick provided commentary as bullets found their targets. Doc Jim Harvey brought just enough cartridges for the match, so he trusted his range setting from the prior match. Nile City Slick opened fire with his newly repaired High Wall and heard a tremendous sound when the hammer fell. A click, not a boom, a click, and not once but twice. Faulty primers were considered by the gunsmiths. Black Powder Burn took the two no fire cartridges with dented primers and put them in his C Sharps. The resulting blasts confirmed the High Wall still has its problem unresolved.

The match started with Nile City Slick keeping score and spotting for the four with working rifles. The first four rounds from each shooter hit the mark. A great beginning for great day of shooting. Shadow Doc had a run of 20 consecutive hits, followed by Black Powder Burn's 15 in a row. Baba Looney had a run of 10 and Doc Jim Harvey had two runs of 6. Shadow Doc and Doc Jim Harvey hit both bonus targets. That pesky Wart Hog was hit 3 times today in almost the same spot.

When it was all over, Shadow Doc had a score of 23. Black Powder Burn hit 22 targets. Doc Jim Harvey smashed 21 targets. Baba Looney had a respectable score of 17. Nile City Slick was a non-starter.

Next month should be a bit warmer and anyone is welcome to challenge the steel plates at 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, and 600 with two bonus targets at 450 and 250 yards. Rifle caliber single shot or lever rifles (out to 300) using either black powder or smokeless can be used. The \$10 per rifle entry fee pays for the range's upkeep. Come on out the Sunday following the Willow Hole match.

Nile City Slick, reporter.