



WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



Volume 18, Issue 3

June 2015

★ Captain's Corner ★

Howdy pards,

Please mark your calendars for Saturday June 13th for the Wolverine Rangers Annual Meeting / Free Shoot at Hastings. Please let Slippery Pete know if you will be able to attend (SlipperyPete9@yahoo.com). This will be your opportunity to ask questions of any of the Board members present and to be provided with a copy of our financial statements prepared by our Treasurer, Snareman.

Speaking of Snareman, please be sure to ask him about his recent stay at the Willow Creek Ranch at the Hole-In-The Wall near Kaycee, Wyoming. It is one of my favorite places in the world.

Congratulations to our Range War Match Director Deuce Stevens on his victory as the Overall Winner at the SASS Ohio State Championship in Piqua, Ohio over Memorial Day weekend. Congratulations also to category winners and Michigan Shooters Two Rig A Tony – Elder Statesman; Little Mama – Lady Silver Senior; The Lady – Classic Cowgirl; Longshot Lillian – Lady Wrangler; Riverview Rattler – Silver Senior; and Straight Arrow Hombre – Wrangler! Nice showing by our Michigan contingent.

Our shooting season is in full swing and I hope that you will all be able to get out and enjoy our sport. The best thing about this sport is the people.

Be sure to get your application in for Range War. We already have 40 shooters signed up and we are looking at a cap of 250 shooters for this year.

We will be welcoming Misty Moonshine the COO for SASS, to Range War this year. We are hoping that she will be able to spread the good word about Range War. We believe that we have one of the best state matches in the country. We hope to see you all there.

In this Memorial Day season please take the time to say a prayer for our service men and women who are defending our freedom around the world. Let us also keep in mind all of the brave men and women who have served in the Armed Forces and especially to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

Please give your kids and grandkids a hug and a kiss and tell them you love them every chance you get.

Best regards,

R.J. Law – Captain
Wolverine Rangers

★ Shooting News ★

Rocky River Regulators of DSC (Utica)

The town of Rocky River has finally opened after a long hard winter. The grass is starting to grow and the boardwalks are clear, and the cowboy action competitors were ready to start shooting.

Our first Wild Bunch match of the season was held on Sunday, April 19th with 17 shooters attending. As always the stages were fast and furious with lots of magazine changes. After shooting both close and far targets the match was won by Leadfoot Luke shooting in the SASS Traditional class. Winning the SASS Modern class was D.S.C.s Coyote Claxton. At D.S.C. we created our own Open Class that allows shooters without all the SASS sanctioned firearms to participate and Big Al walked away with top honors in the Open class.



On April 26th 28 Cowboys and Cowgirls participated in 5 fast and furious but fun stages of Cowboy Action shooting. When the lunch was served and the scores tallied Dodge City Dick was the overall winner followed closely by DSC's J.J. Longley. Shooting clean matches were Moe Gunns, DSC's Darby Shureshot and Coyote Claxton, Andy Horshurodinon, Stoneface Marshall, Soaring Red Hawk, and Chiricahua Momma.

Perfect weather for shooting arrived on May 3rd and so did 20 Wild Bunch shooters looking for some action. What they found were some of the most creative and fun Wild Bunch stages this side of the Mississippi River. After all the guns were stored the scores were announced; DSC's J.J. Longley was the overall match winner and the SASS Modern winner. Winning the SASS Traditional class was Attica Jack and winning DSC's Open class was new shooter Bad Brian. The only two competitors that shot clean were Camptown, who finished 2nd overall, and JJ.

Saturday, August 1, 2015 is our next Wild Bunch match of the season. We will shoot 5 Wild Bunch stages followed by a light lunch and invite all to come out and try this shooting sport. We do have the SASS sanctioned Wild Bunch classes recognized but if you don't have all the Wild Bunch gear, no problem. We have an open class where you can shoot any caliber CAS lever action rifle and any CAS shotgun you may own. All you need is ANY semi automatic pistol that shoots LEAD bullets and you are ready for a Wild Bunch experience. A typical wild bunch stage could be 20 pistol, 10 rifle, and 6 shotgun. So if you want plenty of shooting and action, this might just be "your cup of tea".

