

Wolverine Rangers' Epitaph

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October 2002



Wolverine Rangers Officers and Board of Directors

Captain Mike Carnaghi
aka Chili Pepper Pete

First Lieutenant Rick Lewis
aka Micky Lobe

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& Lou Stover**
*aka Mackinaw Kid
& Lavender Lou*

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aka Alibi

Marty Bell
aka Bad River Marty

Mary Ann Bench
aka Laporte Lil

Carmen Bryan
aka Wiiwan

David Bryan
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aka Wall-Man

Clarence Rossell
aka No Buk Chuck

Ed Smith
aka Fast Eddie

Paula Smith
aka Cactus Kay

Terry Stuart
aka Tucson Stu

James Tierney
aka Catlow

Captain's Corner

Olla Amigos. Wow! What a great time I had at the Range War. I hope you did too.

Congratulations to our new State Champions Colt McAllister and Cactus Kay. Well done and good luck at the Regional. Congratulations to all the category winners and to all the shooters that came out to participate, you are all champions in my book.

I learned a lot helping put on this year's WRRW. In some things it went very well and in others there is room for improvement. All-in-all I thought it was one of the finest shoots I've ever been to. The stage driver concept went over very well. We collected many new ideas to try to implement for next year. Having lived through the experience, I hope that we can make next year's Range War bigger and better.

To all those that participated in the Gillary charity events, the total was \$1,706. What can I say, we all came out winners on that one.

I would like to thank all the volunteers that put on this event. There are far too many to name individually but to each of you I give my heart felt thanks.

Thanks to the Blue Water Sportsmen's Club and in particular Dave, Carmen, Norm, and Don. You did an outstanding job with the range facilities!

Thanks to all the vendors and others who made donations for the shooter and charity prizes. It was great to have so many prizes to give away.

Thanks to all the ladies that helped with the registration, chili dinner, and too many other things to mention. Great Job!

We had many fine compliments on our shoot from our friends from out-of-state and out of the country. I would like to thank those people for coming out and sharing this event with us. We hope you had a good time and hope to see you again next year.

One person that I wish to give my personal thanks to is No Buk Chuck. He has been a shoulder for me to lean on and a friend who has always been there for me this past year. No Buk is stepping down from his WR Board position and he will be sorely missed. Thanks for all you've done.

Till next time, remember - "There is no normal life, there's just life, so go out and live it".

Best Regards,
Chili Pepper Pete

A Range War 2002 summary will be published in the December Epitaph

Wolverine Rangers Club News

Ramblings from the Bunkhouse

Our 4th Annual Range War has come and gone. It has been proclaimed to be a huge success, but huge successes don't just happen. They take a lot of hard work from many people. There are some who arrange side events, people who write stages, clubs that bring props, stage drivers, posse leaders, tents to be set up, vendors to be contacted, t-shirts to be ordered, prizes to be organized, scores to be recorded, registrations and the list goes on and on. There are those that are recognized for their hard work and those that weren't mentioned. The banquet hall was great, but it was reserved a year ago. Things have been going on for a year to make sure things go off without a hitch. The Board came together last fall and worked all through the winter, spring and summer to make sure that 204 Range War participants were assured of a good time.

After all the effort put forth, there are still those that come forward and ask "What's in it for me"? I stopped and thought, what is in it for me? What is in it for anyone who is on the Board? What is in it for anyone who worked at Range War? They took their vacation time and time away from their family to help set up targets, stages, and everything else that is involved in this huge undertaking. I guess it is something that is called "spirit of the game". It is where we involve ourselves in something we believe in. In this case, it is Cowboy Action Shooting. Cowboy Action Shooting is not just a sport where we throw lead down range, there is much more involved in it than that. There is comradery. This is where people from all walks of life with nothing in common come together with a whole new outlook on friendship. We step back into another time and place. Whether it be the Lone Ranger, Hoppy or Matt Dillon we look to for inspiration, we still come together with "spirit of the game". I've seen people dog-tired from shooting all day and still help take down targets, pull props and carry heavy steel while waiting to hear who was the top shooter. They don't care what their score was. All they are anxious to know is if they did better than their buddy or better than

the last shoot. In many cases, the prize is a pat on the back, smiles from the crowd or even a simple little tin concho. For the rest of the week they knew they outgunned Black Bart or may have even stopped a cattle rustler.

Maybe what is in it for me is knowing I am doing something that others are going to enjoy and talk about for months to come. While I was MC'ing the awards banquet, I got to watch everyone walk up to receive their certificate or plaque. It didn't matter if they were in first or fifteenth place, their faces told the whole story.... bright eyes, huge smiles, and a quick step. This to me is what it is all about. Whether you win or not shouldn't really matter. So all of you who are expecting something more out of this, well, may I make a suggestion.... **MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY A DIFFERENT SPORT** or stand back and reevaluate "what's in it for me".

