



WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



Volume 17, Issue 6

December, 2014

★ Captain's Corner ★

Howdy pards,

We recently had a Board of Directors meeting for the Wolverine Rangers to debrief Range War and to talk about fixes for next year. Some of the changes that we will make for Range War in 2015 based on the comment cards are as follows:

- 1) There will be no firing of cannons allowed in the campground. We had several complaints about this.
- 2) There will be more signage indicating where registration is and where the shooting bays are. We need to keep in mind that notwithstanding the fact that most of our shooters have shot multiple Range Wars, for some shooters the upcoming Range War will be their first one. PK Paladin has prepared a draft of a site map which we will also include in the Shooter's Handbook to help our first time shooters.
- 3) There will be more information on side matches and mini-matches in the Shooter's Handbook including location on the Range where the events will take place.

For the past several years we have had Cowboy and Western singers perform on Saturday night in the Club House. We have had good feedback each year but the list of potential performers within our budget is relatively limited. For 2015 we will be trying something new. We will be placing a clarion call to our shooters to bring their musical instruments for a Cowboy Campfire on Saturday night. We will be asking any shooter who can play virtually any instrument, to bring it with them to Range War. We are looking for shooters who can play guitar, harmonica, fiddle, banjo and pretty much any other instrument that will work for playing and singing around a campfire. Even if you don't play a musical instrument we will be welcoming people who would like to sing or perform Cowboy Poetry or pretty much anything else that cowboys would have done around a campfire in the old days including sitting around and watching. The only major rule is that everything will have to be G-Rated. There will be youngsters there and ours is a family sport.

As far as I know, no one has ever done this before at any major SASS event. I think that it is important to be willing to try new things. We may fall on our face with this or it may turn out to be the new thing in SASS. When most of us were growing up it was expected that we would play some type of instrument. I believe that there are many shooters out there who have some musical ability. In fact, I know that there are. We are not going into this with any preconceived notions or rules of any kind other than that everything has to be G-Rated. It will be interesting to see what happens. I am pretty confident that this will be something special. Pull out your instruments from the attic and dust them off and begin practicing. Range War will be here sooner than you know.

In this season of Thanksgiving and Christmas it is important to take some time to be thankful for all of the blessings that we have received and to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. I am thankful for the love of my family and my friends. I am thankful for our Freedom and for the many soldiers who have fought and sometimes died to protect that Freedom and our way of life. I am thankful that we have the ability to use our firearms in our sport and to use them to defend ourselves in the event that they are ever needed for that purpose. I am also thankful for life and for health.

Well that is about all that I have to say for now. Please be sure to give your kids and grandkids a hug and a kiss and tell them that you love them every day. Have a Blessed Christmas.

Best regards,

R.J. Law

R.J. Law – Captain
Wolverine Rangers



WOLVERINE RANGERS

An Organization of Cowboy Action Shooters in the State of Michigan

Wolverine Rangers
201 West Big Beaver Rd., Ste. 1020
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2014 Wolverine Rangers Election Ballot:

President (Captain):

_____ Incumbent: R.J. Law
_____ Other: _____

Secretary:

_____ Incumbent: Cosmopolitan Christine
_____ Other: _____

Members-at-Large: (Vote for up to 8)

Incumbents:

_____ Cactus Kay
_____ Catlow
_____ Chili Pepper Pete
_____ Dakota Doc
_____ hOOt Hamilton
_____ Steady Eddie
_____ Three Gun Cole

Other:

Ballots are due by December 31, 2014 and you may only vote once. Please mail ballot to:
Wolverine Rangers; 201 West Big Beaver Road, Ste. 1020, Troy, MI 48084.

You can also vote online at www.wolverinerangers.org.

Thank you!