It was hot and muggy with a threat of rain in the air on Sunday, May 17th but 38 shooters were on the range looking for some shooting action. The rain held off and the air temperature heated up and so did the shooting. When the dust settled Leadfoot Luke edged Clay Creek for top honors by 1 second. Shooting clean matches were Clay Creek, Poco Loco, Big Bad Jim, Broke N' West, and DSC's John Weston.



Our next Cowboy match is on Father's Day, Sunday, June 21, 2015.

If you want to shoot really fast, plan to attend our .22 Steel Match on Saturday, June 27th from 10 AM until 12 PM. We have classes for every kind of .22 pistol and rifle. Cost is \$10 to shoot the match, \$5 for a second firearm.

There is plenty of shooting action at DSC.

See you on the range.
J.J. Longley

Butcher Butte Bunch - Fenton

16 hearty souls braved the iffy elements of the weather and formed one fast-moving posse at our May 10 match. It was a light drizzle during registration, and the brief safety meeting was held inside to hasten things along once the weather cleared up. At about 9:30, as if on cue, the drizzle stopped and we all headed down to the range to prepare our equipment.

Joining us for his very first Cowboy match, was 10 year old J.C. Wade, son of Sinola Kid. I think I can speak for everyone on the posse in saying that it was a joy to see this young man shoot. He improved steadily throughout the match, and his last stage he shot clean!



Thankfully, the rain held off for the duration of the match, and the last two stages were shot in the sunshine.

Rusty's Cantina reopened right on schedule for our first match of the year in April after being closed for renovations last fall.

If you haven't been to Fenton for a visit this year, please put it on your calendar to come on out and shoot with us, we'd love to have you!

The Eagleville Cowboys - Central Lake

The Eagleville Cowboys of Central Lake, in N.W. Michigan, came out of hiding indoors for the winter, in April this year. That is significant because last year there was still 2 feet of snow the last part of April, and the road to the range was impassable until mid May!

For several reasons, there were several of our regular cowboys and cowgirls who had to be elsewhere on shoot day to try to round up all the rustlers and bank robbers. So we were a little short on posse members, and even our two brass pickers had to be elsewhere. We hope they will all be back next month. But good weather and great camaraderie was plentiful.

The Eagleville Cowboys Memorial Week-end shoot was held on Saturday, the 23rd of May. Beautiful

weather, lots of regular pards, some we haven't seen in a while, and some we have not seen here before, Yee Haa.

Our stage writer has had some body parts replaced, and could not be here, but he sent some very interesting and different stages. Thanx.

Our "New" Territorial Gov'ner, Ms. Laurie L'Amour was 'pinned' during our opening ceremony! She is a real 'go getter', and we are looking forward to her being our 'leader'.

And that's the view from my saddle.

One Son of a Gun, Territorial Governor - Retired

Straight Shots from Saginaw

Can you folks believe how fast May has galloped right off the calendar? We hope everyone enjoyed it, especially on those really nice days that came along.

Our April shoot started with cloudy skies but never gave way to any rain. We had 18 shooters who ventured out and made up one mighty fine posse. A BIG thanks to you all who laughed with us, shared a meal, and had fun shooting.

Scores for the main match and the Wild Bunch match are posted on the W.R. website.

As we write this article, we are watching the weather for our May 30th shoot. More on the results in the next Epitaph issue.

Our two-day shoot will be held Saturday and Sunday, July 11-12th. We'll shoot each day as a separate match with separate scoring, etc. A Mini Wild Bunch match is also on the agenda.

We'd sure love to have you come and shoot with us. We have free camping for those wishing to stay both days. Just shoot an e-mail to us if you plan to camp and we'll fill you in on details. mnbbell@yahoo.com

Until our trails meet, remember to live life....give it your best shot.