Being a Wolverine Ranger isn't going to bring you a monetary reward or some special recognition. You get a newsletter ever other month, a website to gather information, a badge, a 12 month calendar, a free shoot, and some clubs give you a discount for being a Ranger. Your \$24 annual dues (or \$2.00 per month) supplies you with information about every Ranger club in the state of Michigan, but like any other organization that you may be a member of (i.e., NRA, SASS, MCRGO) you join because they represent what you believe in. An organization that will support you in the sport you enjoy! Rangers help organize the clubs so that you have more places to shoot, and create calendars and schedules so there are fewer conflicting events. The Rangers have given back money to the clubs, supplied timers, canopies, targets, and other items.

Remember everyone of the Board members pay their own way just like any other member. They get no special discounts, no financial support. The Board puts in countless hours planning, organizing, and making sure everything is ready for you when you arrive to shoot. This is all done in the "spirit of the game". If the members of the Board stopped

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and asked what was in it for them and only thought of themselves, there would be no Wolverine Rangers. No state championship. I could go on and on but I'm sure you have the idea.

To all of you who put on local shoots, who help with the Range War, we thank you for having the "SPIRIT OF THE GAME AND BELIEVING IN THE COWBOY WAY".

Mackinaw Kid and Lavender Lou

Rockford Regulators

Just a few weeks ago Tucson Stu, No Cattle, Diewalker, and I were at the Wolverine Rangers Range War. This was Stu's and my first State Championship Shoot. No Cattle and Diewalker were old hands at this and worked as "Stage Pushers". They looked good and were a great asset to the posses – only one problem; they were worked hard and put away wet. At the banquet Diewalker brought along two Woody dolls from a friend's work bench at Steelcase. The truth be known Woody snuck into Diewalker's pocket to "go-to-town" and have a "rip and snort". Diewalker has photos of Woody at various activities and no doubt will squeeze Woody's owner for a cup of coffee as not to disclose how good a time his little cowboy really had. Needless to say, we all had a great experience.

At our September ruckus we didn't know who would show up. I know I was tired from last weekend's fun and our gang was movin' a little slow. Well, we had 51 show up. We used our stage from the state shoot along with four others designed by Tucson Stu.

Matt Christy from "Hear USA" was present to supply custom made ear plugs to one and all. This went over greatly with the cowboys and several of our RSC members. If you missed Matt you can reach him at (616) 942-1660, 2566 Woodmeadow SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

Rooster, aka Pat Counts, began moving dirt out of our two new shooting bays to the north on

Saturday, September 14th. As this has already taken place, anyone with dirt moving equipment and/or expertise might want to check with him to see if the work has been completed. If not, they sure could use some help. Just give me a call (616) 363-02430 and we can put it together.

Shoot Results !!!

AUGUST: Top Gun - A.J. Peacock; **Duelist** - High Iron; **Frontier Cartridge** - Slippery Pete; **Gunfighter** - Andy Horshurodinon; **Junior** - Lopsided Ed; **Forty-Niners** - Scholfield Ranger; **Modern** - Lucky Lennie; **Modern Lady** - Slow Hand Sue; **Modern Senior** - Peter Pistolero; **Traditional** - Fireball; **Traditional Lady** - Shotgun Mary; **Traditional Senior** - Baldy Bill.

SEPTEMBER: Top Gun - A.J. Peacock; **Forty-Niners** - Micky Lobe; **Duelist** - Led Foulin'; **Frontier Cartridge** - Slippery Pete; **Gunfighter** - Cayuse Jack; **Junior** - Lopsided Ed; **Modern** - Red Beard Bandit; **Modern Lady** - Cactus Kay; **Modern Senior** - Peter Pistolero; **Traditional** - Scholfield Ranger; **Traditional Lady** - Laporte Lil; **Traditional Senior** - Ringo Wiguns.

Table Top Tom

Lapeer Wranglers

Not much to report from Lapeer other than we are having our rifle range and adjacent areas renovated by adding higher berms and a new trail cut into the woods. We shouldn't have to worry about having a stray bullet landing in one of the neighboring yards after the work is completed. This will hopefully be part of the projects we complete this year. We also will be attempting to create a new indoor pistol range before our indoor season begins on December 8th.

Our September match will be over by the time you read this but our next match is slated for October 6th with long range on the 5th again from noon to 4:00pm. Hopefully we'll have our "pumpkin shoot" also on the 6th. See ya!

