

Wolverine Rangers' Epitaph

Volume 7, Issue 4

August 2004



CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Hola Amigos. The summer shooting season is in full swing and I hope all of you are enjoying it. I'd like to congratulate all of the Wolverine Rangers that went out to Ohio, Kentucky, and Mule Camp for their outstanding performances. I truly believe that Michigan shooters are making their presence known wherever we shoot, not only for our shooting skills but also for our safety habits and understanding of the game. Great Job Folks!

There have been a few changes around some of the clubs and I'd like to welcome Three Gun Cole to the Wolverine Rangers Board. He will be taking the place of High Maintenance and Texas John Critter as Board representative for the Ionia club. Thanks to Dani and KC for there great efforts and we look forward to their speedy return.

Two new clubs have joined up with the Wolverine Rangers. We have the Timbertown Marshals in Midland being run by Deadeye Dakota, and the Johnson Creek Regulators out in Wayne County being run by Cheyenne Raider and Rainmaker Ray. Midland held their first shoot on July 17th and the Johnson Creek Regulators will be holding their first shoot on December 4th. Let's get out there and show our support for these new clubs.

From a conversation I had with Lucky Lennie, the **August 14 match in Hastings has been CANCELLED** and there will be no more shoots at that range. Lennie will be putting his efforts in at the West Walker club. I'm sorry to see the Hastings club leave our ranks but I'm happy to see Lennie moving on to a new endeavor.

Putting on a world class shoot like the WRRW takes a lot of hard work. The WR Board has done the planning and the affiliated clubs are set with the main match stages. What I am asking from you the membership is for some of your time. We need

your help in setting up on Wednesday and Thursday and we especially need your help on Friday during side matches. All the side matches will be setup and we have people ready to start at 9:45 to get things rolling. What we need from you is to sign up and run some of these events for 2 hours. We have signup sheets available so you can pick your time slot and the event you want to work. If you would like to find out more on how you can help please contact me at 586-201-2778 or talk to any of the Board members at one of the shoots. Remember we can not do this without you.

Even if you do not sign up to shoot at the WRRW, do yourself a favor and come out and enjoy the vendor's row. There will be many vendors there selling everything from clothing and leather goods to bullets and firearms. Some have come from as far away as Texas and California to be with us so come on out and join in the festivities.

Best Regards,
Chili Pepper Pete

Johnson Creek Regulators

Calling all cowboys and cowgirls. There is a new club in town out here in Plymouth Township and we are called the Johnson Creek Regulators.

Our first and only shoot this year is scheduled for December 4, 2004. Look for us on the Clubs page of the Wolverine Rangers website. For those without Internet access, following are the particulars.

We're located at the Western Wayne County Conservation Association, 6700 Napier Road, Plymouth, Michigan, 734-453-9843, website www.wvcca.com Directions are as follows:

From the east: Take I-275 to M-14 west, exit at Beck Road and turn left (south). Proceed 1/2 mile to North Territorial Road and turn right (west).

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You will pass Ridge Road after 1 mile, continue 1 more mile until you come to Napier Road NORTH and turn right. This will take you down a dirt residential road. We are located 1/2 mile down just past the bridge on the right.

From the west: Take US-23 to M-14 east to Gotfredson Road exit and turn left (north). Proceed 1/2 mile to North Territorial Road and turn right (east). In approximately 3/4 of a mile you will come to Napier Road, turn left (north). This will take you down a dirt residential road. We are located 1/2 mile down just past the bridge on the right.

We have a lot of work to do to get ready and we are always looking for help and/or suggestions. You can contact either of us: Cheyenne Raider at cheyenneraider@sbcglobal.net, 734-564-8391 or Rainmaker Ray at rhanka@crosstelecom.com or johnson.creek.reg@sbcglobal.net or 734-455-2539. Additional information will be in the October Epitaph. We look forward to seeing you on December 4th.

Cheyenne Raider

Timbertown Marshals

MIDLAND'S FIRST SHOOT—A HIT! The Wolverine Rangers newest Single Action Shooting Club held its first shoot Saturday, July 17, 2004. Twenty-four shooters participated with eight spectators. The weather was great—raining before and after the shoot. The Midland cowboys are rookies and were thankful for all the help and helpful suggestions given by those who attended. Despite a few glitches here and there the whole shoot ran smoothly without a major hitch anywhere. Innovative touches included the red and yellow plastic fly swatters, which made outstanding line flags—red flags were held up in view when workers went down range. But most importantly, not enough can be said for all the cowboys who chipped in and made the day a hit!

MISTAKES AND FIXING MISTAKES - There

were, of course, some share of mistakes in this first go around but fortunately the mistakes discovered were small and easily fixed. For instance, The Marshals discovered their entry fee was a bit low (\$3) so that will go up in October to \$7 per person and \$10 per family. (Was any money made on this shoot? No... the Marshals actually went under \$3. They'll have to start showing a profit in the future to pay for targets and props!) It was also discovered that the match Utica hosted on the same day is one a lot of area cowboys like to attend. Therefore, next year we will investigate who goes to which shoot more closely so as not to compete with other clubs. The Marshal's name was even misspelled on their flyer, and they aren't the only shooting order in Midland as their logo indicated. But, like everyone, they're moving on. These mistakes are done, past and fixed—we can all make new ones tomorrow.

