



WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



Volume 19, Issue 8

December 2016

★ Captain's Corner ★

Howdy pards,

I hope that everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and that you were all able to spend some time with your family and friends to give thanks for all of the blessings that we have received from God. I feel blessed and thankful to live in the greatest country in the history of the world and to enjoy the freedoms that come with living in the United States of America. I am also thankful for being blessed with my lovely wife and daughters, our 3 grandchildren and our extended family. I am also blessed and thankful for all of the members of our Cowboy Action Shooting family. The best thing about SASS is the people.

On November 12th we had a Board of Directors meeting for the Wolverine Rangers. We had the best turnout of any Board Meeting that I can recall. We had 24 Board members and spouses attend the meeting. Included below is a summary of decisions made at the Board meeting.

We decided to use the same theme for Range War for 2017 that we used for 2016. We will again be honoring our servicemen and service women and in particular our military veterans. We

will again have the Wall of Honor at Range War courtesy of AMVETS Post 29 from Mt. Clemens. The wall honors the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts

Due to popular demand, we will go back to using buckles for awards in 2017.

We will be designating a quiet zone in the Campground with a curfew for generators after 10:00 pm.

We will be raising the entry fee by \$10 but we will also be offering a family discount and junior shooters will again shoot for free. We are still finalizing the amount of the discount with input from our Treasurer, Snareman.

There will be a Swap Meet at Range War where shooters can bring gear and guns to sell similar to what has been done at some other shoots such as Comin' At Cha. Sauk Valley Stubby will be in charge of organizing this. More on this later.

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Any Wolverine Ranger member is entitled to a copy of the minutes from our Board Meetings. Our Secretary Cosmopolitan Christine has prepared a draft and it should be finalized as soon as work slows down for me to review the draft in detail.

I would also suggest that all of you be sure to take a look at the February Cowboy Chronicle. SASS CEO Misty Moonshine attended Range War this year and she was kind enough to agree to write the article for the Cowboy Chronicle. I am pretty sure that she will have nice things to say about Range War.

That is about it for now. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Blessed Christmas and New Year and a happy and healthy 2017.

Please give your kids and grandkids a hug and a kiss and tell them that you love them every change that you get.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about Range War or about the Wolverine Rangers.

Merry Christmas,

D. J. Law



WOLVERINE RANGERS

An Organization of Cowboy Action Shooters in the State of Michigan

Wolverine Rangers
201 West Big Beaver Rd., Ste. 1020
Troy, MI 48084

R.J. Law, Captain, (248) 528-0440
www.wolverinerangers.org
rgillary@gillarylaw.com



2016 Wolverine Rangers Election Ballot:

President (Captain):

_____ Incumbent: R.J. Law
_____ Other: _____

Secretary:

_____ Incumbent: Cosmopolitan Christine
_____ Other: _____

Members-at-Large: (Vote for up to 8)

Incumbents:

_____ Catlow
_____ Chili Pepper Pete
_____ Dakota Doc
_____ Doc Noper
_____ hOOt Hamilton
_____ Leadfoot Luke
_____ Steady Eddie

Other:

_____ Longshot Lillian (New Candidate)

Ballots are due by December 31, 2016 and you may only vote once. Each current Wolverine Ranger is eligible to vote. Please mail ballot to: Wolverine Rangers; 201 West Big Beaver Road, Ste. 1020, Troy, MI 48084.

You can also vote online at www.wolverinerangers.org. Thank you!

★ Shooting News ★

Rocky River Regulators of DSC (Utica)

Sunday November 20th, a cowboy match and a Thanksgiving turkey feast! But first the November Cowboy match. The weather did not cooperate. Seventy-three degrees on Friday and then 30 degrees and a 30 MPH wind on Sunday. The chill was definitely in the air.



All the cowboys and cowgirls shot five stages, stayed warm by the camp fire and looked forward to partaking in the Thanksgiving feast that was being prepared in the DSC range building.

