



WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



Volume 16, Issue 5

December 2013

★ Captain's Corner ★

Howdy Pard,

This is my last Captain's letter of the year. In keeping with the season of Thanksgiving, I would like to thank some people. First of all I would like to thank my lovely wife, The Lady, for putting up with me for the last 38 years. It is fun for me to be able to share our sport with my wife. She is a trooper and is very supportive of everything I do. I would also like to thank the Lord for my lovely daughters, their husbands and our grandson, Jacob Randall Kucinich, and our granddaughter, Anna Kimberly Gregory. I would like to give a special thanks to our daughter Emily (Cosmopolitan Christine) for all of the work that she does for the Wolverine Rangers. I don't know what I would do as Captain of the Wolverine Rangers without her.

I would like to thank our Match Director, Deuce Stevens, for being the best Match Director in SASS, and his lovely wife K.J. Stevens, for all of the work that she does to help and support him. I would also like to thank the other members of the Executive Board including First Lieutenant - Bad River Marty; Treasurer – Snareman; and our Webmaster – Laporte Lil. Thanks also to all of the other Board members of the Wolverine Rangers for making our unique organization a success each year.

Last but not least, I would like to thank our members and Range War volunteers. Without our members and volunteers, we could not do what we do.

Please be sure to vote in the upcoming election of the Officers and Board members before the end of the year. A copy of the [Ballot](#) is included with this month's edition of the Epitaph. The officers up for re-election this year are First Lieutenant – Bad River Marty and Treasurer – Snareman. I am asking for our members to re-elect both of them. I would also like to thank Baldy Bill for his excellent service and support over the years. He has decided not to run for re-election for 2014.

While I am at it I would also like to express my personal thanks and appreciation for all of our members who are veterans of our armed forces who have sacrificed to make this the greatest country in the history of the world. Please remember that freedom is not free.

In closing, please be sure to enjoy Thanksgiving and Christmas with your families and be sure to give your kids and grandkids a hug and a kiss and tell them that you love them everyday.

Best regards,

R.J. Law – Captain
Wolverine Rangers



★ Shooting News ★

Rocky River Regulators of DSC (Utica)



Fall in Michigan has brought its entire splendor in color to our foliage and brought a bit of a chill to the range. On October 14th twenty one top gun hands came to the range to test their skills with a 5 stage Wild Bunch match. When the scores were tabulated the overall winner in the Modern class was Kentucky Drifter. Shooting in the other SASS recognized classes using “big” bullets, DSC’s Nine Finger Bob won the SASS men’s Traditional division. Buslin’ Belle was the SASS Women’s Modern winner and Onyx won the “Open” division using and holstering 4 vaqueros on each stage.

October 20th was a perfect fall day in Michigan. With the clear and sunny skies, thirty four cowboys and cowgirls tested their cowboy action skills against 5 furious stages. The shooting was almost as hot as some of the chili that was judged later in the afternoon. Finishing first overall was Yee Haw, followed closely by Onyx, and Bad Brass. Shooting clean matches were Big Bad Jim, Onyx, DSC’s Nine Finger Bob, Cactus Kay, Andy Horsurodinon, Longshot Lillian, and Henry Moon Shine. Way to go!

After the match the cowboys and cowgirls enjoyed a lunch of various chilis that were judged in our annual chili cook off contest. The judges indicated that this was the best chili that they ever tasted at our annual event. The DSC cowboys want to salute everyone that brought chili and helped make this a special event. When the chili powder settled, the 2013 DSC Chili Cook Off winners were:

Hottest Chili: Coffin Nail Bob
No Bean Chili: Penny Ante’s friend, Nancy
Fowl Chili: Onyx
Bean Chili: Longshot Lillian
Best overall Chili: Coffin Nail Bob

This is always a great lunch on an October afternoon after a fun shooting event. We look forward to doing this again next year.

November 9th was unseasonably warm for November in Michigan. So why not take advantage of the great weather? Although it was a bit windy, the Rocky River Regulators lined three cowboy stages with lanterns and flashlights and waited for the sun to set. That’s when the shooting started. Boy it was hard to see your sights but that didn’t stop the cowboys and cowgirls from throwing lead down range. When the scores were tallied Attica Jack was awarded a match victory over the rest of the field. John Weston was the only “clean” shooter under the moon light. Following the twilight shoot we all gathered to hear the scores while eating a Coney Island snack in the range building. It was a blast!

