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Photo courtesy of Rocky River Regulators. Utica, Michigan

★ Shooting News ★

Rocky River Regulators of DSC (Utica)

Fall in Michigan has brought a bit of a chill to the range but also clear blue sunny skies. On October 8th thirteen top gun hands came to the range to test their skills with a 5 stage Wild Bunch match. The first stage was a challenge as the shooters were faced with multiple magazine changes and many targets at varying distances. For all five stages we faced the same challenge, even shooting a stage with 7 rounds in our magazines as we anticipate the SASS rule change for 2018. When the scores were tabulated the overall winner in the SASS Traditional class was Attica Jack. J.J. Longley finished a close second and won the SASS Modern class edging Coyote Claxton by 1/100th of a second.

October 15th was a nasty fall day in Michigan. With the morning threatening rain, Mother Nature did hold off any major rain until half way through the last stage and then the competitors received a nice soaking.

As we dried off and had a lunch of some of the finest chili, the results of the match were announced. Overall winner was J. J. Longley followed by Beaver Creek Boy and Kentucky Drifter. Shooting clean matches were Beaver Creek Boy, Camptown, Coyote Claxton, Rogues Pierre, and No Name.

The cowboys at Rocky River really appreciate the effort the competitors made to come out on such a rotten day, especially the folks that brought chili.

Speaking of Chili, the following is the Chili Cook Off results...

Best Overall Chili and a \$100 Gift Card to Cabelas Longshot Lillian

Best Fowl Chili Best Bean Chili Outrider Outlaw Penny Ante



Sunday, November 5, 2017 is our next Wild Bunch Match Sunday November 19, 2017 is our next Cowboy Action Match

See you on the range.

J.J. Longley

Butcher Butte Bunch - Fenton

The cowboy targets have all been bedded down for the winter at Butcher Butte, awaiting that first spring match which never seems to come quite soon enough.



There's a bit of a chill in the air now, but on October 8, we couldn't have had more gorgeous weather for a cowboy match! The temperatures were unseasonably moderate and the sky was blue with just a little breeze to help clear the air of the smoke from the 22 cowboys and cowgirls that joined us for the match. Some of those who joined us came from quite a distance and we had one new cowboy shooter with us as well. Thank you all for joining us and we hope to see you again in 2018!

Outrider Outlaw was our Posse Marshal for the match, leading us from safety meeting right through all of the stages. Our free match drawing winner was Big Bad Jim. Unfortunately, Jim will need to hang on to that certificate until spring! Topping the list when the match results were tallied was Faygo Kid, followed by Spartan Johnny and Leadfoot Luke. Five shooters navigated the stages clean: Faygo Kid, Leadfoot Luke, Outrider Outlaw, Steeldust Jack and Grubby Hardrock.

For lunch we enjoyed sloppy joes prepared by Big Bad Jim, with desserts prepared by Hey Sugar. They were the perfect end to a fun day of shooting.

Thank you to all those who have given of their time to help with match set up, tear down, stage writing and cooking. These matches couldn't happen if it weren't for you and we do appreciate your time and efforts.



Have a safe and healthy winter and we'll see you in the spring!

Pengshet

Straight Shots from Saginaw

It sure has been an interesting fall. It seemed, at times, like we were having an extended Indian summer, not that we complained about that.

We kept busy. The Saginaw cowboys had our annual pot luck and planning meeting and everyone agreed to have our 2-day shooting event again. Our lake-front campsites, with electricity, make for a fun weekend. After some date-shifting with Saginaw Field & Stream's other big events in 2018, we were able to schedule the following dates for our cowboy matches. Dates are May 12, June 9, July 14-15, and Aug. 25, 2018.

We'd like to thank those who were able to come shoot

with us in 2017. It's always fun seeing everyone and we're looking forward to doing it again next year.

The month of November awaits us...a time change, Election Day, Veteran's Day, hunting season, Thanksgiving, and well, your calendar probably looks as busy as ours. We hope every day is filled with many blessings for each of you and may we all have a grateful attitude for even the smallest of things. God bless America and each one of us.

We hope to see you on the trail. Until then, remember to live life. Give it your best shot.

Bad River Marty & Katie Callahan

Johnson Creek Regulators - Plymouth

On October 28, 1881 Coroner Henry Matthews convened an inquest into the deaths of Frank McLaury, Tom McLaury and Billy Clanton. Testimony from Sheriff Johnny Behan contradicts the Earp version, when Behan testifies that the Earps begin shooting before the Clanton's and Mclaurys have an opportunity to comply with Virgil Earps order to disarm. Coroner Matthews concluded Billy Clanton and the McLaurys are killed by Doc Holliday and the Earps, though he does not assess blame. Thus begins one of the most controversial trials of the old west. What really happened will never be known because of a number of alterations of the record that have occurred over the intervening years.

We know exactly what happened 136 years later when twenty-five cowboys and cowgirls ventured to Plymouth, because of the impeccable record keeping of Three Deuce Tom and Rainmaker Ray. None were successful in mastering the five stages created by Panhead Pete's (featuring the impressive pumpkin and cabbage bash). Sarge and Three Deuce Tom came closest to clean matches scoring solitary misses.

Spartan Johnny had a pretty good day taking the overall match with an adjusted time of 122.94 and watched his daughter Ginger Sass take top junior honors with an

impressive adjusted time of 189.10 (finishing ninth overall). Longshot Lillian, last month's overall winner finished a strong second.