Wall-Man

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Straight Shots from Saginaw

Yee Haw! Hasn't it been a great summer for shooting? As we head into fall all you shootin' pards can mark your calendar for our Saturday, October 12th shoot at the Saginaw Field & Stream. We're looking forward to a beautiful fall day, plenty of grub, lots of shooting and good fellowship. Gate opens up at 8:00 a.m. with the shooters meeting at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$15 which includes your vittles.

The Saginaw Six Shooters had a lot of representation at Range War 2002. Why, we even had our own HOOTERVILLE, run by Old Sy, it's distinguished Mayer (that's the way they spelled it in Hooterville, folks.) And even Bad River Marty did some poetry on Saturday night and some preachin' to them that needed it on Sunday morning (most needed it)!

Everyone had a fun time and most had one particular stage they ranked right up there with last year's Stage From Hell. Our club shooters shot straight and true and when awards night rolled around Saginaw Six Shooters faired quite well.

With lots of memories, old and new friendships kindled, and a good kind of weariness we realized once again what Cowboy Action Shooting was all about. It's more than just pulling a trigger and hitting a target. It's a good time at Hooterville too. Stop in next year and visit with us around the campfire.

Saginaw hosted the Wolverine Rangers Membership Free Shoot on September 28th. While parts east and south of Saginaw were receiving the remnants of Hurricane Isidore, we were blessed with a beautiful fall day. A membership meeting preceded the match at which time there was much discussion on Range War 2002. If any member has any suggestions (pro or con) on the Range War, please forward your comments to Chili Pepper Pete at mike@carnaghi.com or call 586-201-2778. Comments would be appreciated by October 12.

Fifty-six members participated in the five stage

membership shoot with Fireball emerging as the overall winner. Doc Roy L Pain was the only one that shot a clean match. Congratulations! For all the blazing results check the Wolverine Rangers website at www.wolverinerangers.org It's a great place to read up on club shoots and scores, check out photos, and more.

A HUGE thank you to No Cattle for filling in as scorekeeper on VERY short notice. We couldn't have done it without you, No Cattle.

The 2003 free membership shoot will be in a different location as yet to be determined.

Anyone with questions about the Saginaw Six Shooters can contact Bad River Marty at 989-585-3292 or mnbell@yahoo.com Hope to see you at our October 12th shoot. And remember...Live life.... Give it your best shot!

Katie Callahan and Bad River Marty

DSC Rocky River Regulators

Here it is October already; can winter be far behind? Summer was great this year. Not very much rain to ruin our shooting pleasures, however, our September shoot was gently rained on. This was not enough to discourage the 51 shooters who attended. A great big heartfelt "THANKS" to all of you. It is good to know that not all cowboys are fair weather cowboys.

The top shooter for August's match was A.J. Peacock. The top shooters by category were: **Forty-Niners** – Faygo Kid; **Modern** – Moe Gunns; **Duelist** – Onyx; **Senior Men** – Tres Hombres; **Frontiersman** – Mike Fink; **Traditional** – A.J. Peacock; **Frontier Cartridge** - Chili Pepper Pete; **Women** – Eleanor Jewel; **Gunfighter** - Buffalo Blair; **Junior** – Wiley Coyote

The top shooter for September's match was Led Foulin'. The top shooters by category were: **Forty-Niners** – Scholfield Ranger; **Modern** - Moe Gunns; **Duelist** - Led Foulin'; **Senior Men** – Tres Hombres; **Frontiersman** - Mike Fink;

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Traditional - A.J. Peacock; **Froniter Cartridge** - Catlow; **Women** - Cactus Kay; **Gunfighter** - Andy Horshurodinon

(Has anyone ever noticed that there are never any senior women? Interesting how that works.)

Don't forget our October 20th shoot is our annual Chili Cookoff. Bring a pot of chili to pass and have judged. If you would like to be a judge or know someone who would, please call Mackinaw Kid or Lavender Lou at 248-852-0351. We would be happy with the help.

NOTE: THERE HAS BEEN A CHANGE!!!!
The date for our November shoot is being changed to November 10th. This will help get you ready for hunting season instead of interfering with the first weekend of hunting season.

Think safety first and see you at the shoots.

Lavender Lou

Pickin' up Pard

Welcome to new or returning members: Fireball, Shotgun Mary, A.J. Peacock, Shotgun Bill, Del Ray, Thumper John, High Maintenance, Texas John Critter, Red Keg Will, Smilin Bear and Dusty Britches.

Michigan Pistoleros

Well, we got by the 2002 season with no rain. That has got to be a first. The lack of rainfall was replaced by extreme heat. But anything is better than rain isn't it? Thanks to those of you who participated.