Sunday November 17th, a cowboy match and a Thanksgiving and a turkey feast! But first the November Cowboy match. The weather did not cooperate. Wind and rain was the forecast and it did not disappoint the participants. All the cowboys and cowgirls shot fast so that they could get out of the inclement weather and partake in the Thanksgiving feast that was being prepared in the DSC range building. As we gave thanks and ate the full turkey Thanksgiving dinner that Penny Ante prepared, we listened to the scores as Camptown read them off. Winning the match was Faygo Kid followed closely by Riverview Rattler, and DSC’s J.J. Longley. We also had the following clean shooters, Faygo Kid, Riverview Rattler, Kentucky Drifter, Andy Horsurodinon, and DSC’s John Weston.

Our next match is Sunday, December 15th and then Rocky River is shut down until March 2014. DSC will resume with the regular 5 stage monthly Cowboy match on Sunday, March 16, 2014.

Until then have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

J.J. Longley



Sucker Creek Peacemakers - Breckenridge

Our October match was cool! Weather was a little iffy but we still had 24 shooters at the match. Top three shooters for the match were: Riverview Rattler, Hoot Hamilton and Card Shark Charlie.

Congratulations to the five shooters that had a clean match: Andy Horshurodinon, Cactus Kay, Cree Vicar Dave, Dakota Doc and Hoot Hamilton.

After lunch and the awards, we put away all the props and buttoned things up for the winter. We won't have any more matches this year but are currently making plans for the matches to be scheduled next year. We have volunteered to host the Wolverine Rangers Free Shoot on July 19, 2014, so we'll develop some special scenarios just for this event.

We hope to see you down at the Creek in April 2014! Till then, check our web site at www.SuckerCreek.org for match results, pictures, for sale items and videos.



Regards,
Wolverine
Wrangler



Straight Shots from Saginaw

Things are quiet around the range here in Saginaw. Thanksgiving has rounded the corner, with its turkey and pumpkin pie and Christmas is on the horizon. Some of our pards have headed to their winter hide-outs already and the rest of us have dug out our heavy jackets and snow boots. Winter in Michigan is on its way and lately, with some cold temps and splatters of snow, we'd say it's here already!

We would like to thank all the pards that made our shoots this year. We had a lot of fun and hope to see many of you next year. For you new shooters, this is your special invite to come on out and shoot some BIG targets and have more fun than should be allowed. And we all agree... our camp cooks make some mighty fine tasting grub.

We wish all our pards a very blessed Christmas and may your New Year find you in good health, gun-in-hand, enjoying the best sport around. Remember to live life. Give it your best shot!

Happy Trails,
Bad River Marty and Katie Callahan



Rockford Regulators

We would like to thank all the shooters that came to Rockford this year. It was great to see you and we hope you had a great time. This might be the last newsletter for 2013 but there is plenty of shooting left at Rockford. Our last monthly shoot for 2013 will be on December 7th and the Old Coot Shoot on December 11th.

We will also be shooting each month during the winter so bundle up and come shoot. The months of January and February are bare bones shoots with no lunch.

Our monthly match in October had 29 shooters and 10 shot the match clean. The Old

Coot had 16 shooters with 7 clean shooters. We continue to make improvements to our town of Liberty and I would like to give a special thank you to hOOt Hamilton and Drover Dan for all their continued hard work.

We hope you had a nice Thanksgiving and wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Looking forward to seeing everyone in 2014!!!

Your Pard,
Card Shark Charlie

The Shooter's Stance

My First Shoot

Yes, it's true, I almost chickened out.

It was the night before October 26th, and the last shootout in Plymouth for the Wolverine Rangers Cowboy Action Shooting club was the very next day. My good friends Longshot Lillian and Outrider Outlaw had invited me to actually shoot an entire match, myself. I only held a gun for the first time earlier this summer. I surprised myself by saying yes. Longshot is good at everything she puts her hand to, and I'm still rebuilding my life after a painful divorce a few years ago, so I thought "hey, if Longshot thinks I have the guts and gusto to go through with it then maybe I can do this. Maybe I just will".

After working a 16 hour shift on the 25th, I was only awake fretting for a little while before the anxiety of backing out overrode the anxiety of going through with it.