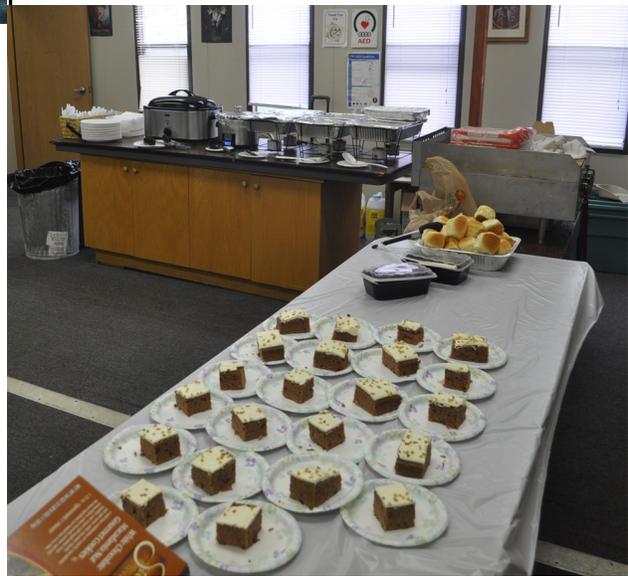
As we gave thanks and ate the full turkey Thanksgiving dinner that Penny Ante prepared, we listened to the scores as Camptown read them off. Winning the match was Riverview Rattler followed closely by Faygo Kid and Leadfoot Luke.

We also had the following clean shooters, Riverview Rattler, Andy Horshurodinon, and DSC's Rifle Rick and Jack Holladay. Our next match is Sunday, December 18th and then Rocky River is shut down until March 2017.

DSC will resume with the regular 5 stage monthly Cowboy match on Sunday, March 19, 2017.

Until then have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

J.J. Longley



Johnson Creek Regulators - Plymouth

The Johnson Creek Regulators fittingly ended the 2016 campaign with a banquet at the Deadwood Bar and Grill in Northville on November 9th. DBG is a rustic setting, with a wonderful mixed cuisine including a variety of wild game dishes.

After a great meal, awards were dished out to club members. Snuffy Dave Edwards finished first in Cowboy, followed by BirdDog Jesse. The Forty-Niner category was well represented with Panhead Pete finishing first followed by Sarge and Henry MoonShine. Nikomis was top Lady 49er, while Wolverine Regulator was top Wrangler. Marshall CJ Lawless was top Gunfighter and Shakey Puddin took Lady B Western while Dusty Rebel took Classic Cowboy. The Senior Category was also well attended with Carolina Cowboy finishing first followed closely by Pokey Packrat and Three Deuce Tom. Deadwood Denise took Lady Senior Category. Rex Tanner was top Silver Senior followed by Gentleman Gus and Carson City Slick. Rainmaker Ray took B Western while Silver Moose was top Cattle Barron.

Receiving recognition for clean matches were Dead Eye Deska, Snuffy Dave Edwards, Panhead Pete, Sarge, Mishomis, Henry MoonShine and Single Barrel Bob.

Snuffy Dave Edwards was overall Champion, with Panhead Pete finishing second and Sarge finishing third.

Deadwood Denise and Shakey Puddin were recognized for their hard work all year with scorekeeping and lunches.

Shakey Puddin recently provided an update on Rainmaker Ray (Ray Hanka). Ray has been steadily progressing following the complications related to his recent heart surgery. By the time this newsletter reaches you, Ray should be at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac going through physical rehab. If you'd like to send Ray a get well card, you can send it to: Ray Hanka, 18442 Westmore St., Livonia, MI 48152.

Happy Trails.



The Shooter's Stance

Cowboy Action Shooting – The WHOLE Experience

If you ask some folks about what is it like to shoot Cowboy, they will likely tell you it is an adrenaline rush, it's fun and it's a great time to socialize. Have you stopped to think if you are getting the whole experience? One of the big parts of Cowboy shooting is teamwork, being part of something bigger than just yourself. Yes, we compete individually, but have you really thought of this as a team sport? It takes more than just you going to the loading table, loading some rounds and shooting those rounds. It takes someone to time you, it takes three spotters to judge your accuracy, it takes someone to make sure your score is recorded and it takes someone to bring your valuable brass back to you, not to mention someone to reset shotgun targets and write and read the scenarios and answer questions.

