

Wolverine Rangers' Epitaph



Volume 12, Issue 2

April 2009

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Howdy pards,

Shooting season is now upon us. The weather is improving and our shooting pards who winter in the warmer climates should be returning soon. It will be nice for all of us to get together and play cowboy and cowgirl again.

We will be trying something new this year. Shortly you will be receiving a survey via email from the Wolverine Rangers seeking input and feedback from our members. We want to know what we are doing right and what things we need to work on improving. We are also interested in finding out if our membership would like to see us organize some non-shooting social activities for our members and prospective members. We will additionally provide copies of the survey to our clubs so that the surveys can be picked up and filled out at cowboy shoots this spring and summer. We will compile the results and make them available at the Free Shoot / Annual Meeting which will be held at Plymouth on Saturday July 11th.

We are already working on planning for Range War 2009 for this Labor Day weekend. This year The Dooley Gang will be at Range War. They will be providing the Saturday night entertainment which will be their own version of karaoke. Anyone who was at Guns of August last summer (The Midwestern Regional) in Middletown, Ohio knows that The Dooley Gang can put on quite a show. It is very entertaining and is great fun for everyone. Start warming up those vocal cords because they want participation from the audience. Maybe we can even talk Deuce into gettin' up and singing.

The Dooley Gang will also be putting on a Shooting School on Thursday September 3rd before Range War. There will only be 12 spots available. The cost is \$100. Please call Killin Kelin at (248)

666-0505 (work) or (248) 830-1921 to put your name in the list. You will then need to send your \$100 to Killin Kelin at 7092 Highland Road # 288, Waterford, Michigan, 48327. The first 12 to send in their money will have be in. For those who don't know, T-Bone Dooley is a SASS multiple world champion in Classic Cowboy. I am sure that the class will be well worth the money. If you are interested, I would recommend that you call Kelin and send in your money as soon as possible.

Well that is about it for this Captain's Letter.

Hope to see you all down the shootin' trail.

R.J. Law



Rollin', rollin', rollin'!
Git them doggies rollin'!
Rollin', rollin', rollin', Rawhide!



Head 'em up! Move 'em out!
RAWHIDE!
It's time to head on out into a new season!

Wolverine Rangers Club News

The Johnson Creek Gang

The cowboys and cowgirls kicked off our 2009 season with the March match. Of the 50 participants someone must be in good with the man upstairs. Weather Saturday was great. Not like a year ago with 7 inches of snow. We had two clean matches Chubby Johnson and Indian Joe (first time shooter). As I mentioned before we are starting to introduce some "action" into Cowboy Action Shooting. We had moving stages requiring some back and forth action, moving gold bags from the bank to a horse for a quick getaway and even had to cut poor Tuco down from the gallows in-between rifle and shotgun positions. Look for more of the same in future matches.

In our June match, many of the JCR folks will be camping on the grounds to get ready for our special summer match that we are calling "Cheeseburger in Paradise. Yep it will be a Jimmy Buffet afternoon. Island type shirts, shorts if you like, Parrot hats and leis. The more colorful the better!! More on that as the summer goes on.

Cowboy Fast Draw is alive and well at the club. It's a fun, man on man competition of drawing and firing at a 24" target 5 yards away. We use wax bullets from a .45 cal pistol. Don't have one? We have guns and holsters for you to use (and you don't even have to clean them when you're done). If you see Beer Belly Willie, ask him about it.

Till Then - Happy Trails

Rainmaker Ray & Gabby Glenn



A.P. Goodrich

Howdy again pard;

In the last issue we talked about what kind of target sights to put on your rifle to get the best accuracy attainable.

Here are a few more tips that you should know: When you mount your vernier sight on the tang of your rifle, make absolutely sure it is perpendicular to the bore of your rifle. The reason you ask? If your sight doesn't stand up perfectly straight, every time you elevate your sight, your bullets will not only impact higher, but also to the right or left depending on which way your sight is tipped. Here's how you check; Place your rifle in a gun cleaning cradle, take a thumb tack and tie a 6 foot piece of string to it. About 6 feet in front of the rifle, stick the tack in the ceiling so the string hangs down, [don't let the little lady see you do this!] now with the gun in the cradle, aim the rifle at the string. Take a level and carefully place it on the top flat of your octagon barrel, now center the bubble in the level by CAREFULLY tipping the rifle. Stand in back of the rifle and see if the tang sight and string are PERFECTLY parallel with each other. If they are, great. If not, loosen the 2 screws on the sight base and put shims under the "tipped" side until the sight stands STRAIGHT UP parallel with the string when tightened down. Shims can be strips cut from aluminum foil.