At the range the next day, I was simply amazed at the sheer kindness and camaraderie of everyone there. It was a cold, blustery day and I was loaned an extra jacket, hot packs and gloves. I shot with the ammunition and guns supplied by Andy Horshurodinon, an amazing veteran of Cowboy Action Shooting and my mentor for the match. Panhead Pete patiently gave me guidance at the start of each stage and Andy was right at my side during each shot, eyeing my technique (or lack of it!) and giving expert, on-target advice.

I didn't do all that well at the first stage, but I took in a lot of feedback and gained some confidence from just getting through it. Longshot was very encouraging, she kept me focused on what I was doing well and that lifted my spirits. I didn't worry about timing and I kept the right order, but the real progress was made as I steadily improved at hitting the targets and sharpened my skill with the shotgun that had left me with the first impression of, "No Way!" I even had one clean stage and was well congratulated.

The whole day, from hanging with a great posse to the opportunity and first blush of success at shooting, was a tremendous confidence builder. There's something about being a woman and being able to at least think to yourself that "yeah, if I had to, I could wield a weapon in self defense, or shoot a deer if I had to bring home supper". Primal, maybe, but it does bring a sense of satisfaction along with the realization that every new thing gained is progress on the road to creating a better, stronger self.

Thank you!
Sureshot Sally



Editor's Corner

Survey!



There is a “just for fun” [survey](#) that I created because I was curious about some of the alias names that people had, and how some of my fellow shooters became involved with Cowboy Action Shooting and a few other tidbits.

I thought it would be fun to share the results with everyone. These results will be posted in future issues of the Epitaph, hopefully beginning in February of next year. I say hopefully, because there hasn't been a lot of response to the survey questions as yet. I am hoping that more people will take just a few minutes to visit the survey and add your voice.



It's Your Epitaph

You'll notice that both in the October issue and this issue of the Epitaph, that there is a little new twist on the newsletter. There is a section for YOU, the reader, to share experiences, thoughts, debate issues and other items of interest as they pertain to Cowboy Action Shooting and/or the Wolverine Rangers. The new [Shooter's Stance](#) page is *just for you*. Please feel free to submit any stories, whether thought provoking, touching or funny.

If you have comments about previous stories, please feel free to submit those as well. This IS, after all, YOUR newsletter! Please keep any stories and/or comments “family friendly”, and written in a kindly manner. Please email your submissions to: EpitaphEditor@wolverinerangers.org, using the subject of: Shooter's Stance article.



☆ WHO TO CONTACT ☆

CAPTAIN

- Any Wolverine Ranger or Range War Concerns

RANGE WAR MATCH DIRECTOR

- Volunteer to help with Range War
- Vendor Registration and Information

WOLVERINE RANGERS' SECRETARY

- Range War Registration
- Club Information and Pictures for Wall Calendar
- New Shooting Schedule for each year



MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATORS

- Join Wolverine Rangers or Renew Membership
- Change in any contact or membership information
- Badges or Membership Packets
- Requests to receive Epitaph by mail

WEBMASTER

- Club Match Scores
- Notices, Schedule Changes, etc posted on Home Page & Club Page Information
- Classified and Merchant Ads

EPITAPH EDITOR

- Articles or information you want published in the Epitaph
- Requests to receive Epitaph by email or notification that newsletter has been posted on the website

☆ CONTACT INFORMATION ☆

*Check the website or back of wall calendar for club contact information
Please keep your e-mail address current with the
Membership Secretary*

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WOLVERINE RANGERS

An Organization of Cowboy Action Shooters in the State of Michigan

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2013 Wolverine Rangers Ballot:

Vice President (First Lieutenant):

Incumbent:	Bad River Marty	_____
Other:	_____	_____

Treasurer:

Incumbent:	Snareman	_____
Other:	_____	_____

Members-at-Large: (Please vote for up to 8)

Incumbents:	Cactus Kay	_____
	Catlow	_____
	Chili Pepper Pete	_____
	Dakota Doc	_____
	Ketchum Quick	_____
	Steady Eddie	_____
	Three Gun Cole	_____
Others:	_____	_____
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Please mail completed ballot to R.J. Law, Captain of the Wolverine Rangers, 201 West Big Beaver Road, Ste. 1020, Troy, MI 48084. You may also vote online at www.wolverinerangers.org. Voting ends on December 31, 2013. Thank you!