



# Wolverine Rangers Epitaph



Volume 20

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# WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



## ★ Captain's Corner ★

Howdy pards,

There was a Board of Directors Meeting for the Wolverine Rangers on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> after the Cowboy Shoot at Sucker Creek. The meeting was attended by 15 Board members. Any member of the Wolverine Rangers is welcome to attend any Board meeting.

The Annual Meeting / Free Shoot will be at Sucker Creek on Saturday July 15, 2017. Please be sure to attend. Bad River Marty our First Lieutenant, will be running the meeting. I promised the Canadians who regularly attend Range War that I would come to Canada to shoot a match this year. I will be at the Canadian Regional the weekend of July 15<sup>th</sup>. I will let everyone know how the process works for taking guns into Canada for a Cowboy Action Shooting Match. So far it has been pretty simple.

We will be trying something new at Range War this year. Sauk Valley Stubby will be organizing a Swap Meet on Friday. The event will take place from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Feel free to bring any Cowboy or Wild Bunch items including hats, clothing, leather, gun carts and firearms. Anyone wanting to sell firearms will be required to know the applicable laws and regulations regarding firearm sales. This has been done at other shoots and has been well received. It is a good idea to bring your own table. The Wolverine Rangers and the Blue Water Sportsman's Association accept no liability and no responsibility for

any transactions. This is an opportunity for individual shooters and members of the general public to engage in individual private transactions.

Thanks to Outrider Outlaw and Andy Horshurodinon for heading to the Bend of the River Conservation Club in Niles in June to shoot a cowboy match. A full report by Outrider Outlaw is included in this version of the Epitaph. It looks like the Bend of the River Conservation Club will be a Wolverine Rangers affiliated club. Please try to get to one of their cowboy shoots to support them as they learn the ropes of Cowboy Action Shooting.

That is about all that I have for now. Have fun, shoot clean and stay safe.

Best regards,

R.J. Law – Captain  
Wolverine Rangers

# ★ Shooting News ★

## Rocky River Regulators of DSC (Utica)

Twenty-five hearty cowboys and one cowgirl defied the predicted rain storm and came out to shoot anyway. All twenty-six competitors were the winners as the range stayed dry for the annual Father's Day Cowboy Action match.

Our Cowboy match on Father's Day, Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup> was hot, fast, and furious. The Michigan skies were overcast with a 30 second drizzle and the air temperature was in the high 80s. After all the shots were down range and most of them hit targets; Dodge City Dick was declared the winner, followed closely by Kentucky Drifter and J.J. Longley.

The Father's day shoot always brings the targets in closer and the cowboy action shooters took full advantage of very hittable targets. Shooting clean matches were Kentucky Drifter and the following DSC Cowboys; Camptown, Coyote Claxton, Nine Finger Bob, Jack Holiday, and Rochester Kid.



Our next Cowboy Action match is Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. This is our annual T-shirt match, so wear one of those Wolverine Rangers Range War T-shirts you have been collecting over the years and stay cool.

Our next Wild Bunch match is on Saturday, July 8, 2017. This is a Wild Bunch T-shirt match. This is a make up date for a rained out

Wild Bunch match. Coyote Claxton, DSC



Wild Bunch guru sets up a true Wild Bunch match NOT a Cowboy Action match with a 1911. Every one needs to come out and give this a try. If you don't have all the right guns; no problem, just bring any semi-auto that

shoots lead bullets and your cowboy rifle and shotgun. Give it a try!

See you on the range.

J.J. Longley

## Butcher Butte Bunch - Fenton

19 cowboys and cowgirls assembled at Butcher Butte on June 12 for our monthly match. One posse made its way through the 5 interesting and sometimes challenging stages. One bit of proof that it was a bit challenging was that there were NO clean matches!



Once the results were totaled, Apache Wolf landed himself in first place, edging out Si-nola Kid by just over 4 seconds.

Due to the fact that our usual cowboy chef was not able to attend the match, we had a lunch of pizza brought in for us by Grubby Hardrock's wife, Darlene. Thank you, Darlene!

