



# Wolverine Rangers Epitaph



Volume 28, Issue VII

November 2025



**THREE DEUCES MCKEE**



# WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



## ★ Captain's Corner ★

Hello everyone,

It has been a rough couple of months since Range War. I didn't have a chance to put together an epitaph article for October. Although Kid Danger and I were able to attend the Shootout at Stoney Bottom, and High Noon at Tusco the health of my family took a toll on all of us. I am usually not this open about family, but I feel I need to today. My mom has been having health troubles for quite a while. On side match day of Range War, she was taken to the emergency room. Without getting into details, she stayed in the hospital for almost two weeks, followed by three weeks in a medical rehab hospital facility. She wasn't able to return home until October. My dad, who you know as **Three Deuces McKee**, spent most of this time visiting with my mom in the hospital or rehab facility. All the while trying to keep his health in check.

Three Deuces was in serious need of an Aorta Valve replacement and had worsening congestive heart failure. But my parents loved each other very much and spent every day together. They were married for 54+ years. He had spent much of July, August and September going through all the different doctors' appointments, tests, etc.... to get all the clearances needed to have the procedure. A truly gut-wrenching amount of time that it takes to get to see all the docs needed to get the approvals. He was finally scheduled to get the valve replacement on Tuesday October 14<sup>th</sup>.





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On Monday the 13<sup>th</sup>, he walked into the testing facility to get his final blood drawn before the surgery the next day. He made it into the lobby of the facility and collapsed on the floor. At the time they thought it was a heart attack and he was revived with CPR and taken to the trauma center. After he was stabilized, overnight, they admitted him to the cardiac care unit. He was able to speak to us on Tuesday, and we had a good visit with him. Thank you to the Munson Hospital caregivers for letting me stay past visiting hours to be with him. Thank you to Crazy Mingo for visiting him on Tuesday, he was so happy to see you. He kept telling me how he wished that the surgery would be successful so that he could shoot Cowboy Action again, and how much he missed it and his cowboy family. Three Deuces McKee only missed three Range Wars out of 27, all three were due to heart surgeries.







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## ★ Captain's Corner ★

On Wednesday he started to take a turn. He was not himself and didn't look well. Test after test, medication after medication, we did not know what was happening. After Wednesday evening he was not able to speak to us anymore. Finally, the doctors found the root cause, he had a massive brain aneurysm. We will never know if this caused his collapse and heart attack or if it happened during the fall from the heart attack. The neurosurgeons performed brain surgery to try to fix the aneurysm. We waited for days for him to wake up after the surgery, but he did not. On Monday October 20<sup>th</sup> he passed away with his family by his side.

A remembrance celebration will be held later, and information will be posted when it has been decided. Three Deuces Mckee loved cowboy action, the cowboy family, the game and doing so with his family. He was so happy to shoot with JC Wade, Kid Danger, and myself as well as my brother-in-law the few times he was able to shoot with us. I wouldn't be in cowboy action if it wasn't for my dad. Lastly to support the sport he loved, we ask that donations be made in his name to the *SASS Scholarship Fund*, in lieu of flowers, etc.







# WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



## ★ Captain's Corner ★

Now to the monthly Rangers news and updates:

It is that time of year where we need nominations for the board or directors' upcoming elections. Nominations are accepted up until December 10th. Every year we can elect up to 8 members at large, for a one-year term starting January 2026. These are members who are not **members** of any of our cowboy action clubs. These members must be in good standing of the Wolverine Rangers and renew their membership for the 2025-2026 shooting season. We also will be voting for the First Lieutenant and Treasurer positions this year. These positions are for a two-year term starting January 2026.

This year **Leadfoot Luke** will be stepping down as treasurer. I want to thank Luke for all his time while volunteering for this position. Trying to keep all the books straight is a tough job, as well as working with me trying to find creative ways to keep our costs down. When you see Luke please thank him for his efforts.