Now, on to the planning of the 2003 season. HE (and his cronies) are thinking about putting on a two-day shoot at Williams on Sunday and Monday of Memorial Day weekend. SHE is not convinced yet that this would be a good idea. Would you be interested? Let us know before Oct. 12th as we are starting to set the 2003 calendar.

Other than that dilemma, we are still planning on having shoots the end of June and the end of July to complete our three shoot schedule.

Evil Roy Shooting Class

The Wolverine Rangers Board is in the process of negotiating with Evil Roy to come to Michigan to put on a two-day shooting class! It would tentatively be held the Wednesday and Thursday preceding the Wolverine Rangers Range War 2003. We are pretty excited about this opportunity. The class is two full days and would cost between \$250 and \$275 for the first family member. (You have enough time now to start dropping hints about what you would like for Christmas!) His class has a limit of 25 people. Make your interest known quickly if you would like one of these spots. (We already have some spoken for). I'm sure we will offer an easy pay plan over the winter if all goes as planned. Contact us at 810-733-8454 or docandkay@yahoo.com regarding this class.

RO 1 and/or RO 2 Wants You

Do you know that the Timer Operator is supposed to be within an arms length of the shooter and on the shooter's strong side? Do you know why?

Whether you are a beginner or an old timer, these classes are guaranteed to teach you information you didn't know about Cowboy Action Shooting.

The goal of the Board is to have every Wolverine Ranger take RO 1 (Range Operations Basic Safety Course, Level One). How reassuring it would be to know that everyone shooting is aware of all current safety rules. Do yourself and others a favor by taking this class.

The classes will be taught at Gander Mountain in Lansing on Saturday, October 26th. RO 1 will begin at 9:00 a.m. with RO 2 (Range Officer Training Level 2) starting at 1:00 p.m. If you ever work as a Timer Operator RO 2 will be very helpful. There is a fee for each class. Pre-registration is required. Call 810-733-8454 or e-mail docandkay@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing you there.

Fast Eddie and Cactus Kay

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Chippewa Regulators - Sault Ste. Marie

The Chippewa Regulators have been busy every month putting on a shoot and August and September were no exception. Yooper Fred, leader of the Chippewa Regulators Cowboy Shoots, had all his cowboy pards praying for him as he battled some unknown virus in the hospital in Iron Mountain. Everyone was happy to see him able to attend the State Shoot at Port Huron. Others making the long trip downstate to have a great time shooting and visiting Hooterville were Mercantile Annie, Mesa Mike, and Giddyup Gal.

Mercantile Anne and No Name Justice helped to organize the August shoot which saw almost 40 shooters testing their skill at the Yooper targets. The long-range buffalo match was won by Bad River Marty from St. Charles, amazing all the locals with what a little 38 caliber Marlin could do at 130 yards. It was bang... wait.... wait... wait... ping! We think he even surprised himself!

The drawing for prizes after the shoot was lots of fun and had everyone in good spirits for the potluck meal that followed. A good time was had by all.

It was good to have Yooper Fred back-in-the-saddle when the September match rolled around. The weather cooperated nicely and we had another great turnout of cowboy shooters. Mesa Mike won the Buffalo Stage with a blazing score of 19 seconds. We had our raffle ticket drawing for the Norinko 12 ga. shotgun. Pete Rabine, aka. SnowBird from DeTour was the lucky winner.

October 19th will be our last match of the season. We will be drawing for the custom gun cart. Mark your calendar if you're looking for more fun than a person should have.

Giddyup Gal



RO 1 and/or RO 2 Classes Offered

Date: Saturday, October 26
Location: Gander Mountain in Lansing
Time: 9:00 a.m. - RO 1
 1:00 p.m. - RO 2

There is a fee for each class.
Must pre-register by calling 810-733-8454 or e-mail docandkay@yahoo.com

For Sale

The price has been reduced to \$700 on the Henry rifle made by Uberti for Cimmaron Firearms, .45 Colt brass frame, blued barrel. This rifle was first listed for sale a few months ago. Contact Bushy Mills at 313-885-3412.

Reminder of Calendar Adds/Changes

October 12 - Saginaw (moved from June 22)
 November 10 - Utica/DSC (moved from Nov. 17)

CLUB CONTACTS

Bad River Marty	Saginaw	989-585-3292
Bordertown Hombre	Port Huron	519-336-1690
Fast Eddie	Flint/Davison	810-733-8454
Lucky Lennie	Hastings	616-891-8376
Mackinaw Kid	DSC	248-852-0351
Micky Lobe	Durand	810-629-9709
Table Top Tom	Rockford	616-363-2430
Wall-Man	Lapeer	248-628-7424
Yooper Fred	Sault Ste. Marie	906-635-9700

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