The regular monthly match originally scheduled for July 9 has been cancelled due to conflict with the Saginaw 2-day match. A match

has been added to our calendar for October 8, to replace the cancelled match. This is noted on the Wolverine Rangers home page, as well as on the calendar, and the Butcher Butte page. Please mark your calendars and plan to come on out to join us for some fall shootin' fun!

The next time you visit us to shoot, you may be asked to

verify your registration information. We're in the process of updating our records and consolidating files. This will be done as time allows, and it shouldn't hold up the registration process. We appreciate your patience as we work toward an updated database.



*Longshot  
Lillian*

## The Eagleville Cowboys - Central Lake

The Eagleville Cowboys June shoot was well attended even though several of our Pardes had to be elsewhere. And we had one new first time shooter who had been here to watch for a couple of months previously.

Someone upstairs was watching out for us, as it had rained every day for over a week prior to today, and we had a perfect day, then it rained that night..

It sure was good to see Rancher Roy back with us after his unscheduled hospital stay.

When the smoke settled, the following came out on top of their categories: Senior - Bulldog Jim (and his first match win), 49er - Atlanta Sharp, Gr. Patron - One Son of a Gun, Eldr Stsman - Carebear, Cowboy - Buckshot Block (his first shoot), Sil. Sr. - Mohawk Scout, Wrangler - Rowdy

Rusk, Sr. Dulst - Petoskey Pete, Frt.Crt. GF - Marlin Matt, Ladies Fr.Crt.Dlst - Senora Vaquera, Gun Ftr - Scotty Two Shotty, L. Sr. - Buckeye Juice, L.Frt.Ctg - P.K. Brimstone.

Life is either a daring adventure or nothing. 'Helen Keller'.

See Y'all down the trail.

One Son of a Gun



## Hidden Valley Cowboys - Sturgis

Due to the rain forecast, Father's Day and End of Trail, we had 24 shooters today. The weather cleared up real nicely by the time we shot, even got down right warm and muggy. Thanks to everyone who joined us!!

Like to thank everyone who helped set up the Valley and helped today: D. K. Tracker, Diamond Jim, Grampaw Willie, Naughty Nellie, Sauk Trail Mike, Tommy Two Fingers and Triple Threat! I'd also like to extend a special thank you to Johnny Rebel and Ya Big Tree for taking on the Posse Marshall's for Posse 2! Thanks guys!

Thank you also, to Tommy Two Fingers for bringing and serving lunch today. Ka Adik Krista couldn't make it because of health problems. We all wish her a speedy recovery!

Our next shoot will be July 16<sup>th</sup>, registration opens at 8:15 AM, side shoots start at 8:30 AM, and the mandatory safety meeting starts at 9:45 AM, preceding the main match.



## Straight Shots from Saginaw

It's that time again for Saginaw's 2-Days of Shooting July 8-9, 2017. Scores & awards will be done on a daily basis so shoot one day or both. A Mini Wild Bunch match is also on the agenda and our cooks always provide us with mighty tasty grub. We'd sure love to have you come and shoot with us. We have free camping by the lake for those wishing to stay both days.



Just shoot an e-mail to [mnbell@yahoo.com](mailto:mnbell@yahoo.com) if you plan to camp or have any questions regarding the shoot. We're looking forward to a fun time and hope you can join us.

Speaking of fun, at our June shoot, we had 25 shooters and 12 shot it clean. We do chuckle a bit when mentioning clean amongst the smoke our black powder shooters provided. Good times, good grub, and fellowship made it a perfect day.

As we celebrate Independence Day, we want to pause and appreciate the many freedoms America holds for us. We never want to lose these freedoms. We fly our flag proudly on the 4<sup>th</sup>. and every day. God bless America!!

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

Bad River Marty and Katie Callahan

## Johnson Creek Regulators - Plymouth

Many political events occurred on June 24<sup>th</sup> throughout history. For example in 1894 Marie Francois Carnot, then President of France was assassinated by Italian Anarchist Sante Geronimo Cesario and in 1902 King Edward VII of the United Kingdom develops appendicitis, causing his coronation to be delayed. In 2017, thirty-five cowboys came to Johnson Creek to accept the challenge of good old American politics through the eyes of Panhead Pete. Panhead developed five stages designed around the humor within our political system.