SHOOT RESULTS - Tacoma Tad had the fastest time of the day (94.72) over 4 stages. The average total time was 159.34. Second best time was Ringo Wiguns at 108.21, which was also high Elder Statesman; and third best time was shot by Lucky Lenny with 109.07, which was also High Senior. Kid Al Fred was the High 49er with the 4th best time of 109.85. High woman was Laporte Lil with 120.36 and 8th overall, which was also high 49er Lady and Lady Duelist. High Senior Lady was Country Girl with 197.27. Iron Burner was the only shooter with a clean match. Average number of misses was 4.25. Trophies were awarded to first, second and third place winners and certificates were given to those who where high in their category.

Our next matches are scheduled for Saturday, August 21 and September 18. Registration is at 10:00am and the mandatory shooters meeting at 10:45am. We're located at the Midland County Sportsman's Club, 8825 Sturgeon Avenue, Midland.

Directions are as follows:

From the south and east - take the Eastman Avenue exit off west-bound US-10. Cross

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Eastman Avenue at the light onto Airport Road (straight ahead towards Lowe's). Go 1 mile to Sturgeon Avenue, turning right at the 4-way stop. Club is 1 and 1/2 miles on the left.

From the north and west - Take the Eastman Avenue exit off east-bound US-10. Turn right at the light onto Wackerly, proceed 3/4 mile to Sturgeon Avenue. Turn right at the 4-way stop and proceed north over US-10 and straight through the next 4-way stop. Club is 1 and 1/2 miles on the left.

Pack your lunch and come on out and join us!

Deadeye Dakota

DSC Rocky River Regulators

It's August, can you believe it? I remember as a kid thinking summer would never end. Now it feels like it is over before it hardly begins. The big Boss has been good to us this year. With as much rain as we have had we have not gotten rained on while we were shooting and we are very thankful.

Our Pig-Out-Of-Luck shoot on July 17th turned out to be a great day of shooting. Some even shot a few stages of sporting clays. The results of our side matches that day are as follows:

22 Pistol

1. Beerbelly Willie
2. Mackinaw Kid
3. Poco Loco

22 Rifle

1. Fraser Fox
2. Baldy Bill
3. Dodge City Dick

Fastest Rifle

1. Mackinaw Kid
2. Andy Horshurodinon
3. Dodge City Dick

Fastest Pistol

1. Dodge City Dick
2. Beerbelly Willie
3. Mackinaw Kid

Fastest Shotgun

- Beerbelly Willie
- Dodge City Dick
3. M. T. Wagon

Derringer

1. Beerbelly Willie
2. Mackinaw Kid
3. M. T. Wagon

Pocket Pistol

- Fraser Fox
- Shootin' Old Coot
- Beerbelly Willie

The July 18th regular match Traditional and Overall winner was A.J. Peacock. Cactus Kay was top Senior Ladies shooter and 3rd overall.

Our August shoot is the usual 3rd Sunday of the month (August 15th), but our September shoot is on the 2nd Sunday (September 12th). October will be our annual chili cook-off so plan on attending and bring your best pot of chili with you. The chili will be judged for certificates and then everyone will get an opportunity to share the chili you brought.

Hope to see everyone at Range War. If you can help with side events on Friday, give us a call at 248-852-0351 or e-mail r.stover@juno.com and let us know you can help. Adios for now!

Mackinaw Kid

Eagleville Cowboys

The Eagleville Cowboys had a good turnout for our May shoot. It DID NOT rain but it did drizzle on us a bit but it sure didn't dampen our spirits or our fun. The stages were fun, even sittin' on the back of a buffalo to shoot (you had to be there).

The highlight of the day was Birdshot Betty's hot bean soup, something between two buns, and lots of trimmins (food is included with your match fee).

Our winners were as follows: Top Gun and 49er-Lightning Wayne, Senior-One Son of a Gun, Modern-The Pedler, Gunfighter-Kewadin Kid, Frontier Cartridge-Rifled Slug, Duelist-Thummpner John, Elder Statesman-Fishbone, Traditional-Two Shots More, Classic Cowboy-Rusty Bolt, and Ladies-Echo Annie. While the scores were tallied, a fun shoot was held which pitted the cowboys and cowgirls against a bunch of little rustlers (up close) and a loooooong range target. Lightning Wayne again ruled. Registration prizes were plentiful and all categories received certificates.

Our June shoot was held on the 26th. Our turnout keeps going up. Guess the word is getting out about our pasture up here in the woods.

Lightning Wayne was again Top Overall shooter

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and 49er winner along with Senior-One Son of a Gun, Traditional-Thummpers John, Senior Traditional-Fly Speck Billy, Frontier Cartridge-Rifled Slug, Senior Duelist-Kewadin Kid, Frontier Cartridge Duelist-Hondo Dan, Elder Statesman-Fishbone, Duelist-Iron Man, Modern-The Pedler, Gunfighter-Manistee Red, and Ladies Modern-T.N. Tina.

