

Wolverine Rangers' Epitaph



Volume 7, Issue 6

December 2004

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Howdy Rangers. How many of you are starting to suffer withdrawal symptoms? Things are winding down as far as shooting opportunities are concerned. But there are still several clubs shooting and I hope that you are taking advantage of that fact. For those of you who don't, keep in mind that most clubs shooting in the winter have the philosophy 'Warm First, Cowboy Second' as far as dress is concerned.

The Wolverine Rangers Board is hard at work preparing for WRRW 2005. The questionnaires that were filled out by Range War 2004 attendees have been reviewed and the comments compiled. I can assure you that every comment is being considered and we hope to make WRRW 2005 the best ever.

We are forming a committee to oversee Range War operations. Volunteers will be solicited as there are numerous opportunities to contribute. We will need set-up and take-down help, posse leaders and their deputies, registration and door prize distribution assistance, scenario writers, folks to run side matches, and too many others to mention. Remember, we need a lot of help to put on a great match.

A Bylaws Committee was created by the Board to review our current bylaws and suggest revisions.

About the time that you are reading this we will have a contingent of Wolverine Rangers attending the SASS convention in Las Vegas. Dakota Doc, our Territorial Governor, will be there along with Cactus Kay. Wolverine Wrangler, Lady Bluebird, Kid Al Fred, Lady Lightning, Secondhand Jack, Laporte Lil, and Sunvale Pete are just a few others who are planning to attend. I'm sure that they will let us know what interesting things occur and I for one will try not to let my jealousy show too much. Have fun y'all and for those who indulge in the various games of chance, I wish you the best of luck.

I received some interesting information from The Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation regarding contributions to that organization from Range War activities. The letter reads, in part: "The total money raised by the Wolverine Rangers at Range War since 2002 is \$7,082. The cost of the five AEDs and training was \$10,325. The Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation contributed the balance of the money to fund these five AED's." I also received a very nice letter from Rhonda A. Provoast, Superintendent of the Hale Area Schools, thanking the Rangers for their contributions. I wish to extend my personal thanks to all of you for your help and contributions to this very worthwhile activity.

On a more personal note, Mail Order Annie and I wish to extend our very best wishes to each and every one of you for a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy and prosperous New Year.

Happy Trails, No Cattle

Hastings Double Barrel Gang

Our last shoot of the year is over. Thank you to the 26 participants who were patient with me during my first match. I think everything went fine with the exception of the printer problem. I want to thank Allegan Dan for trying to fix the "technical problems" and my wife (Makin' Mischief) and son (lil Slippery) for helping me set-up on Saturday in the dark. The shooting was fast and up close. When the results were tallied we had eight clean shooters. Remarkable! Way to go guys! Top winners were as follows: Three Gun Cole – Traditional and overall winner, J.R. Hammer – Senior, Allegan Dan – Duelist, Card Shark Charlie – 49er, Drover Dan – Modern, Snareman – Gunfighter, South Paw Draw – Junior, Makin' Mischief – Ladies Traditional, lil Slippery – Buckaroo.

Merry Christmas to everyone and we'll see you next March in Hastings.

Slippery Pete

Wolverine Rangers Club News

Johnson Creek Regulators

Remember our first and only shoot of the year will be held on Saturday, December 4.

Cheyenne Raider

Lapeer County Wranglers

The main things going on here at Lapeer concern our Winter League which we run during the months of December thru March. We do not have any scheduling problems or anything of that nature. We will be having our usual second Sunday of the month shoots for each of those above named months. The problem is in numbers of shooters. Never thought I would ever discourage anyone from attending any of our shoots, but we do have a problem that I think we have solved by putting our heads together and coming up with a plan.

We're looking at 30 shooters as being the ideal number for each of our monthly matches. We plan to divide the number of shooters into two posses and have one posse outside shooting while the other posse relaxes inside the pistol building until the first group is done with its stage. Then the posses would trade places. Group #1 relaxes inside while group #2 is outside shooting. We feel this will eliminate the problems we had last year with too many people outside at one time. Of course, this means no gun carts will be permitted in the pistol building. We also would like anyone who shoots to bring just their uncased long guns into the building. Long guns will be placed in gun racks we are constructing that will be on the outside wall by the pistol range. There will also be space for your ammo boxes just below the new gun racks.