★ Shooting News ★

Rocky River Regulators of DSC (Utica)

Fall in Michigan has brought a bit of a chill to the range but also clear blue sunny skies. On October 12th fourteen top gun hands came to the range to test their skills with a 5 stage Wild Bunch match. The first stage was a challenge as the “frost was still on the pumpkin” and the shooters were chilled from the morning cold. It did not take long for the morning sun to warm up the range and the competition to get hot and furious. When the scores were tabulated the overall winner in the SASS Modern class was Kentucky Drifter. Shooting in the other SASS recognized classes using “big” bullets, Attica Jack won the SASS Men’s Traditional division. Buslin’ Belle was the SASS Women’s Modern winner and DSC’s Fraser Fox won the “Open” division using a “broom handle Mauser” as his rifle on many stages. Shooting clean matches were DSC’s John Weston and J.J. Longley.

October 19th was a crisp and cool fall day in Michigan. With the morning very cool and later in the day clear and sunny skies, forty 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 Lead Foot Luke, followed closely by Faygo Kid, and Moe Gunns. Shooting clean matches were Lead Foot Luke, Moe Gunns, Outrider Outlaw, Sarge, Rodent, and DSC’s Rochester Kid, Rifle Rick, Nine Finger Bob, and The Apostle. 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 2014 DSC Chili Cook Off winners were (pictured left to right):

Hottest Chili: Broke N’ West
Wild Game Chili: Henry Moonshine
Bean Chili: Longshot Lillian
No Bean Chili: Terrebonne Bud
Fowl Chili: Onyx
Best overall Chili: Longshot Lillian

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



Sunday November 16th, a cowboy match and a Thanksgiving turkey feast! But first the November Cowboy match. The weather did cooperate, well sort of. Winter cold was the forecast and it did not disappoint the participants. All the cowboys and cowgirls shot five stages, stayed warm by the camp fire and looked forward to partaking 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 Leadfoot Luke, and Riverview Rattler. We also had the following clean shooters, Faygo Kid, Moe Gunns, Onyx, Clint Chisum, and Outrider Outlaw. Also shooting clean were DSC cowboys Camptown, Rifle Rick, Red Dog Kelly, and Rochester Kid.

Our next match is Sunday, December 21st and then Rocky River is shut down until March



2015. DSC will resume with the regular 5 stage monthly Cowboy match on Sunday, March 15, 2015.

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

J.J. Longley

Straight Shots from Saginaw

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Christmas is just around the corner and a new year awaits us. We're looking forward to having more, great cowboy fun at Saginaw in 2015. We had our annual pot luck & planning meeting in late October and have set our 2015 shoot dates. Of course, those wickedly big targets will be around to challenge even the best of you pards. This is your invite so be sure to mark the following dates on your calendars.

Saturday, April 25, 2015

Saturday, May 30, 2015

Saturday & Sunday, July 11-12, 2015 (our two-day event)

Saturday, August 29, 2015

If you happen to be in our area next year during the week, our Wednesday night practices will start on April 15th and end Sept. 30th. More on that later.

On a personal note to everyone: As we look back at 2014, it's been a year filled with a lot of challenging experiences for our family. We thank everyone for the many prayers said for Marty as he went through his radiation this spring & summer, and now, as we wait for more check-ups. We continue to count our blessings each day and consider our cowboy pards as our blessings, too.

All the Six-Shooters in Saginaw would like to thank everyone who came to shoot with us this year and look forward to seeing new and familiar faces in 2015!

May you all have a blessed Christmas and a new year filled with good health, lots of laughter and straight shooting!

God bless you all and, remember to live life...Give it your best shot.

Bad River Marty & Katie Callahan

★ Epitaph Survey ★

Late last year, a survey was posted for Wolverine Rangers. Various questions were asked. The results of one of the questions will be posted here with each issue. This is the last installment of the survey. I hope you have found it to be interesting and entertaining.

Survey Question:

Many people have interesting stories about how they chose their alias. What's the story behind your alias?