If you are one of those people who sits on the sidelines while a few are doing the majority of the work, you are missing out on a great opportunity to work as a team to keep the posse moving along at a good pace. All too often, a few shooters are sometimes doing double duty on jobs just to keep things moving. This really takes away from their enjoyment of the match as well. You've heard the old saying "it takes a village" in reference to raising a child. The same goes for Cowboy shooting. It truly takes a village to run a posse. Everyone really needs to pitch in and help out, even if it's just minding the loading or unloading table or resetting the shotgun targets. Every little bit helps and you will enjoy the match more as being a part of the *team*, plus your fellow shooters will ap-

preciate you for helping. Even if your abilities aren't the best, there is something you can do to help.

Another aspect of being part of the *team*, is engaging those who are observing your posse with conversation (if you are not working a job). Answer some questions, invite those onlookers to come closer and to ask questions. That's one way we get more people into the sport! Also remember that just because you are done shooting a match, doesn't mean that you are necessarily free to leave (barring not feeling well, etc.). If everyone did that, what would happen? The last several shooters would have no one to time them, spot for them, check their guns at the unloading table or record their times! Think how you would feel in that position. When even a few shooters leave when they are finished shooting, they are adding extra burden to those who are working (and might want a break). Yes, we all want to be in out of the sun/cold. Yes, we all want to get our equipment put away and head in to get a delicious lunch...but what of those left on the range? When you leave, you are also missing out on that last bit of camaraderie with those you have been on the posse with.

Remember that Cowboy shooting is not just an individual sport, it's a T.E.A.M. effort. Together Everyone Achieves More! Are you getting everything you can from Cowboy shooting? Are you getting the WHOLE experience?

☆ WHO TO CONTACT ☆

CAPTAIN

- Any Wolverine Ranger or Range War Concerns

RANGE WAR MATCH DIRECTOR

- Volunteer to help with Range War
- Vendor Registration and Information

WOLVERINE RANGERS' SECRETARY

- Range War Registration
- Club Information and Pictures for Wall Calendar
- New Shooting Schedule for each year

MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATORS

- Join Wolverine Rangers or Renew Membership
- Change in any contact or membership information
- Badges or Membership Packets

WEBMASTER

- Club Match Scores
- Notices, Schedule Changes, etc posted on Home Page & Club Page Information
- Classified and Merchant Ads

EPITAPH EDITOR

- Articles or information you want published in the Epitaph
- Requests to receive Epitaph by email or notification that newsletter has been posted on the website

CHIEF RO INSTRUCTORS, MIDEAST REGION

- Scheduling SASS RO-I and RO-II classes at any club in Michigan



☆ CONTACT INFORMATION ☆

*Check the website or back of wall calendar for club contact information
Please keep your e-mail address current with the Membership Secretary*

WOLVERINE RANGERS CAPTAIN—R. J. LAW

248-528-0440 rgillary@gillarylaw.com

RANGE WAR MATCH DIRECTOR—DEUCE STEVENS

616-677-5275 deucestevens45@yahoo.com

WOLVERINE RANGERS SECRETARY—COSMOPOLITAN CHRISTINE

248-528-0440 egillary@gillarylaw.com

MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATORS—CARD SHARK CHARLIE & LAINEY MAE

616-874-3406 drury1954@chartermi.net

WEBMASTER—LAPORTE LIL

laportelil32@gmail.com

EPITAPH EDITOR—OUTRIDER OUTLAW

outrideroutlaw@yahoo.com

MARKETING DIRECTOR—SIXGUN SCOTSMAN

marketingdirector@wolverinerangers.org

SASS RO-I & RO-II CLASSES—CACTUS KAY & DAKOTA DOC

817-371-6600 docandkay@yahoo.com



WOLVERINE RANGERS
Bob & Elaine Drury
7180 Ramsdall Drive NE
Rockford, MI 49341