Stunning weather with temperatures in the mid 70s and a mild breeze welcomed us. We met a number of new cowboys and had the opportunity to welcome back a number of folks we haven't seen in a while. The biggest crowd we've entertained at Johnson Creek in some time.



Dodge City Dick led the pack with an adjusted time of 115.15. Snuffy Dave Edwards was runner up with JJ Longley kicking at his heels. Pop Shot was high Buckaroo. Clean matches were earned by Snuffy Dave Edwards, The Cannoli Kid, Gus McCall and Rex Tanner. The Cannoli Kid reported that this was his first clean match. Congratulations Kid.

Several new shooters, including Side Kick Tom and The Pepsi Cola Kid did well in their first match. Speaking of new shooters, recently a new shooter posted in one of several online forums about his first experience at a CAS event. He commented about a seasoned hand who chastised him about his nervousness and amateurish shooting techniques. It brought back memories of my own first couple of matches, which I perceived quite differently, with several shooters taking me under their wings, providing support and coaching. From the statements of the new cowboy, it appeared his new mentor was trying to help, but lacked finesse. While the popularity of CAS seems to be waning, it is important we take steps to mentor those individuals who show an interest in our sport. In the words of Mark Van Doren "The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery."

Our next match is scheduled for Saturday July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## L.C.S.C. Wranglers - Lapeer

Well this year the Cowboys tried something different. We decided to have a two day shoot on our regular monthly shoot schedule. Saturday we shot a Wild Bunch Match down in cowboy town and on the rifle range we also held a long range match.

The long range match was shot at two hundred yards, each contestant shot ten rounds in each category no sighters. Categories were lever action pistol caliber shot at one hundred yards, lever action rifle caliber, long range single shot, long range buffalo ( black powder ) and long range optical.



On Sunday we shot our regular monthly cowboy match. All that attended had a great time.

Wild Bunch overall results Lead Foot Luke, Spartan Johnny, Attica Jack, Flat Water Johnny, Moe Gunns , Schofield Ranger , Rodent , Horse Keeper, and Steel Dust Jack.

Long Range results, 100 yard Lever Action Pistol caliber Horse Whisperer George Metis, 200 yard Lever Action Rifle caliber Four Fin-

ger Carl, 200 yard Single Shot Rifle Sassafras Lori, we had no Buffalo single shot or Rifle Optical. Hope to see more of you at our next long range match.

Regular Cowboy Match standings, Faygo Kid, Moe Gunns, Long Shot Lillian, J.J. Longley, Spartan Johnny, Flat Water Johnny, Jack Holaday, Cactus Lawman, Pistol Packin Rod, Horse Whisperer George Metis, Four Finger Carl, Steel Dust Jack, Trail Wench, Horse Keeper, Hawk Woman, Bea Sweet and Sassafras Lori.

There were no clean matches for Wild Bunch, Cowboy Match there were three, Flat Water Johnny, Horse Keeper and Moe Gunns. Congratulations!!

Hope to see you at next month's Shoot. Happy Trails to all until then.

Next shoot is July 2, 2017





## The Shooter's Stance

### Posse Peeves

I am not one to complain, but these things ruffle my feathers just a bit. When you go to a monthly shoot, you get assigned to a posse. Posse size will depend on how many shooters signed up for the match. A posse shouldn't be too huge or one too small. What is the optimum posse size? I really don't know, perhaps 15 or so.

I shot on a posse once that had 28 shooters. That posse's size was way too large. By the time the last few shooters shot, most of the posse (about 90%) had packed up and went to strap on the feed bags. I didn't finish that stage until 3pm.

Okay let's say 26 shooters signed up, two posesses of 13, not too bad. With each posse you will need a timer, 3 spotters, unloading table, loading table, and someone to pick brass and reset targets. That is 7 people that are needed for each shooter. That number can be reduced

some as shooters can watch each other load, and spotters can reset targets and pick brass.

If you are assigned a small posse EVERYONE has to help. Unless you are shooting, loading/unloading or in line to shoot, you should be helping your posse, not sitting on your gun cart watching. You could assist with brass pick up, target resets or relieve someone of their posse duties.

Some shooters, because of age or physical problems, usually sit on their gun carts and spot or work the loading/unloading tables.