The question has come up as to how do we know if we are within the group of 30 shooters or are possibly #'s 31, 32, etc.? As I said before, we think 30 is an ideal number of shooters but that does not mean we are going to tell #'s 31, 32, etc. to turn around and go home. One suggestion was made to let me know you plan to attend the shoot by calling or emailing me. Another possible solution would

be to create a third posse and simply rotate with one posse shooting and two being inside the pistol building. In any event, I'm sure we'll be able to handle the situation safely and keep everything moving so that we are through shooting by 2:00pm at the latest.

The Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club has also just held their annual "scramble for shooting dates" meeting and we have locked in our 2005 schedule.

Wall-Man

West Walker Rangers

What started out to be an introduction to Cowboy Action Shooting has turned another club into offering regularly scheduled matches. Lucky Lennie was asked by West Walker to put on three matches (June, July and August) introducing the West Walker Sportsmen's Club to CAS. The events went off with such success that the club asked that the matches continue. The club's position is that it wanted to offer another shooting sport in addition to the many currently being offered.

The club has a new clubhouse, offers meals, ample space for parking and designated shooting areas. The club is not closed down when CAS is going on like so many other clubs. The long-range plan for the club is to have permanent props, etc. for CAS. It is very promising.

Additional matches were held in October and November with equal success. The plan now is to continue with a January, February, and March shoot giving shooters one more place to shoot during the winter.

We want to give a special thanks to Deuce Stevens, Diewalker, Dakota Doc, Lone Canuck, and No Cattle for assisting in either set-up or take-down at the various matches and to KJ for her assistance with registration at the November shoot. Thanks again for your support.

Lucky Lennie and Two Rig a Tony

Wolverine Rangers Club News

Eagleville Cowboys

The Eagleville Cowboys 1st annual match was held in September. For our first attempt at a full two-day shoot it went exceedingly well. On Saturday there were five stages starting after the safety meeting at 9:30. The posses were spread out around Eagleville so they were not shooting near another posse. Birdshot Betty and several volunteer helpers had some great grub after each posse finished with three stages. When five stages were done the cowboys set-up seven side matches around town. Everyone's first time was for record, then "I Bought It's" went on until almost dark. Side match results were: Pistol cal rifle - Lightning Wayne, Long range pistol - One Son of a Gun, Derringer - Dirty Dancing with Wolves, Pistol - Lightning Wayne, .22 cal pistol and rifle - One Son of a Gun, Shotgun - Lightning Wayne, Pocket Pistol - One Son of a Gun. The side matches raised almost \$300 for the Kimberly Ann Gillary Foundation.

Sunday morning, another beautiful day, was stages six through ten. Some interesting stages were shot with slingshots, dynamite, and a chicken (you had to be there). After all the stages were shot the cowboys and cowgirls gathered at the falling headstones for a "one-on-one" shoot-off. Ask T.N. Tina how she did (she was ahead in time and shot the wrong last target!) There were door prizes galore and special Eagles Revenge trophies (cowboys) had been made by Birdshot Betty. The new special takedown gun cart was won by a happy Rusty Bolt because he had the other half of the playing card drawn. Category top shooters were: High 49er and High overall - Lightning Wayne, Classic Cowboy - Rusty Bolt, Duelist - Sutter Mountain Iron Man, Elder Statesman - Fishbone, Gunfighter - Andy Horshurodinon, Ladies - Echo Annie, Ladies Modern - T.N. Tina, Ladies Traditional - Crack Shot Fannie, Modern - Bar-Gun Hunter, Senior - One Son of a Gun, Traditional - Red Dead Reverend. This was a great bunch of Cow-Shooters, along with some Bull-Shooters, and quite a few spectators. Until Eagles Revenge comes next year, we'll be doing one day

shoots on the 4th Saturday of the month beginning in April.