We had a great time with the person-on-person fun shoot after the stages seeing who was the best at knocking over the tombstones. The weather was perfect and we all enjoyed Birdshot Betty's grilled on the range grub. We had several campers staying at the range next to the Eagleville town limits sign.

The Eagleville Cowboys had a small but rowdy bunch for our July shoot with absolutely beautiful weather. Our famous mystery guest got in a gunfight with the wind, and lost. He is in the hospital (repair shop) but he'll be here next month so come by and see him (you'll know him).

Our top shooter was again Lightning Wayne, Traditional-EZ Munny, Senior-One Son of a Gun, Senior Modern-Peter Pistolero, Senior Traditional-Fly Speck Billy, Gunfighter-Kewadin Kid, Elder Statesman-Fishbone, Traditional-Picacho Red, and Female-Crack Shot Fannie.

The next regular shoot date is August 28 followed by our annual two-day Eagles Revenge on September 25 and 26 with lots of side and fun matches. Some lucky cowboy or cowgirl will gallop away with a brand new \$385 gun cart that totally dismantles to go into the smallest vehicle. We'll also have \$200 gift certificates for Kirkpatrick Leather plus some special Eagleville Cowboys trophies. Yep, there's lots of room for camping. Y'all come see us now, ya hear?

One Son of a Gun

Straight Shots from Saginaw

We've had some interesting summer weather here in the Saginaw area. Lots of rain and temperatures jumping from hot to cool and back up again. But our cowboys are a determined bunch and our

Wednesday night practices are seeing more and more new shooters. We've been averaging 15-20 shooters plus visitors checking us out each week. We're happy to welcome AA, Last Chance Fats, One Trick Pony, Charlie Goodnight, Ebenezer Brown, and J.J. McKay.

Our latest project has been designing and building new knock-down targets. We also have our master carpenter, Secondhand Jack, designing and building props. What will he come up with next?

The Saginaw Six-Shooters now have their own webpages on the Saginaw Field & Stream website. Check out what Katie Callahan and Walt Fehn, Jr., a Field & Stream member, have been working on. We are really excited as our previous information on the site was limited to one page. Not any more. It's good to see growth in Cowboy Action Shooting. Trot your pony over to this site and check us out - www.saginawfieldandstream.com

What a beautiful day for our July 24th shoot. It was a real hoot with 69 shooters all eager to help the Mayer of Hooterville clean out the riff-raff in town. And in the process we raised \$152 for the "Buy-A-Miss" program. Thanks to those who participated.

Top Men:	Top Ladies:
Three Gun Cole (Overall)	Katie Callahan
Bad River Marty	Cactus Kay
Red Beard Bandit	Laporte Lil
Ethan Callahan	Elsie Rose
Dodge City Dick	Lady Lightning

It was a dirty job, but with all the cowboys helping the Mayer, Hooterville is once again a peaceful little town. The hussies are happy. The Red Dog Saloon has them lined up in the street. Lago Barbershop has more business than it can handle. Seems like a serene setting, doesn't it? Think again. Rumors are rumbling that Nasty Ned is planning revenge at our next shoot. The Mayer doesn't seem too worried, though. He says with all those fine shooting pardos out there he's certain we'll have a whole army ready and waiting. Can we count on you to help keep Hooterville safe? If so, we'll see you on Saturday, September 25th at

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our next shoot.

Until then, keep practicing the cowboy way. Life will treat you pretty good if you do. We hope to see all our cowboy friends at the Wolverine Rangers Range War. It's the shoot we've been waiting for all year. And remember....live life. Give it your best shot.

Ratig Callahan and Bad Rivgr Marty

Lapeer County Wranglers

Great Lakes Match #7 was held on June 26 & 27. Saturday, June 26 dawned clear and cool for the 47 shooters who gathered at the L.C.S.C. range for Great Lakes Match #7. Rangemaster Ricochet Bill #6504 held the safety meeting and the shooters proceeded to head for the first five stages located behind the trap and skeet fields. The stages were completed by approximately 1:00pm leaving plenty of time for the nine side matches to be completed before the 6:00pm roast pig tenderloin and turkey dinner. The side match results were as follows: Derringer-Moe Gunns #26854, Pocket Pistol-Moe Gunns, Long Range Pistol-A.J. Peacock, 22 Rifle-Mike Fink #29047, 22 Pistol-Bushy Mills #16686, Single Shot Rifle-Deadwood Steve, Lever Action Rifle-Andy Horshurodinon #20360, Pistol Caliber Rifle-Just Plain John, Man-On-Man-Moe Gunns.

The Man-On-Man Event was for the benefit of the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation. The money collected will be used to purchase defibrillators for each of the high schools in Michigan. We received \$1150 in donations from the shooters which will be forwarded to the Foundation.