Posses no matter what size, always need everyone to help.

See you at the next shoot

Attica Jack

## Editor's Corner

### Visiting River Bend Rangers—Niles

Saturday, June 10 promised to be a hot, sunny and dry day. The day lived up to its promises with temperatures in the mid to upper 80s. Very early that morning, Andy Horshurodinon and I met up to take a day trip to the Bend of River Conservation Club in Niles, MI and shoot a match with the River Bend Rangers.

But first a little background information. In the January printed edition of the Cowboy Chronicle I noticed that there was a CAS club in Niles, MI. I had never noticed it before and I knew that the club wasn't affiliated with the Wolverine Rangers. I contacted R. J. Law via e-mail about this and he said he had seen that there was a club there too. He contacted Paul Puma - the club's cowboy representative - and introduced himself and the Wolverine Rangers. Paul expressed an interest in joining the Rangers and in having the club become affiliated with the Wolverine Rangers group.

At that point I decided that I would make the trek to Niles at some point early in the shooting season to introduce the members there to myself and to the Wolverine Rangers as a group. I contacted Andy to see if he would be interested in joining me when I visited.



Andy and I found that we had over-estimated the travel time by quite a bit. We met in Durand, MI which is fairly convenient to



both his home and mine. We met up at 5:00 am to make the trip to Niles and have some time for a good breakfast prior to going to the range to register and attend their safety meeting.

The safety meeting was to take place at 10:00 am. We got to Niles at about 7:45 so we had lots of time to kill before we needed to be at that range. We took our time and had a leisurely breakfast. We got a few stares from other patrons of the restaurant as we were dressed in our cowboy duds.

We arrived at the range about 9:15 and were greeted there by Paul Puma who was in the process of completing some last minute setting up of the stages. As the time for the safety meeting grew closer more competitors arrived.

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When we started the match there were 10 of us who were competing. There were also a couple folks who came to watch and they stayed for the entire match and were, of course, given the opportunity to shoot a bit.

Paul had told me in an e-mail that they typically shoot 5 stages with most of them being 10 pistol, 10 rifle and 4+ shotgun. That sounded pretty familiar. This particular match however offered something different. There were six stages, one of which was an all shotgun stage and at least one (and I think it was 2) of the other stages had 6+ shotgun. I was glad I had brought a lot of shotgun shells with me. There was also one stage with an 11<sup>th</sup> rifle round with that extra round being loaded on the clock.

As I said, it was a small group and one of the competitors was shooting “wild bunch” instead of cowboy. Apparently this is the norm as they really don’t have many people to draw from and usually shoot a combined cowboy and wild bunch match.

Andy and I were a little taken aback as we found the targets there to be smaller than the ones we are used to shooting and they seemed to be a little farther away from the shooting line than we are used to. The combination of those two things made for a challenging day. In fact, I had more misses at that match than I have had in a long time. Looking at the results, I am shocked to say that I had a total of 16 misses for the day. Not my best showing.

On the other hand, I had the fastest time of all those competing on the all shotgun stage. All the shotgun targets that were used were of the “golden BB” variety.

All the stages we shot that day were of the stand and deliver variety. We did have one stage that was very different for me and from what I



understand is a throwback from earlier days of cowboy shooting. We had to sit on a horse (a barrel with a saddle on it) and shoot our revolvers and rifle from atop the horse. No shotgun on that stage.

All in all, it was a fun day and Andy and I were pretty much exhausted by the time we got home.

I would suggest that any of the Wolverine Ranger members would have a good time there and should make plans to visit at least once this year. The club shoots on the second Saturday of the month with safety meeting at 10:00. It should be noted that lunch is not included with the entry fee but there are several nice places to eat not too far from the range.

Just before we left the Bend of River Conservation Club I was informed by Paul Puma that he had received Board of Directors approval for the club to become Wolverine Rangers affiliated and that he just had a bit of paper work to complete to make it official.

Paul can be reached by e-mail at [mwieger@yahoo.com](mailto:mwieger@yahoo.com) or by phone at 574-220-0396. The Bend of River Conservation Club’s website is [www.borcc.org](http://www.borcc.org).

## ☆ 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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