Simple re-arrangement of the name (Westbrooke), but it became appropriate Broke as in destitute and no money left. Real Colts, and real Winchesters .— Broke N West

At first I was the Dodge Park Kidd. Then one day on my way to work I saw something about the Faygo Kid on the back of someone's car. Thought that's who I should have been. So, Eleanor Jewel at first was Miss E. Gunn and decided to start shooting her second year. But she didn't like her alias, so she was switching to Eleanor Jewel and I became Faygo. There is more to the story, but another time. — Faygo Kid

For a time, I worked as a police officer. I was struggling with my alias and one morning I was on a web page that has a listing of aliases. After looking them over I ran across the name Ketchum. I pondered that for a bit and thought Quick. Kind of sounded like something an Indian would say. I am not sure about that but being a cop at the time I thought Ketchum Quick would be kind of a neat name. So after checking with Tessa Two Gunner and getting her approval. I went with it. — Ketchum Quick

I actually wanted to have "killer" as my alias but it was already taken...I wanted the initials of my alias to be the same (or backwards) of my real initials. — Cayuse Jack

I also dabble in coins. Carson city was a mint in Nevada. — Carson City Slick

It is a combination of two western sidekicks in two different books. — Wolf Creek Tom

My favorite movie is Chisum. John Wayne played John Chisum. Clint McGuffin (real name) plays Clint Chisum. — Clint Chisum

I shot for a lot of years under the alias of Redleg. When SASS came about, I didn't think much of the idea and put off joining for a long time. When they made it necessary to be a SASS member to shoot anything above a club annual match, I decided to join. Redleg was already taken, so I had to come up with something else. I was watching Drew Carey's show "Whose Line it is, Anyway?" one night and they were doing the "Weird Newscasters" bit. One of the comedians introduced himself as "Horst Jurodinon" and that started me thinking. Andy Horshurodinon was born. — Andy Horshurodinon

Continued on next page

Survey question continued

Being interested in the history of the West, I chose an actual person. As a young man, Frank North worked at a trading post in Nebraska and became friends with the Pawnee. Serving as an interpreter for the Army in 1864, he was commissioned a Lieutenant and asked to raise a company of Pawnee scouts. Promoted to Captain in 1867, he and the scouts protected workers building the Union Pacific Railroad. Promoted to Major in the 1870's they served under Gen Geo. Crook and fought in numerous battles in operations against the Souix and N. Cheyenne. In 1877, he left the Army and partnered with Buffalo Bill Cody in ranching in Nebraska. In 1884, he joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. During a performance in 1884 he was severely injured when his saddle broke, causing him to be trampled by several horses. He retired and died in 1885 at the age of 45. — Major Frank North

Not much of a story, the first 3 names were taken. I got out a Michigan road map and found a name. — Attica Jack

My spirit name was passed to me by the elders of our Spiritual Family. In the Ojibwas language it is Gekekwe, translates to Hawk Woman. — Hawk Woman

I wanted my A.K.A to represent something about my life. When I was a young boy up on the farm in Goetzville Michigan, I was always in the horse barn. Every one knew where I was if they couldn't find me, in with the horses. I worked with horse trainers, vets and farriers. One particular trainer called me, "Horse Whisperer" because of the way I talked to the horses and how they responded. I am also of Native American and French decent and the word that a lot of people called us up home was "Metis" which in the French language means: The New Breed or Hybrid and I was baptized George. Hence my A.K.A. Horse Whisperer George Metis! — Horse Whisperer George Metis

Lillian was a nickname that either my mom or my favorite uncle gave me when I was a very little girl. I don't know why... Lucy and Ladybug were also nicknames that my mom gave me, but Lillian just seemed to fit better. I am better with my long guns than I am with my revolvers, which is where the "Longshot" comes in. — Longshot Lillian

Several years ago my son and I went to a working cattle ranch on the Montana/Wyoming border for a vacation. One of the jobs we had to perform was driving cattle from their winter range to their summer range. I found that I much preferred to ride on the side of the herd pushing strays back into the main herd. This position is known as outrider. Somehow, it just seemed natural to combine outrider and outlaw. What's funny is that now I respond more quickly to my alias than I do to my real name. — Outrider Outlaw

☆ 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

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

CHIEF RO INSTRUCTORS, MIDEAST REGION

- Scheduling SASS RO-I and RO-II classes at any club in Michigan



☆ 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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