The Eagleville Cowboys had a saying during all of 2004, "that it never rained in Eagleville". Well, we can't say that anymore as we durn shure got drowned in October. But it was amazing, not a shooter hesitated to jump up to the loading table as the rain kept coming harder and harder.

After three stages we all headed for Birdshot Betty's hot bean soup and other trimmins. We were all under the roof and it didn't let up, so we took a vote and ended the shoot at that point (three stages). Sorry, Marlin Matt and all the black powder shooters. They wanted to shoot in the rain. Top shooters for the October match were: 49er - Lightning Wayne, Classic Cowboy - Two Knives Trader, Duelist - Sutter Mountain Iron Man, Elder Statesman - Fishbone, Gunfighter - Kewadin Kid, Ladies - T.N. Tina, Modern - Bar-Gun-Hunter, Senior - Fly Speck Billy, and Traditional - Red Dead Reverend.

There were lots of nice year-end awards and also door prizes. Several interested persons came to watch and pitched in working the loading table and as spotters. Maybe we gottem hooked!

That was our last shoot for this year as it's difficult picking up casings and hulls in the snow. We had a loyal bunch of cowboys and cowgirls here at every shoot and quite a few of the wranglers from around the state showed up once in a while. It was a good year, as Frank Sinatra used to sing. Y'all have a great winter wherever it might be.

One Son of a Gun

Sucker Creek Saddle and Gun Club

The Sucker Creek Saddle and Gun Club held their first match on October 9th. We had some rain on the Friday before the match so things got a little wet while we were setting up and I think that it kept some shooters from coming to the match the next day, although we ended up having a beautiful day for the shoot. It was a great match and every-

Wolverine Rangers Club News

one enjoyed shooting six brand new stages. The overall top shooters in each category were: Bad River Marty - Gunfighter, Scholfield Ranger - 49er, Ethan Callahan - Traditional, Katie Callahan - Ladies 49er, Cree Vicar Dave - Senior, Laporte Lil - Ladies Duelist, Kid Al Fred - Classic Cowboy, Baldy Bill - Senior Duelist, Hondo Dan - Frontier Cartridge, Sleepy Jim - Elder Statesman, Roxy LaRue - Ladies Traditional

Special "thanks" to the generous couples that donated money, time and effort to make this match a success—Kid Al Fred and Lady Lightening, Wolverine Wrangler and Lady Bluebird, Square Shake Lake and Spring Valley Cathy, Jim and Kelly Fabiano, and Rodeo Rode. Thanks also to the many others that helped during the match and the homemade stew served for lunch was delicious!

We'll be shooting a match every second Saturday of the month from May through October in 2005.

Wolverine Wrangler

DSC Rocky River Regulators

The Rocky River Regulators have been extremely busy this past fall. We've repaired the existing registration building, completed the boardwalk with ramps, and are now in the planning stages for a brand new building which will have heat, electricity, an indoor eating area, and should be completed by June 2005. By next summer we will also have a courthouse and a general store added to our town. Come watch our progress into the 19th century!

We have also had three very exciting shoots the last couple of months. In October, we had our annual Chili Cook-Off and a new bowling pin side match. We had a rootin' tootin' good time! The side match "strikes" everyone as fun, no one is "spared". We will be repeating this side event again. Our Thanksgiving Shoot and silent auction was held on November 21. Match results were as follows: Top overall and 49er - R.J. Law, Senior - Moe Gunns, Traditional - Deaf Kid, Gunfighter -

Andy Horshurodinon, Duelist - Beerbelly Willie, Frontier Cartridge Duelist - Chili Pepper Pete, Frontiersman - Mike Fink, Modern - Two Shot Tinly, Classic Cowboy - Steamboat Kid, Ladies Traditional - Perry Morter, Frontier Cartridge - Goatlips, Ladies Modern - Palamino Sue, and Junior - Wee Willy. Guns and grub, it doesn't get any better than this.

'Twas the week before Christmas and all through the town,..... Bullets were done flying and targets knocked down..... All the cowboys were sleeping all snug in their bedrolls,..... With visions of new rifles, shotguns and pistols.