Saturday's dinner was a pork tenderloin and turkey roast prepared by Tenderfoot Tess #6774 and her able assistants Cindy Irwin, Tammy & Randy, Tony Felice, and Missy. The annual costume contest took place after the meal and the winners were: Best Dressed Cowboy-Smokin Smitty, Best Dressed Cowgirl-Bea Sweet, Best Dressed Junior Cowboy-Marshal Cooper, Best Dressed Junior Cowgirl-Ally Katt #19690, Best Dressed Male Town Person- Cactus Pete #4920,

Best Dressed Female Town Person-Sinful Cindy.

Sunday, June 27 dawned clear and quite mild in comparison to previous years oppressive heat. The final five stages in the woods featured the newly built "Hard Times Saloon" storefront erected by Paul Harm, Marie Harm, Bill Felice, Tom Maxwell, Carl Roper, Lori Roper, John Loudermilk, Van Starkey, and Wally Liley. The interior of the saloon was the work of Andy Serocki, John Schmidt, and Fred Schmidt. Many thanks to all of you and anyone else who helped.

While scores were being tabulated, a team event has held on the rifle range consisting of partners, picked out of a hat, shooting targets from a trailer being pulled down the length of the rifle range and back. Most number of targets hit were declared the winners: Andy Horshurodinon #20360 and Larado Van #54838 were the winners of a bottle of Hoppes #9 each for their excellent shooting.

The awards ceremony was held shortly after the conclusion of the team event and the results were as follows: Overall match winner-A.J. Peacock #42047, Traditional-Dodge City Dick #50436, Senior-Moe Gunns #26854, Duelist-Beerbelly Willie #45138, Modern-Dangerous Dave, Junior-Krazy Horse Kate #53749, Ladies-Laura Cross Draw #53747, Black Powder-No Buk Chuck #24540, Gunfighter-Andy Horshurodinon #20360.

A special thanks to our loyal sponsors: Lenny Millers of Dryden, Pattersons Pharmacy of Oxford, Cubbies Trophies of Oxford, Marc Weitzman of Royal Oak, Rosy Brothers of Dryden, Randy Gillary of Troy, Ace Hardware of Oxford, Andy Serocki of Sterling Heights, and Gun World of Metamora.

I would also be remiss if I didn't mention our appreciation for the special help of Gary Dudas and Tiffany West. We wouldn't be able to do it without ya! A great time was had by all and hopefully we'll see more of ya for Great Lakes Match #8.

WALL-MAN #5009

Wrangler's Territorial Governor for SASS

Wolverine Rangers Club News & Range War Updates

Rockford Regulators

The August 7th match is our annual Hawaiian shoot. Normal cowboy clothing rules DO NOT apply. Wear shorts and anything Hawaiian.

No match the first Saturday of September due to Range War but we will have a match the second Saturday, September 11.

Your Pard, Diewalker

Count-Down to Range War!

With only a month or so before the Michigan State Championship, I hope you're registered! Entries submitted by July 31st will receive a free t-shirt.

This is one year you won't want to miss!

We've got a lot of new stuff this year to enhance your shooting experience. We'll have better stages, our own shotgun targets, more props, and more vendors and sponsors. *Also, a couple of folks will take home a Cimarron Open Top.*

Cimarron is one of our major sponsors this year and you will be amazed at the distance they have gone to help us. Along with Kirkpatrick Leather both are Level 4 sponsors this year. If you'd like to know more about Sponsors and Vendors, go to our website and access the 'Range War Sponsors' and 'Range War Vendors' links. On the Sponsors page there is a download you can view to see how we've positioned the Sponsors. If you haven't been to the website lately, it has been upgraded and expanded.

Door Prizes - This year we'll be doing door prizes a little differently. Because we will have more than we've had before, we are going to do a 'blind drawing'. Most every shooter packet will have a ticket in it and a table will be setup with the door prizes on it. Simply match your ticket to the door prize and take your gift home! We're hoping for a door prize for every shooter. If we don't, some won't have a ticket in their packet. We will do this in a 'double blind' manner. This will save us some time at the banquet and you'll get to use your gift during the match (maybe).

Shotgun Targets - At this time (mid-July) we have over \$2,000 for our shotgun targets! I'd like to extend a big 'Thank You' to all of you and the clubs who supported our efforts to raise this money. We'll be close to achieving our goal by Range War but doubtful we'll have it all. We have worked it out to pay for the targets but will have to pay back the difference so we'll continue the Buy-A-Miss program after Range War until it's paid back.

Right after Range War we'll have more videos available. I'm hoping to have one of 'Range War 2004' available right away!

Shooters Choice Award - This year we are going to give a trophy to the club with the best stage. Every shooter will be asked to pick their favorite stage on the last day at the last stage they shoot. The winning club will receive a trophy at the banquet. If you want your club to win you might want to see if there is anything you can do to help!

One Last Thing - Thanks to No Cattle and his computing skills we have run scenarios in every conceivable way to determine if it would take more time or not to run 12 posses. The program tells us if we do, it will give everyone a 45-minute break and we'll finish without going any later than we would by running just 10 posses without a 45-minute break! Hats off to No Cattle for taking the initiative and dedicating his time to getting this information. I, for one, will welcome a break. Especially if this hot weather stays with us!