**Shelby Kid** has volunteered to take over the position. He will start the transition with Luke soon. Lots of preparation is needed and of course trips for all three of us to the bank to change things over there. Let's welcome and thank Shelby for taking on this new role.

The next change this coming year will be to the membership administration position. **Horseman Tweed and Horseman's Trouble** will be stepping down and passing this position to **River Runner**. Tweed and Trouble have done a great job over the years. Again, this is a busy position that takes a lot of work during the winter months. I also want to thank them for their efforts. Working with outdated software, new software versions and licenses, rising costs of printer ink, envelopes, postage, etc., they have continued to provide our members with a service that they wholeheartedly volunteered for. Please also thank them for their efforts when you see them.

River Runner will be transitioning over the next month with Tweed and Trouble handing over the reins. Soon the new membership forms for the 2026-2027 season will be available. They will include the new mailing address. All mail in applications from members will need to be sent to the new address. Let's also welcome River Runner to this new role for her.

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# WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



## ★ Captain's Corner ★

### WANTED "PHOTOGRAPHS "

We will be working on the 2026-2027 calendar soon. Calendar costs are much lower if we give the printer a longer time frame to print them. So, getting photos and club calendars quickly really helps the budget. The longer we wait the higher the cost. With that said, **club representatives please have your calendars and club details sent to Carolina Belle by December 30<sup>th</sup>.** All photo submissions for the calendar are welcomed. Every year we struggle to get enough photos from each of the clubs, so send in what you have. Especially if you have some club group photos. Or photos for specialty shoots like, Halloween, Star Wars, Three-Days at your club, Hawaiian shoots, winter shoots, fun side matches, etc.... It takes a ton of hours to get these compiled and into the calendar for printing. I have recently reviewed the past dozen or so years of calendars to see how we can change it up a bit this year. Hopefully a little retro vibe will look good this year.

Lastly a reminder that there are a few clubs shooting this winter. I know it can get cold, but it can still be fun and it's always nice to have a reason to get together, in what are traditionally off months for us. And who knows we might see some good warmish weather on those days, fingers crossed. Check the calendar on our website for dates.

I look forward to seeing you at the range and have a safe and happy holiday season,

*Sinola Kid*

Sinola Kid





## Straight Shots from Saginaw

Our Halloween Shoot October 25<sup>th</sup>. was a real treat, with a few tricks thrown in. The costume competition was “out of this world”, so to speak. Captain Kirk (aka **The Lost Egg**) dropped in from Star Trek and I think he was overheard trying to contact Scotty to beam him up or have Scotty come down and join in the fun.

We had a fully-clad Storm Trooper from Star Wars (aka **Ethan Callahan**) join us and who actually shot the match in full costume. That was fun to watch!!! A couple times he was heard quoting a phrase from the Star Wars movie, telling other shooters to “Move along, there is nothing to be seen here”. We figured he was talking about his score. But to his credit, he did have one clean stage. Thanks, Ethan, for a fun time.

We had a Disco Roller Derby guy (aka **The Hysham Kid**) with snappy little roller skates, wild sunglasses and psychedelic duds that were even louder than his 8-track radio he had slung over his shoulder. What a cool dude!

We got a real eye-opener when this hippy came strolling across the parking lot and sent our memory-banks into hysteria. Yes! You guys DID dress like that back in the ‘70’s. Talk about a “blast from the past”! The bell-bottom pants were so authentic, but it was the blonde, mullet hair-do that tricked us all. Who was that guy??? Well, none other than aka **Prospector Dale**. Yup, another cool dude.

And I cautiously mention our other cool dude in the crowd...a Harley Biker. And believe it or not, his real alias is **Old Dude**...but we called him Cool Dude.... ‘cause, well....we didn’t want to get beat up. (Joking here, of course.)

When it was time, we gathered around, lined up our contestants, and picked the winners. **J.J. Hunter**, dressed in a skeleton costume and **Ethan Callahan**, dressed as a Star Wars Storm Trooper, both won a free 2026 shoot at Saginaw. Congrats to them and all who participated.