December 19th is our last shoot of the year. Come join us one and all. As Tiny Rick would say, "God Bless Us Everyone, YEEEHAAA!" We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season. Mark your calendar on January 2nd for the New Year's Shoot and try out your new toys!

Happy Trails,
Leather and Lace

Timbertown Marshals



Name the Marshal. Come up with the best name for the Timbertown Marshal cowboy mascot and win three free shoots in 2005. Submit entries before December 31, 2004 to Grizzly Bear Pete at 989-631-6658.

Our November match had only five shooters and we shot indoors (we plan to shoot all our winter matches indoors).... although we thought it may have been warmer outside. Nevertheless, spirits were warm and the coffee and chocolate were hot (Midland does *not* offer lunch).

Shooting was done in pairs—fastest shooter won the stage or the shooter with the fewest misses won, where, in the case of a tie, the fastest won. The winner in each stage earned 50 points and handicaps were measured out as well. Everyone had to shoot a smiley face with two eyes and eight teeth. We decided every face needed a dentist!

Wolverine Rangers Club News, etc.

When all was said and done, Beerbelly Willie had the best time winning three free shoots at Timbertown plus turkeys were given out. Last month's certificates were handed out and those we have been collecting through the summer will be mailed.

Midland will continue to shoot all year long the 3rd Saturday every month with registration between 10:00 and 10:45am. The December match will be timed (we might throw in one pair shooting), certificates will be awarded, and Christmas awards for the top five shooters and to the MIS (Most Important Shooter..... last place).

Dakota Duchess

Saginaw Six-Shooters

Hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving. At the end of the day, did you feel as stuffed as that old turkey? We sure did.

Speakin' about food, the Saginaw Six-Shooters held their potluck and annual planning meeting on October 24th. We enjoyed a lot of fine grub and after the meal our cowboys and cowgals came up with some exciting ideas for 2005. We'll be settin' up a display again at the Midland Gun Show on April 2 & 3. We plan to have an actual stage front there. We figure that should spark some interest in those curious pards walking by. Our goal is to tell them everything they want to know about Cowboy Action Shooting but were afraid to ask.

We're also planning on three match shoots in 2005. They will be on the fourth Saturday.... May 28, July 23 and September 24. We plan to have some new and exciting targets and scenarios along with Bad River Marty's big and up-close ones. We're also holding our Wednesday night practices beginning April 20th at 5:30 p.m. These are lots of fun and a good way to sharpen up those shooting skills. And, of course, the heckling is an added bonus for those black-powder pards.

Our thoughts are now on Christmas with all the decorations gettin' us into that holiday spirit. We're sure the cowboys of the old west struggled

with daily hardships, yet somewhere along the trail we're certain they felt a deep appreciation for what they had. Come this time of year it's easy to get too rushed, looking and buying and doing. We tend to forget what Christmas is all about. It truly is a time for givin' and sharin' and helpin' others but we need to do it for the right reasons. Let's spread a little bit of the "cowboy way" out there and see what good things happen.

For all the Saginaw Six-Shooters, we wish you and yours a very Merry and Blessed Christmas. And as the New Year rides in, remember to live life... give it your best shot.

Ratiz Callahan and Bad River Marty

Alias Change

Let it be known that from this day forward Deacon Pat will now be known as Ambling Rogue.

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 |
| Slippery Pete | Hastings | 269-838-6944 |
| Texas John Critter | Ionia | 269-506-7325 |
| Wall-Man | Lapeer | 248-628-7424 |
| Dakota Duchess | 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 |
| Yooper Fred | Sault Ste. Marie | 906-635-9700 |
| Mackinaw Kid | Utica | 248-852-0351 |

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Wolverine Rangers—Miscellaneous