Allegan Dan

Range War—New Event

What: Ben Hur Race (3 person team)
 When: Friday, September 3rd, 6:00pm
 Where: 200 yard range (behind main tent)
 Who: Any registered shooter

Pick your team members and participate in the balloon pony cart run. Balloons will be shot using 22 blanks while being pushed through the course. Teams will consist of one pusher, one puller and one shooter. Line up your team members early!

Wolverine Rangers—Range War Updates and Classified Ads

Looking for 'Ranger Scouts'

We're in need of people with a little time they can devote to help on some special projects with the Wolverine Rangers. If you are willing to pitch in, dedicate a little time on the phone, writing and addressing letters, or have some other skills you can donate, we need to hear from you!

As our club is growing and we have a desire to put on the most professional state match possible, we've come to the conclusion we need more help!

Some of the things we need help with are:

1. Ticket hawkers for the Buy-a-Miss program.
2. Someone to sell DVD's at matches (combined with ticket hawkin' would work, too.)
3. Phone work. We need somebody(s) we can rely on to make and follow-up with phone calls. We'll supply a phone card for this.
4. Research for future projects.
5. Help with mailing.
6. Set-up and tear-down at Range War.
7. General help with Range War—lots to do.
8. We'll need people to man tables at the clubhouse during sign-up. We'll need at least nine folks for this alone!

We are going to offer an 'Honorary Membership' to spouses who are *non-shooters* who are willing to help. All Ranger Scouts will receive a special badge in addition to their regular Range War badge identifying them as the special people they are. We won't work you too hard, we promise. But if you're willing, please contact Chili Pepper Pete, Allegan Dan or No Cattle as follows:

chili_pepper917@hotmail.com or 586-201-2778
 allegandan@charter.net or 616-510-1354
 nocattle@comcast.net or 616-361-6720

Classified Ads

Eagle Grips—checkered rosewood gunfighter grips for Ruger Bisley Vaqueros. Two sets of beautiful rosewood grips, 1/2" slimmer than factory grips provide reduced felt recoil, provide better grip and

greater control. "The grip for competitors and gamesmen alike." New from Eagle Grips \$87.80 with shipping. Own these like-new grips (used in only two matches) for \$50/set or \$95 for both sets plus \$4.50 shipping and handling. Contact Troublesome Todd at 517-646-9826 or tlstuewer@aol.com

Traditions, 1860 Army, Richards conversion, matched pair, consecutive numbers, .38 special, excellent condition. \$800 for the pair with custom engraved holsters. \$700/pair without holsters. Contact Bushy Mills at figpainter54@aol.com or 313-885-3412.

1-Set of brown oiled leather pork chop style spur straps—\$20; 1-Desantis RH cross draw holster for 4 5/8 barrel—\$45; 1-Wolff 19# Ruger Black Hawk hammer spring—\$5; 1-Vintage Brand, second gen. Colt style black rubber grips for Ruger—\$30; 1-New Eagle Grips, checkered Buffalo Horn gunfighters for Colt SAA, unfitted—\$90; 1-New Eagle Grips, American Elk for Colt SAA, unfitted—\$130; 1-Bond Arms Derringer laminated wood grips—\$25; 1 Bailey hat, Marfa 6 7/8-7, Gus crown, 4" brim, 5X quality felt, black—\$130. Shipping *IS* included. Prices are negotiable and always willing to trade. Contact Cheyenne Raider at cheyenneraider@sbcglobal.net or 734-564-8391.

ORIGINALS: 1866 Remington 41 cal. Derringer, nickel with original grips—\$500; A few boxes of 41 cal. rim fire ammo—\$30 each; .31 cal. rim fire Remington smoot 5 shot, nickel with original rubber grips—\$200; Several boxes of 31 cal. rim fire ammo—\$30 each; original Remington 12 ga. SBS with ears—\$500; 1897 12 ga. Winchester pump with a mod. choke, beautiful finish, great for cowboy skeet/trap—\$400; Beautiful 1887 lever action 12 ga. Winchester—\$900; **REPROS:** 1885 Remingtons in 45 long Colt, they have consecutive numbers and a custom action job—\$800; Original three screw Ruger 22 cal. single-six with wood grips—\$250; Colt Scout 22 cal.—\$250. Contact Garrett he Kid at 517-521-4002.

Wolverine Rangers—Other Important News

Wolverine Rangers Office

Just a reminder that the Wolverine Rangers office will be **CLOSED** September 1 - 6, 2004 as our secretary/treasurer will be at Range War.

Membership Shoot

Howdy to all of the Wolverine Rangers. We are pleased that so many of you were able to shoot the Membership Shoot at Rockford this year. I want to congratulate Katie Callahan on her splendid display of speed and accuracy as she was the winner of the All Around Cowgirl and Forty-Niner Lady. Congratulations also go out to Bad River Marty (Mr. Katie Callahan) for winning All Around Cowboy, Gunfighter and Overall main match winner.