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## Straight Shots from Saginaw

Our lunch was served by our own Spice Girls and then awards were handed out to each of the 27 shooters, with 11 clean shooters. Our top three men were: **Avalanche Andy, Bad River Marty & Riverview Rattler**. Top three ladies were: **Diabla, Katie Callahan, and T.N.Tina**. The Mini-Wild Bunch Match winners were: Traditional: **Flat Water Johnny, Bad River Marty, Ethan Callahan** and Modern: **Red Beard Bandit, Shelby Kid, and Old Dude**.

Saginaw will again host the 2026 SASS Wild Bunch Championship. This is a 2-day event to be held June 13-14, 2026. Keep in touch with us for Wild Bunch info., along with our regular cowboy shooting events. [www.facebook.com/saginawcowboyshooting](http://www.facebook.com/saginawcowboyshooting)

As we prepare for the winter and await our Spring shooting season, we'd like to thank all the shooters who made their way to Saginaw this year to participate at our shoots. We are so happy you did and enjoyed seeing all our old and new shooting friends. May the Lord bless you all and keep you in good health and we will be looking for you in 2026.

Until then, remember to live life .... give it your best shot!!!

Happy Trails from Bad River Marty & Katie Callahan





## Huron River Regulators

For our November shoot on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> we welcomed 19 shooters. We had five fun stages that kept everyone smiling, with a few bonus targets thrown in, literally. At the end of the day **Riverview Rattler** took the lead. Congratulations. Scores are on the Rangers website.

The Huron River Regulators will be shooting next on Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup>. We have plenty of propane heaters to go around as needed. Based on the weather we can shoot from cover or out on the range. We will have five stages, with three set-ups.

Our winter shoots starting in January will be on the first Sunday of the month through March. Then we will move back to our normal shooting season with shoots on the first Saturday of the month. The move to Sunday is due to our rather large Junior Archery program that we run on Saturdays. Each match will have a home cooked warm meal in the clubhouse after the shoot. During the winter we plan to have five stage matches. Weather dependent we can shoot from under cover or out on the bay, this call will be made a couple of days ahead of each match. We will continue to try to post the stages for each match about a week ahead of time on Facebook.

We will continue to hold Wild Bunch matches in 2026. But we may move to a sign up ahead of time format to gauge interest. Or add a mini match after our cowboy shoots, like we did last month.

Our "Second Annual" SASS Sponsored Duel at the Peninsular Paper Dam will be June 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

We will have camping, with plenty of electrical hookups. A Friday afternoon mini match, and a ten-stage main match. A potluck style dinner on Friday Night, Lunch and Dinner on Saturday as well as an Awards lunch following the match on Sunday. The applications will be ready in the coming weeks and posted on our Facebook page, website and the Rangers website.

New for 2026 our home club will be hosting PCC or Pistol Caliber Carbine matches. These will be a mix of rules from different disciplines, but they will be stages where you shoot steel with scenarios similar to cowboy action/wild bunch scenarios. For anyone that has shot this as a side match at the Kentucky state shoot, you know how much fun it can be. It gives us another reason to use our steel, props, tables, etc. that we have for cowboy action on a different day with different guns. We are excited to try it at Washtenaw. Rules are being worked on for our range and will be posted this winter. A schedule has been generated and will be posted after the first of the year.

*Sinola Kid*





## Johnson Creek Regulators - Plymouth

Howdy Y'all!

Sheriff **Not Dead Ed** here from the Johnson Creek Regulators and I bring greetings from the ranch.

Halloween came early to the ranch with our annual Great Pumpkin Smash, As our last match of the Cactus league season, the cowboys and cowgirls like to put on a shindig with a spookily great match. The match featured starting lines from scary Halloween songs like "Werewolves of London". "The Monster Mash" "Ghostbusters", "Sympathy for the Devil", and "Ghost Riders in the Sky"

Stage 3 featured a bone orchard and special shotgun targets. This year were 6 pumpkins that we blew all to pieces. We even had an honorary TO named Icabod. Icabod the Skeleton was hanging around stage 3 so we put him to work. He gave to the TO, part of the startin' phrase "WHO YOU GONNA CALL, HA,HA,HA,HA?" To which the shooter replied "GHOSTBUSTERS!".

