

Session/Game: Savage Worlds Mutants 5

Date: April 21, 2013

Mutants and Muskets, Episode 5: Cowboys and Hareballs

Campaign Date: August, 2055

Characters:

Bruce Leroy, novice, beater, (Marlon Kirton)

Professor Elemental, novice, weird scientist (Jason Liebert)

Turd Ferguson, novice, archer (Robert Swan)

NPC's

Weasel Lockspur (healer)

Old Cookie Swanson (driver, cook)

Buster Jones (strongman)

GM: Dave Nelson

Prologue: The council plan is to expand the town's distillery, and so the Outlanders (Bruce Leroy, Professor Elemental and Turd Ferguson) are assigned to recover some large metal vessels and copper tubing. The New Librarian has traced two possible sources: first the Apex Supply house, which is somewhere along the west bank of the Brazos River, but they are unsure of its exact location. Second, is Thompson Chemicals, whose exact location is known, but that location is inside the Houston Red Zone. The Outlander Team decides that it would be better to take longer and search in Cowboy country than to enter a filthy den swarming with mutant horrors. So, they get Buster Jones, Old Cookie Swanson, Weasel Lockspur and a sturdy wagon together and head off.

The plan is to take 3 days through the timber country to the prairie, follow the Brazos for 2 days, searching for Apex Supply.

Log:

Day 1: They travel through the timber country safely.

Day 2: The party is stopped by a group of small, musket-armed, rat-like mutants who question them, but they part without trouble.

Day 3: They travel safely to the edge of the prairie.

Day 4: Deciding that it might be better to drop the wagon off at Filthy Sanchez's trading post and search without it, the team heads across the prairie. They are stopped by a large patrol of 12 mounted cowboys. When Professor Elemental replies to them, in his English accent, that they are from "up North", the cowboys state that they don't want any damned Yankees around and order them to depart.

Day 5: Driven off the prairie by cowboys, they enter the timber country and end up getting lost.

Day 6: getting their cardinal bearings overnight, they head due East and find the Brazos River again.

Day 7: they re-enter the prairie and search in vain. However, they find themselves caught between a 4-man cowboy patrol and a wagon with 4 travelers from Smileytown.

The cowboys are convinced to move on, but the Smilers have a wanted poster for Bruce Leroy and are determined to bring him in. Old Cookie shoots one dead with his pistol, and the other three are soon killed as well. The outlanders seize their muskets, wagon and other goods and move on.

Day 8: The Outlanders once again search in vain.

Day 9: They are assaulted by a party of 5 cowboys, who are instantly hostile for some unknown reason. They kill all five (and one of their horses) and loot them. In the afternoon they find the Apex Supply building. It is sealed up tight, and there two of the walls have huge mounds of dirt piled up against them. They leave Cookie and Weasel with the wagons some distance off and the rest enter the building from the back loading dock. They are first attacked by 5 large mutant bats, whom they kill without loss.

As they enter the main western corridor, they notice it is pitch black. Professor Elemental steps in and uses his Weird-Science Blunderbuss to blow a hole in the roof to let light in. This reveals a horde of a dozen or so Hareballs: giant mutant carnivorous rabbit-creatures. The hareballs swarm the party. They take a long time to kill, and manage to wound Professor Elemental and to seriously wound Buster, who has to be taken back to the wagon.

After the Outlanders search the western rooms of the building, and discover about half the material they need, they enter the main warehouse room. There find 2 greater Hareballs, and the Hareball overlord. Professor Elemental kills one of the greater with his blunderbuss, which then breaks down (joining the already broken pepperbox and fighting trousers). The other greater hareball tears up Turd Fergusson, seriously wounding him. Bruce Leroy, meanwhile, engages in a very, very long duel with the Hareball Overlord. The overlord uses his telekinetic powers to pound at Bruce using a convenient bulldozer to deliver the blows. Bruce stabs at it with his steely spears over and over, but just can't kill the beast. Eventually, Professor Elemental gets lucky with his tomahawk and kills the second greater hareball. He joins Bruce attacking the Overlord. The overlord then wounds Bruce, which is partially healed by Professor Elemental's weird hip flask of healing. The two outlanders continue pounding away until finally Bruce wounds and then finishes the creature. They are unable to improve Fergusson's wounded state, so they collect the last of the needed distilling supplies and return home.

Epilogue: The town distillery is expanded and whiskey production sky-rockets. Turd Fergusson, however, will be laid up with wounds through the rest of August and all of September.