Congratulations to all the category winners — Traditional—Fireball, Traditional Lady—Lara Cross Draw, Forty-Niner—Dodge City Dick, Modern—Drover Dan, Modern Lady—Slow Hand Sue, Duelist—Allegan Dan, Duelist Senior—Lucky Lennie, Frontier Cartridge—No Buk Chuck, Duelist Frontier Cartridge—Hondo Dan, Frontiersman—Chili Pepper Pete, Junior Cowgirl—Krazy Horse Kate, Classic Cowboy—Steamboat Kid, Senior—One Son of a Gun, Senior Lady—Cactus Kay, and Elder Statesman—Ringo Wiggins. The competition was fierce, friendly, but fierce. Checkout all the main match and side match scores on the website.

Special thanks go out to Cactus Kay, Charlie Tintype, Deuce Stevens, Diewalker, Drover Dan, KJ, Lavender Lou, Mail Order Annie, Sue Barksdale (Mrs. Diewalker), Tucson Stu, our Brass Rats, and everyone else who provided support.

The weather was warm and the twenty-minute sprinkle of rain didn't seem to discourage anyone. It was a long day for those who decided to shoot all of the side events, especially those that tried our version of cowboy skeet and then stuck around for a regular (almost) line of skeet. It was worth it. I hope that a good time was had by all. I will see Y'all down the trail.

No Cattle

Pictures of Rockford matches are posted on www.pbbase.com/sharon1116 Check 'em out!

West Walker Rangers

Twenty-five shooters had a great time at West Walker on August 1, the day following the Membership Shoot. Shooter fees have now changed to \$15 for men (lunch included), and women and juniors shoot free with their paid lunch. Lunch is served in a beautiful air conditioned clubhouse.

West Walker will not have a shoot in September due to Range War but have added three additional Sunday dates for 2004 — October 3, November 7, and December 5.

The club is located northwest of Grand Rapids on Leonard just west of M11 (Wilson). Contact Lucky Lennie at 616-891-8376 or Two Rig A Tony at 616-891-6917 for more information.

CLUB CONTACTS

Rodeo Rode	Breckenridge	989-205-0096
One Son of a Gun	Central Lake	231-544-2461
Scholfield Ranger	Durand	810-629-6494
Lucky Lennie	Grand Rapids	616-891-8376
Texas John Critter	Ionia	269-506-7325
Wall-Man	Lapeer	248-628-7424
Deadeye Dakota	Midland	989-689-3891
Cheyenne Raider	Plymouth	734-564-8391
Border Town Hombre	Port Huron	519-336-1690
Diewalker	Rockford	616-837-0428
Bad River Marty	Saginaw	989-585-3292
Yoopers Fred	Sault Ste. Marie	906-635-9700
Mackinaw Kid	Utica	248-852-0351

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Wolverine Rangers—Articles of Interest

Travelin' with EMM by Faygo Kid

Laporte Lil has been after me to write about the shoots that EMM (*Eleanor Jewel, Mike Fink and Moe Gunns*) and I have been attending. So, here goes. Back in March when most cowboys and cowgirls are wishing it would warm up a bit so they could get outside and shoot (now we want it to cool down a bit so we can shoot without sweatin'), Eleanor and I packed up the wagon and headed for Texas. A stop in Arkansas to visit kin folk and friends made the trip going down a little more relaxing.

Our first stop in Texas was Comancheria Days, the Texas State Championship. This shoot is held just south of Fredericksburg with The Texican Rangers as host club and is located on the rolling terrain of the Stieler Ranch. The theme for the shoot was taken from the movie Tombstone with every kind of scenario from "crawfished a bet" to "vendetta trail". Eleanor and I were assigned to a posse with a great bunch of shooters from Louisiana, Texas, and Colorado that included three world champions, but we didn't know it at the time.

Thursday was side match day with Friday and Saturday main match days. As I mentioned, the shoot theme was Tombstone and with the props and natural terrain some of the stages made you feel like you were in the movie..... "Why, No Buk, you look like someone just walked over your grave." The targets were big and up close but each stage had a lot of movement so you had to think about that also. The Texican Rangers helped you out by having each shooting position numbered so you just moved from number to number to shoot. I've got to learn to count past 3!

Eleanor won the Lady's Big Bore Lever Action side match. As for me, let's just say Texas has a lot of good 49ers. The Texican Rangers put on a real nice banquet and we won Q.T. Curls a nice gun cart in a raffle.

The weather was nice with the temperatures around 70 but with a light misty fog in the early mornings. Fredericksburg is a tourist haven with a lot of nice

shops similar to Frankenmuth.

Our next stop was San Antonio home of The Alamo, Buckhorn Saloon, the Riverwalk, Market Square, a Tandy Leather shop, and lots of antique shops. We had a couple of days before heading back east to shoot Trailhead so we managed to visit all the above and lighten our wallets a little while filling the wagon up with some more goods. You have to understand that while we're having fun shooting and making new pards, the wagon gets lighter with the lead that's being removed so you have to replace it with something (leather & collectables) or it just doesn't ride the same.