We thank **Slow Gin Ricky** for putting pen to paper for a hoot of a match, and **Sarge** for getting a farmer to donate about a half ton of pumpkins for us to gleefully smash.



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## Johnson Creek Regulators - Plymouth

We had 21 shooters come eventuate their shooting season. Scaring up the top shot at this match and putting a spell on all the other shooters was **Hey Sugar**. She managed to hex ol **Wolverine Regulator** putting him at number 2. Following him was **Sarge**, **Leadfoot Luke**, and **Slow Gin Ricky**. Dunked in the Cauldron, and coming out clean for the match were **Hey Sugar**, **Sarge**, **Leadfoot Luke**, **Iron Jennie**, **Footsore**, **Wiley Wastelander**, and **Ira Bigelow**.

Our practices are over until next April, however, our Cowboy Action Shootin' ain't over yet. For you hearty souls, *The Igloo League* kicks off on the 50 yard range on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have reduced fees and we keep the blockhouse all warm and cozy for you too. Registration opens at 8:30 – 9AM with hot chocolate and tasty treats.

And remember, we still boast the largest, closest, stationary targets south of 8 Mile. If you got any questions feel free to telegraph or send a pony express.

I thank you for reading, and we'll see you on down the trail.

Not Dead Ed ( Sheriff )  
a.k.a. Ed Kucinski





## Hidden Valley Cowboys-Sturgis

I would like to thank all that braved a little rain to come out and shoot with us on our last match of the season, we didn't let a little rain spoil our fun and what a great year we have had.

Congratulations to **Ya Big Tree** and **Marti Draw** for having the fastest times on the shotgun stage.

We had 4 Clean shooters this month, **Cayuse Jack**, **Justice D Spencer**, **Rover** and **Spoon River Sam**, Our cool clean match Coaster's are made by **Ka Adik Krista**.

I would like to thank all that helped out with posse duties we have a great bunch of Cowboy and Cowgirls that are always willing to help out when needed and to **Krista** and **Tommy** for another for feeding us all season.

I have a great posse that helps set up on the Sunday before our shoot thank you, **Ranger Mike**, **Shakey Shot Sharon**, **Tommy Two Fingers**, and **Ka Adik Krista**.

Our next shoot will be April 19, 2026. Registration opens at 8:15 AM, side shoots start at 8:30 AM, and the mandatory safety meeting starts at 9:45 AM, preceding the main match.

Looking forward to next season, hope to see ya there!

Johnny Rebel  
574-349-3764





## Brush Creek—Hillman

Howdy Cowgirls and Cowboys

October 11th was a very nice day to be at Brush Creek. The weather was just right for playing cowboy and Mother Nature's fall colors were out standing. We had 14 shooters all eager to put some lead down range. **Faygo Kid** had written some easy and fast stages. When **Brushwood Bruce's** smoke had cleaned, we had four clean shooters. The top three shooters were **Faygo**, **Brushwood**, and **Eleanor Jewel**. Eleanor and Linda had put together a really nice lunch, so we eat and talked for as long as we had shot.

Our next shoot here in Hillman is November 8 and *we'll be shooting indoors.*

Everyone please mark your 2026 calendars and save the dates of July 24th, 25th, and 26th for the 6th annual **Cowboy Rendezvous.**

Happy Holidays to all and remember when playing Cowboy to have Fun!

Take Care,  
Faygo Kid and the  
Brush Creek Gang





## ☆ WHO TO CONTACT ☆

### CAPTAIN

- Any Wolverine Ranger or Range War Concerns
- Vendor Registration and Information

### RANGE WAR MATCH DIRECTOR

- Volunteer to help with Range War

### WOLVERINE RANGER'S 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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Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Wolverine Rangers.



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