Classified Ads

A) .44 Mag./Spec. Marlin Cowboy rifle with action job and Magic Spring kit, \$450 firm. B) 2 Ruger Super Blackhawk's, 5 1/2", both have trigger job and Magic Spring kits, \$375/ea. or \$700/pr. firm. C) Stoger 20 ga. Uplander, 26" barrels, honed chambers and manual safety, \$350 firm. D) Henry lever action .22LR (not Goldenboy), \$250 firm. E) 4 Dillon 100 round boxes of .44 Mag. reloads available for the Super Blackhawk's or Marlin using 4.5 gr. Red Dot and 205 gr. Meister bullets and Starline brass. F) 4 Dillon 100 round boxes of .44 Spec. reloads available for the Super Blackhawk's or Marlin using 4.5 gr. Red Dot and 205 gr. Meister bullets and Starline brass. G) .44 Mag./Spec. RCBS dies w/Lee factory crimp. H) At least 15 boxes of Winchester and Remington 20 ga. Ammo, not reloads. All the above items included in a special "Take It All" firm price of \$1600. Contact Wall-Man at wall_man5009@hotmail.com or 248-628-7424.

Pair of consecutive numbered Cimarron Lightning's, 38 special. Great for smaller hands. Includes lots of 38 short Colt brass, \$700/pr. Contact Billy Magoon at scotkarnd@aol.com or 616-656-3329.

A) 4 Ruger Vaquero/Blackhawk round hammer struts w/17# Wolff spring, \$25/ea. B) 2 Smith Enterprise replacement bolts for 2nd/3rd gen. Colt, \$40/ea. C) 2 Ruger Vaquero/Blackhawk Wolff 18# hammer spring, \$10/ea. D) 2 Ruger Vaquero/Blackhawk Wolff 19# hammer spring, \$10/ea. E) 1 Ruger Single Six Magic Spring 17# hammer spring, \$15. F) 1 Ruger Vaquero/Blackhawk free spin pawl, \$35 G) 1 Ruger Vaquero Black Micarta birds head grips, \$100 H) 1 Ruger Vaquero/Blackhawk rosewood grips (nice grain), \$40. All parts listed are new in original package. All prices include shipping. Contact Cheyenne Raider at cheyenneraider@sbcglobal.net or 734-564-8391.

Lee Loader, model Lee90012, 20 gauge, \$25. Contact Dodge City Duke at 586-792-1130 or tomfran5@juno.com

Hanging Up My Guns

Hi, fellow shooters. I have decided to hang up my guns for a couple of years and go cruising on my sailboat to the Caribbean. I'm in Beaufort, North Carolina (as of October 28) and heading south. If you wish to contact me via e-mail you can do so at sailingdream@pocketmail.com One request however..... no forwards please!

Attica Jack

SASS TV Series

It was nice seeing some of our Wolverine Rangers in the SASS series that aired Sunday, November 7. Filmed at Guns of August this past summer, familiar faces were Doc Roy L Pain, Miss Misery, The Lady, Colt McAllister and Red Beard Bandit.

SASS has taped various matches around the country for this series. If you haven't already tuned in, they're aired on Sunday and Monday nights on the Outdoor Life Network (OLN). Check 'em out!

A Sport for the Whole Family

As our children grow older and become involved in activities away from home, it becomes harder for us to spend quality time as a family. It's an endless round of drop off, pickup, and fast food dinners.

Our family has found a sport we can all participate in and enjoy together, Cowboy Action Shooting. CAS has given us an opportunity to spend quality time together and provide a little chance for parent/child competition. We all like to see our children do well in competitions, it's just hard as a parent when they beat us so easily.

The Wolverine Rangers and all of our Michigan clubs have done a nice job helping us introduce our children to this unique sport. I can't think of any shooting sport that is as safe or fun to participate in. Safety is such an important factor for anyone to learn when it comes to handling guns, and the cowboys/cowgirls we shoot with have set excellent examples. Our family has learned a lot from a fantastic group of people. (next page)

Wolverine Rangers—Miscellaneous

This sport can be fun for all ages. How many of us grew up using our imaginations to fight it out with the bad guys that were taking over the backyard? It's nice to be able to use those scenarios once again as an adult. I know our children get a kick out of it as much as we do. I think it's important to introduce our families to sports like CAS. Even if you don't shoot regularly it's nice to participate together.

Thank you to all the shooters out there who have made this such a great experience. I hope to see more families participating in the future.