Here's another pearl of wisdom. How many of you have the windage on your vernier sight moved to the right or left of the center mark to hit the middle of a target with no wind? More than a few I'll bet. The reason you ask? Simple. One day when you are shooting in a big wind you're gonna need all the windage you can get. If your sights weren't "zeroed" you could run out of windage on one side of the sight. Here's how to zero your sights so you have EQUAL windage on both sides of the scale. Center the windage on your rear sight so you have an equal number of windage marks on each side of the center mark. From a shooting

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Wolverine Rangers Club News

bench and sandbags, carefully fire 3 shots at a target posted at 50 yards. If the group is centered in the middle of the target you're good to go. If the group is off to the right or left, put a small piece of masking tape on the top of the barrel touching the front sight. With a pen, place a small index mark on the tape at the center of the front sight. [The index mark is so you can see how far the sight moves.] Now CAREFULLY tap the front sight with a small hammer and a punch a 32nd of an inch in the OPPOSITE direction you want the group to move [i.e. move group left, tap sight right...move group right, tap sight left.] Shoot another 3 shot group and repeat as needed until the group is centered on the target. Move out to 100 yards to confirm and make your final adjustment if needed. I might as well mention this while we are discussing sight adjustments. You always adjust the REAR SIGHT in the direction you want the group to move i.e. move group right, sight right. Move group up, sight up etc.

Some of you may be wondering why I am going into such detail about all this stuff. Here's why pilgrim. If you can improve your equipment or technique in a lot of LITTLE ways, the cumulative effect on shrinking the size of your groups will be GREAT, and straight shootin' is what wins matches. Example; Lets say you are shooting your first 1000 yard match at a regulation 6 foot by 6 foot target and you cant [tip] your rifle only ONE degree [.020] off of vertical. Your bullet will impact 26 inches off center in the direction you tip. You tip 2 degrees and you miss the target entirely. Misses don't win matches. This is when you realize that old "El GUANO" has not spoken with forked tongue! Now, speaking of matches, those of you who own single shot rifles will have a chance to use them like they were meant to be used. We are having a mid-range match [200-300-600 yds.] at Cadillac, Mi. on May 23-24. You can use either black or smokeless powder and the entire match is shot from X-sticks.

DON'T BE INTIMIDATED BY THE DISTANCE!

There is an old proverb that says that "the longest journey starts with the first step". I know that this kind of shooting is WAY outside your comfort zone but this will be your ONLY opportunity to try this kind of shooting this year.

WE ONLY HAVE 10 SPACES AVAILABLE so contact me at spidercontrolinc@aol.com for info, questions, or to reserve your spot.

El Guano



Lapeer Wranglers

Just a few thoughts from the Lapeer "Wranglers" piece of turf;

Our Winter League was completed earlier this month and our banquet at Lenny Millers attended by fourteen shooters. Match standings are posted on the W.R. website. We will be having our first Fun Shoot and Silhouette Shoot on April 11. We'll try to get things underway around 10am and wind up probably around 3-4pm. We welcome anyone to come out and shoot these shoots. You do not have to be Lapeer club member, Wolverine Ranger, or SASS member to shoot!

Then the next weekend features Long Range & Stage Setup on April 18 and our regular match on April 19, as usual anyone who cares to shoot is more than welcome.

Wall-Man

Wolverine Rangers Club News

Straight Shots From Saginaw

Well, pard! Spring is here, along with another great shooting season. Things may seem troubling in our world today, but we know that in cowboy action shooting, we can find that one thing that Curley from the movie *City Slickers* was talking about. With guns in hand and surrounded by friends, life is purty good!

Saginaw's Wednesday night practices are right around the corner...we start April 15th. Yup, that's tax day and what better place to release your frustrations than throwin' some lead at them targets? We start at 5 p.m. and run until the last pard says "quit". Cost is only \$5 for non-Field & Stream members, \$3 for members. We practice right down in our little cowboy town and have a lot of fun. Any cowboy shooter is more than welcome to stop in any Wednesday night.

As you'll see on the Wolverine Ranger schedule, Saginaw's shoot dates are May 30, July 3-4, and August 29th. The July shoots will be treated as two separate days of shooting. Camping is free, along with a potluck Friday night and maybe even a mini-Wild Bunch match to boot. We're sure you'll have a great time shooting and relaxing and enjoying Independence Day doing what we love....and can still do in this country...shoot our guns! More details will follow in the next month or so.