Bad River Marty and Katie Callahan

The Shooter's Stance

Lookin' Back

The other day, while reading the Wolverine Rangers web page, I started to read the past issues of the Epitaph. The oldest issue was in 2000. It was entertaining, and I recommend any Wolverine Ranger to read these past Epitaph postings.

It was great to read about Rangers, past and present, with their travels to different shoots, and the experiences they had. I saw several names that were familiar to me and I had shot with: Led Foulin, Catus Kay, Dakota Doc, Mickey Lobe, Andy Horshurodinon (was Red Legs), Mackinaw Kid, and many more. Some members still shoot, and others have just drifted away, never to be seen again.

I also read that my shooting partner Onyx, was winning in the duelist category back in 2000. I guess some

things never change. And me, as always, had something to sell. This time it was a Ruger stainless 44/40, and a gun cart. Mickey Lobe bought the cart.

So if you are bored, go on the Wolverine Rangers site, look up past issues of the Epitaph and read about some shooter history.

Attica Jack

Hidden Valley Cowboys - Sturgis

It seems we dodged another weather bullet, a little humid but again no rain. We had 38 shooters today and we had all seemed to have a great time. Paradise Pass brought practically their own posse, thanks boys!

We had four clean shooters today: Coal Car Kid, Deuce Stevens, Lighting Bill Carson and South Paul. Congratulations!

Like to thank everyone who helped set up the May shoot and helped Mike & I today: Blackthorne Billy and Triple Threat. A special THANK YOU to Cookie (Nancy) for the sloppy, sloppy joes for lunch, it was great.

The next shoot in the Valley will be June 21, 2015. Hope to see you there!

Sauk Valley Stubby & Ms. Blazin

Hidden Valley Cowboys

Is pleased to present our 2nd Annual Buckle Shoot

For the shoot on July 19, 2015

The cost for the July shoot will be \$35.00, which will include an expanded lunch, certificates will be given for clean shooters & side matches and limited to a total of 60 Cowboys & Cowgirls.

We will be shooting 6 stages.

Only the categories listed on the Registration form will be recognized

All SASS rules apply

Categories with 2 shooters will be given a 1st place Gold Buckle

Categories with 3-4 shooters will be given 1st & 2nd place Gold & Silver Buckles

Categories with more than 5 shooters will be given 1st, 2nd & 3rd place Gold, Silver & Bronze Buckles

If you haven't been to the Valley recently you may want to check us out. We now have seven stages, the newest being the Hidden Valley Train Depot, and a popular one being an all shotgun stage. Many improvements are planned for the Valley, we hope to accomplish all of them by July.



Johnson Creek Regulators - Plymouth

The Johnson creek gang hosted the Cowboy Shoot on Armed Forces Day, May 16th.

We recognized and honored the military veterans attending the match. The eight vets represented the Air Force, Army and Navy. I guess the weather kept the Marines at home. We wish to thank all the veterans for their service.

With the 2015 season, we have gone back to including lunch with our monthly matches. We found that besides something to eat after the match, we missed the camaraderie after the match, the discussion of went well and, of course, that elusive stealth bullet.

The new target for this year, the running Buffalo, was fine tuned for the May match. Most got all ten shots in before it stopped at the end. And that's contrary to the April match when it was a "stampeding buffalo" with only a couple of cowboys getting in all ten. Maybe next month we will make it a "walking buffalo".

We look forward to seeing ya'all at the matches this summer. As usual we shoot on the 4th Saturday of the month on the Westside of Plymouth. Come on out and share some grub, a few tall tales and throw some lead.

Till Then – Happy Trails
Rainmaker Ray



Left to right: Poppa Shot-US Army-Sergeant; Big Bad Jim-US Air Force-Airman First Class; Gabby Glenn-US Army-E-5; Rainmaker Ray-US Navy-Petty Officer First Class; Panhead Pete-US Air Force-Master Sergeant; Single Barrel Bob-US Navy-Petty Officer Third Class; Moe Gunns-US Air Force-Sergeant; Poco Loco-US Army-Sergeant.

☆ 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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