Wednesday morning found us heading east and after a few hours of riding and antiquing (Eleanor just can't let one go by) we arrived in Columbus. After checking into the bunkhouse and a little lunch we rode out to Gunsmoke just to refresh my memory on which trail we'd be using the next couple days to get to the Trailhead range. Upon arriving at Gunsmoke, home of the Texas Historical Shootist Society (THSS) who hosts Trailhead, we wandered through the range and saw that they had added a nice new fort and gallows since the last time we were here back a few years ago.

Over on vendors row (lots of vendors here) we ran into Cowtown Katy and Klondike, Tom and Linda (laser engravers), Bill (clothing vendor) winner of the WRRW 2003 Spirit of the Game and half owner of the "Faygo Express" (the stage from Range War 2003 fame). We visited with these fine folks for awhile and then headed back to town for dinner before retiring for the night.

Thursday was the day for registration and side matches which we gladly left these fine folks some of our Michigan lead.

While at the Texas State Shoot we had met and shot with Calvin N. Hobbs and his lovely wife Barbary Coast, two of the world champions. They were here at Gunsmoke to shoot also so we sat and visited with them some more and Calvin gave us some hints on how to practice and shoot better. Now all we have to do is find the time to do it!

Wolverine Rangers—Articles of Interest

The next day we were up early and raring to go. Ahhh, main match day, posse up, shootin', movin', and more lead out of the wagon. At the range by 8:00am for the opening ceremonies then on to our first stage.

Now, believe this or not, here we are a couple Yankees from Michigan and they're asking for someone to be posse marshal. No one volunteers, so the stage marshal picks the middle person on the posse list. Yep, you guessed it, Faygo Kid. Now, I explain to these pards that I'm from Michigan, deaf in one ear and can't hear out of the other, and they just say "that's okay". I just shook my head and Eleanor couldn't quit laughing. So, for two days of laughin' and shootin' the joke from stage-to-stage was how a bunch of Texans let a deaf Yankee lead them around!

The shoot's theme was taken from Open Range and worked real well with the town these folks have built here. The shoot was the direct opposite from the Texas State Shoot. You still had a little movement, but the targets were small and at further distances. If you didn't take that extra second to aim real well you missed. The average misses per shooter per stage were 3 or 4, with as many as 11 to 16. Even with all the missing it was a well run and organized match.

We had a great time and the banquet was a thousand times better than the last time in 2001. Led, Annie, Doc, Kay, Lennie, Country Girl, Chili, R.J., Lady, K.C., Micky, Secondhand and Lil, ya'll remember that one, don't ya?

As usual, before we knew it, it was time to head north and home. We had a great two weeks of vacation, got to see some friends in Arkansas, make some new friends in Texas, seen some of this great country we hadn't seen before, shoot two really nice shoots, and got to leave Michigan's winter weather for some southern spring weather at a time of the year most of us can use it. So, if you want to take a late winter vacation, paint your wagon and head south to Texas in March.

Upon our return from the spring like southern

weather we found that Mother Nature was still playing winter here in Michigan. But, the days and weeks went by quickly and before we knew it April was here and the start of a new CAS season here in Michigan and northern Ohio. With weather permitting, EMM and I hooked up Eleanor Jewel's Emporium and started making it to some shoots.

By the time May got here the CAS season was in full swing. With most of the traveling Wolverine Rangers back in Michigan it was good to see all the old friends and start making some new ones.

The 3rd weekend of May found EMM and I in Rochester, Ohio for the Firelands Peacemakers annual three-day shoot. This is a small club about an hour southwest of Cleveland but they know how to put on good matches and average somewhere between 80 and 100 shooters every time. For this three-day event they had a total of 86 shooters.

Registration started Friday at noon as well as the side matches, which you could shoot till you got tired or ran out of cartridges, whichever came first. Unfortunately, Mother Nature didn't get the showers and rain out of her system in April and we had a light, but steady rain all day Saturday.

It finally let up around 6:00pm after the cowgirls and cowboys had gone and found hot showers and returned dressed in their finest for the evening's dinner and the drawing of a lot of nice door prizes. To name just a few... range bags, Wild Bunch books, a pocket pistol, bullets, shotgun shells, gift certificates, and the grand prize a Stoger Coachgun. I've got to mention the dinner these folks put on. It consisted of all kinds of pasta, you picked what you wanted and the cooks mixed and heated it right there for you.

Sunday proved to be much drier shooting conditions and the remaining four stages were shot without a hitch. While the powers-to-be were figuring out who done what, some of us hadn't shot enough, so we proceeded to do a little long range shooting.

After all the figuring was done, Eleanor finished 3rd

Wolverine Rangers—Articles of Interest

in Ladies, Mike Fink 2nd in Frontiersmen, Moe Gunns 1st in Senior, and I finished 1st in 49er along with winning the five shot BB single shot, and lever action BB.