As it was our last match of the season, we would like to take a moment to give extra special thanks to several of our members: Three Deuce Tom for taking over the reins as Sheriff; Panhead Pete for writing some great stages and stepping up as Deputy; Rainmaker Ray, Dead Eye Deska, Shakey Pudding and Deadwood Denise for scorekeeping; Sarge for handling chuck wagon duties and all the Johnson Creek Regulators for setup and take down duties.

It would be too easy to end this year with this quote from Wyatt Earp, such as: "Fast is fine, but accuracy is everything. In a gun fight... you need to take your time in a hurry."

Instead we are going to end with an epitaph to the McLaury boys: Tom and Frank. Outside the Amphitheater in Tombstone, where the shootout is re-enacted hangs a small brass plaque. Engraved on the plaque are the following words: "One owes respect to the living, but to the dead, one owes the truth."

L.C.S.C. Wranglers - Lapeer

At the beginning of the 2017 monthly shoot year, the Wranglers instituted a new award. "The Top Hand Award", to be given to the Top Man & Top Woman who participates in our monthly matches.

The awards are based on a point system. Each participant are given points based on: attending the match, clean match, win your category, bonus targets and correct dress and gear.

Please join us a get together Sunday, November 12, 2017, 5:00 pm, at MD's Sports Tavern and Grill, 3040 N. State Rd, Davison, MI 48423. Each person will be responsible for their food and drinks. We will give out the Top Hand Awards, an award for the best dressed man and woman (may not be a couple, so wear your best period correct clothing) and other surprise awards. This is a family event and not just for cowboy shooters

Please <u>RSVP</u> by Wednesday, November 8, 2017 to: Hawk Woman a/k/a Sandy Boisineau via email at<u>swboisineau@gmail.com</u> or phone or test 810-938-4410.

Best Regards, Hawk Woman a/k/a Sandy Boisineau



The Shooter's Stance

I'M CONFUSED ABOUT THINGS I HAVE BEEN SEEING AT SHOOTS THS SUMMER!

we put on or attend shoots. I believe that if we, the brothers and sisters of these two organizations, do not uphold these rules the organizations will fall apart and die.

The last couple of years at the Rangers' annual fall meeting it has been brought up "how do, we promote the cowboy shooting sport?" The first thing is to adhere to the rules and regulations we have already have!

Spirit of the game, this means that you fully participate in what SASS and the Rangers ask you to do by adhering to the rules.

One of the biggest is the disregard of the clothing rules! I believe that when we have new people coming out to the shoots that might be interested in taking up this sport, one of the biggest draws is our members dressed in their western garb according to their class. The next thing is to make the visitor feel welcome. I usually don't mention names but if you wish to know how to make them feel welcome take a lesson from Andy Horshurodinon a/k/a Mike Day. I have watched Mike captivate these newbies with his charisma, charm and the Spirit of the Game. I know this for a fact because Mike was the one that got me started. Thanks Mike.

Well let's get back to the clothing and accouterments issue. This summer I have seen people shooting in Tshirts, shorts and sneakers and these were NOT new shooters. The clothing is supposed to be of the 19th. Century, B Western Movie or TV series type and rules according to some classes. Our western clothing adds so much uniqueness to this sport; this is a big draw for new comers. Shooters must remain in costume at all match events. I know I have heard people say well at club monthly matches it is not the same as state matches? WRONG! The small monthly clubs matches are where newcomers see what our sport is all about! Keep that in mind!

We have many categories or classes to pick and shoot in. Clothing requirements must be adhered to.

SASS and Wolverine Rangers have rules to follow when Two of the biggest infractions I have seen-- and it is getting way out of hand-- is a contestant wearing JEANS! I have read the shooters hand book many times and the only category I know of that lets you wear jeans is B-Western.

> [editor's note: version 22.2 of the Shooter's Handbook states " Designer jeans are not allowed. Designer jeans include modern jeans that have slogans or logos embroidered, silk screened, and such, saying things like "PINK" or "BABY." Jeans with fancy or flashy adornments are acceptable"]

> Another infraction is foot wear; sneakers are not appropriate foot wear!!! Again I have heard members say I have bad feet, well correct them and they won't be bad, or this or that, they give every excuse under the sun to not comply with foot wear rules. All their excuses are bull dung. There are plenty of boot and shoe companies that make a Wellington style boot and western style shoes that are comfortable and orthopedically correct so as not to make your feet hurt.

Well I guess I have talked enough on this subject. In writing this column it was not to antagonize anyone, I'm trying to wake people up. I'm trying to keep our sport from deteriorating and dying. Let's all work together to make this sport the best it can be.

My wife and I love this shooting sport, you know the people in this sport are all great and I thank them all.

One last thing, if anyone needs any info on clothes and accouterments please contact us. We have been involved in period correct clothing for over 30 years.

Contact number:

Horse Whisperer George Metis, a/k/a George Boisineau Hawk Woman, a/k/a Sandy Boisineau 5847 Old State Rd North Branch, MI 48461 Office 810-688-3695. Sandy 810-938-4410, George 810-938-4412

***WHO TO CONTACT** *

<u>CAPTAIN</u>

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

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SASS RO-I & RO-II CLASSES-





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