Lara Cross Draw

Notice to Electronic Epitaph Recipients

For those of you that receive the Epitaph via the Wolverine Rangers website, there are two possible reasons why you might not receive an e-mail notification that the current Epitaph is available: 1) your mailbox is full, or 2) the e-mail address you provided the Wolverine Rangers secretary is no longer valid.

The Epitaph is published six times per year at the first of every even numbered month. So please keep a tidy mailbox and remember to notify the secretary at wolverinerangers@yahoo.com whenever your e-mail address changes.

If you do not receive an Epitaph notification e-mail and would like to, please check to see if one of the above two reasons is the answer and then take appropriate action. The W.R. secretary and the Epitaph editor can no longer investigate and correct the situation when e-mails are returned "undeliverable". Thank you for your cooperation.

Laporte Lil, editor

Internet Service Provider

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Respectfully, Chiricahua Mama

Gillary Foundation

Following is a reprint of the presentation of an AED to the Durand Area High School.

The Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation will present to Durand Area High School an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on Friday, October 29, 2004 at 12:00 noon in the high school library. The donation is made possible through the generosity of the Michigan Cowboy Action Shooters. The money was raised at the Michigan Cowboy Action Shooting Championship sponsored by the Wolverine Rangers. The donation of the AED is in remembrance of Kimberly Anne Gillary who died as a result of cardiac arrest suffered during a water polo game at Birmingham Groves High School on April 1, 2000. The Foundation's purpose is to donate an AED and training to every high school in Michigan and to advocate cardiac screening and testing of all high school student athletes so that other students don't have to die from a sudden cardiac arrest.

Presenters: **Sue Gillary (aka The Lady)**
and Tom Perna

Format: Heart Attack vs. Cardiac Arrest
(45 minutes) Introduction to the AED
History and Goal of the Foundation

In a time when homeland security and creating a safe environment for our students to learn is a num-

Riders in The Sky

On Saturday, November 27 a few of the cowboys and their cowgals had the opportunity to attend a performance by Riders in the Sky, a singin' cowboy band, at the Midland Center For The Arts. In their 27th year, they played not only traditional western music and Christmas carols but a few unusual renditions such as Dueling Faces (yup, faces!), Phantom of the Chuck Wagon and The Night Before Christmas (and Saint Nick hadn't had a flu shot). It was a great performance! If they are ever in an area near you, plan on attending to enjoy some great cowboy entertainment.

Laporte Lil



WOLVERINE RANGERS
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Happy Holidays!

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ber one priority, the following have been invited to attend the presentation:

Mike Rogers, U.S. Representative

Larry Julian, (represented by Richard Ball), State Representative

Mike Tanner, Chief of Police

Bill Jones (aka Baldy Bill), Wolverine Rangers (Baldy Bill chose Durand High School)

Tom Wright, previous Trauma Coordinator at Hurley when we began offering First Aid and CPR in the high school curriculum. Supporter of the programs and parent, Williams Gunsight and Outfitters

Plus many representatives from the healthcare industry and school representatives, administrators, and board members.

Durand Area High School has a 25 year history of offering American Red Cross First Aid and CPR programs to their students and the community. We were one of the first schools in the state to have offered the programs as individual courses in our curriculum. Our offerings have ranged from Com-

munity First Aid and CPR to Emergency Response and CPR for the Professional Rescuer. We have offered students the opportunity to take State Approved Medical First Responder Classes. At this time we are an authorized provider for American Red Cross First Aid and CPR programs. We are also becoming a training satellite of Memorial Healthcare for American Heart First Aid and CPR programs. This past spring our coaches were trained in First Aid and CPR by Memorial Healthcare staff, Ken Roost, PA and Sonia Lepeak, RN. On June 3rd and 4th, 2004, with assistance once again from the staff of Memorial Healthcare, the staff at Durand Area High School was allowed to use their professional development time to be trained in American Heart Adult CPR and AED. Creating a safer environment for community, students, and staff is a number one priority at DHS.

Thank you, Baldy Bill, for doing an outstanding job of selecting a school that places the highest value on the safety of their students, staff and visitors.