Here's an Easter question for our pard. What do you call ten rabbits marching backwards? A receding hare-line. Okay, go enjoy your jelly beans, colored eggs and chocolate rabbit (and yup, eat the ears off first!). From the cowboys at Saginaw, we want to wish everyone a blessed Easter as we celebrate this most important day for many of us...the love and sacrifice of Christ. God bless ya'll and remember to live life. Give it your best shot.

Katie Callahan & Bad River Marty

News from Sucker Creek

It sure has been a long winter, but I've heard some plinkin' on the range in our back 40, another innocent bystander that's gittin' bit by the "cowboy bug". I overheard that he has the itch but is not completely infected yet, just give him one visit to Sucker Creek and we'll have another full fledged cowboy.

We are having a Spring Work Day on April 18, lots to do to get ready for our first shoot on May 16th. Wolverine Wrangler will be Match Director for the May shoot, join us to see what he has in store for you for stages & scenarios.

You can always expect something new and unique when you shoot at Sucker Creek. Some things never change though, like the friendly smiles and good grub we serve up each month, thanks to Spring Valley Cathy, Square Shake Lake and the rest of the crew.

For our June Match Cree Vicar Dave will be Match Director and he is planning a SASS Scholarship "Shoot-Off" before the match for any and all who would like to come early to warm up and help out a worthy cause. There will be some nice prizes too.

Well I usually don't have much to say and have bent your ear long enough so I'd like to invite you all "out to the Creek" for Cowboy Shooting at its best. Come prepared to have fun and try your shootin' at some of the neatest targets in town, the Town of Sucker Creek that is. See ya there. Remember to always shoot straight, shoot safe and have fun doin' it.

The Vicar's Wife



Wolverine Rangers Club News

HURON RIVER RAIDERS

(The Multi-Lakes Conservation Association
Cowboy Action Shooting Group)

First Match - May 9th

The Huron River Raiders will hold five Cowboy Action Shooting Matches on Saturday mornings this year. The dates are May 9th, June 6th, August 8th, September 12th, and October 10th.

Registration will start at 8:30 AM. The mandatory Safety Meeting will be at 9:15AM and shooting will start at 9:30AM. We should end shooting about 1:30pm, followed by some food and socializing. The shooting scenarios (stages) will be set up on Outdoor Range #2. Follow the signs after entering the Main Gate.

Cost will be \$18.00. A discount of \$1.00 will apply for SASS Members, Wolverine Ranger Members and Multi-Lakes Members, for a total of \$3.00, if you belong to all three. Cowboy attire is strongly encouraged. Observers are welcome.

Two practice sessions are also planned for Saturday mornings. They will be held on May 2nd and August 1st. They will run from 10:00AM till 1:00PM. Cost will be \$5.00.

Multi-Lakes is located at 3860 Newton Road, between Commerce Road and Richardson Road in Commerce Township. For more information about Multi-lakes and our Cowboy Action Shooting, go to www.multilakes.com.

For more information about the shoots contact Dan Campau (aka The Baja Kid) at 734-261-9786, Dan Wiseley (aka Quiet Ranger Dan) at 248-202-0058 or Ron Davis (aka Boss Wheelwright) at 248-685-1206.

Hope to see you on the range.



Editor for State Newsletter;

Interested?

Well, you've come to the right place my friend! After several years as the Editor in 'Chief' (also 'Brave, Scout and Squaw') of the Wolverine Ranger state organization newsletter that you are reading, career and schedule limitations have necessitated that I apply my available energies in other areas of my life. So regrettably the job position is open.

I have enjoyed my time as Editor, and only wish that I would have been able to get around to more clubs and shoot with some of the great people in this sport that I have met and gotten to know, some I haven't met yet, and those I haven't met other than by e-mail.

The Epitaph is assembled from articles written by representatives of the different Wolverine Ranger Clubs and any individuals that might be interested. The articles are then compiled into the format that you are used to seeing, using Microsoft Publisher. Not too hard to learn if need be. For those that may not know, the Epitaph is published every other month.

If you are interested in being the Editor of the Epitaph, please contact me and I can answer any questions that you may have.

Thanks to all that have helped by contributing to the content of the Epitaph.

Case Harden

616-366-3406 or gvanorman@charter.net



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