These folks put on an up close and personal shoot, with moving and thinking in between. Due to the weather the last couple years the membership voted to move the shoot to July in 2005. It wouldn't hurt to keep this one in mind for next year.

Memorial Day weekend found EMM & I at the SASS Pennsylvania State Shoot. This shoot was hosted by El Posse Grande Cowboys of North Mountain Sportsmen's Association just northeast of Williamsport. As with most State Championships and 2-day shoots, the day before the main match was for shopping & side matches or was that side matches & shopping???? Anyway, we done both all day. Yep, for a small fee you could shoot, and shoot, and shoot some more. They had all the usual side matches, plus one they called the Boloney shoot. This consisted of a fake boloney hanging by about a quarter inch rope at 25 yards away. Now, for one whole dollar you got three shots to cut the rope in half and if you were lucky enough to do so, you won a ring of boloney. Eleanor and I didn't try this as we were too busy minding the Emporium but Moe & Mike were up for the game. Moe laid down his buck and taking careful aim missed just to the right all three times. Ya'll know Mike Fink is a Soot Lord and doesn't want to have to clean them shootin' irons of his any more than he has to. So, Moe lends him his rifle to use and tells him to aim just to the left. Now, Mike not being a rookie in the use of rifles, pays up his dollar and aims right at the rope (or thereabouts) and you got it----One Shot----One Boloney! Moe now calls him "Ole Boloney Killer" and you can too if you want, I'll let you. Hahaha!

As for the main match, pard, let me tell ya, EMM and I have traveled around a lot in the last couple years doing this cowboy thing and I've come to the conclusion that there isn't any bad cowboy shoots. The sport is just getting bigger all the time and the clubs everywhere, here in MI, down in OH, TX

and, yes, in PA are putting on great shoots. These clubs are putting thousands of dollars into building cowboy ranges. It's just great and I just can't get enough of it.

Okay, enough of that, as for the Pennsylvania State Shoot, 10 main stages, six on Saturday, and four on Sunday. Good props, targets not real close, but good size, lines to say; a little movement; and something to think about while shootin' (sweep inside-out, outside-in). Oh, ya, did I mention NO RAIN!!!!!! Another great Saturday night dinner, which was held at the local Fire Dept. All the BBQ chicken and fixin's you could eat, nice little (quiet) western band, 50/50, and some raffles. Did I mention dessert!!!! Homemade pies, cakes, and get me a glass of milk (as big as my HAT). You know what I think is nice about some of these shoots? It's how the whole club seems to be involved. At this one it seemed the whole town was.

After all the metal had stopped ringing and the smoke (Mike's) had cleared, Moe, Mike, & I had lost the team event by 3/100th of a second. I got to tell you, I haven't seen Mike cover 50 yards that fast since we were youngins. And it took some young ones to whoop us too. I'm still grinnin'! Now back to when all was said and done. Mike Fink finished 1st in Frontiersmen and Pocket Pistol, and I finished 1st in 49er, speed double barrel, LR-BB lever, and finished 2nd overall.

Now, as I've said before and I guess I'm saying it again, keep this one in mind for next year. Lots of good hotels within 25 minutes and lots and lots of room for the campers.

After packing up the Emporium we had a nice dinner, then a good night's rest. Memorial Day found us traveling west, with Eleanor and I stopping in Pittsburg and spending the day and night with some kin folk, and Moe and Mike headed back to Michigan.

Tuesday morning found Eleanor and I travelin' westward to Piqua, Ohio for the SASS Ohio State Championship.....

**** To be continued in the October Epitaph ****



WOLVERINE RANGERS
3329 Rogue River Road
Belmont, MI 49306

**A pair of six-shooters beats
a pair of sixes -- Belle Starr**

RO II Class Offered

Lucky Lennie will be teaching an RO II class on Thursday, September 2 at the Blue Water Sportsman's Club (the day prior to Range War). Class will start at 1:00pm and will continue until at least 4:00pm (maybe longer).

Class fee is \$25 per person, you must have already taken the RO I course, be a current SASS member, and have been Cowboy Action Shooting at least six months. If you are interested please contact Lucky Lennie ASAP to reserve a place. Advance registration is needed as you will have required reading prior to the class.

This class is great for **ALL** cowboy shooters. It is a must for anyone involved in putting on shoots, writing scenarios, working as a timer operator, etc. An orange RO II pin is issued upon completion.

Only a few RO II classes are offered in Michigan and class size is limited so contact Lennie at 616-891-8376 or crifle@iserve.net PRONTO!!

Pickin' Up Pards

Welcome to new members Bean-counter Slim, Billy MaGoon, Bull Freeman, Cool Hand Carl, Dusty Wells, Hondo Dan, Hondo Sue, Little Dan Dawson, Pine Creek Jack, Shoulda Dun Gun, Deadeye Dakota, Hot Shot Ron, Pennsylvania Dave, J.D. McCall, Colt McAllister, Three Gun Cole, Cheyenne Raider, Two Rig A Tony, Hot Skillet and Stove Pipe Wells. We are pleased you have joined the Wolverine Rangers!