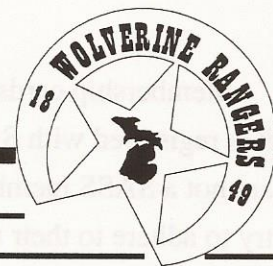


Wolverine Rangers' Epitaph



Volume 3, Issue 2

April 2000

DID YOU REMEMBER? *This is your last newsletter unless you remembered to renew.*

Wolverine Rangers Officers and Board of Directors

***Captain Ed Smith aka
Dakota Doc***

***Sec./Tres. Paula Smith aka
Cactus Kay***

***Carmen Bryan aka
Witman***

***Carmen Bryan aka
Shady Lady***

***David Bryan aka
Border Town Hombre***

***Michael Carnaghi aka
Chili Pepper Pete***

***Phillis Felice aka
Tenderfoot Tess***

***Wally Liley aka
Wall-Man***

***James Malcolm aka
J.A. Wilder***

***Kim Denny aka
Nitro Nellie***

***Rick Stover aka
Mackinaw Kid***

CAPTAIN'S CORNER...

HELLO, HOPE EVERYONE IS READY FOR COWBOY ACTION SHOOTING ... I AM.

First things first. I want to thank everyone for their cards and prayers while I was recuperating. They were a pleasant surprise and a great source of entertainment. I am doing much better and look forward to moving faster.

Bruiser the Loser has been vindicated. Last year, Led Foulin attended Comancheria Days with Red Eye Lil, Nitro Nellie, Cactus Kay and myself. When all was over, Bruiser, a name his daughter gave him, was Bruiser the Loser, a name Cactus Kay gave him. Everyone took home a plaque or an award, except Led Foulin. This year the shoe was on the other foot. Led Foulin was the only winner in the group and finished third in Men's Traditional Duelist. I wonder if the rest of us have heard the end of that?

I heard from Shotgun Bill the other day and he enclosed a flyer concerning the "Mad Hatter's Tea Party". Mad Hatter was an avid cowboy action shooter from the western side of the state. I'm sure many of you know he passed away this past year from cancer. The River Bend Rangers are honoring his memory by shooting a three day shoot on May 19-21, 2000. There will be a special charity match entitled, The Mad Hatter's Tea Party, and all proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society. The cost is \$60.00 for the main match and \$15.00 for the Saturday night banquet. Additional information can be obtained from the Hesston Kid, 219-778-2682, or Jonathan Slim Chance, 219-277-9712.

Scuttlebutt and rumors are running rampant. There is a new cowboy action shooting facility being built in Fredericksburg, TX This past February saw the first Range War conducted at the Tin Star facility. Rumors had the shoot as being very successful in spite of the incomplete construction. The Tin Star is being build from native stone and when completed will have a functioning hotel, bar, R.V. park with full hook-ups, riding stable, hiking trails and gift shop. The next cowboy action shoot is scheduled for Nov. 9 - 12, 2000. Now for the rumor ... Is SASS moving their headquarters to Fredericksburg, TX?

See y'all down the trail.

Dakota Doc

TIDBITS

by Cactus Kay

Membership cards are filled out with your alias, if it is registered with SASS, and your real name if you are not a SASS member. We are an affiliated club and try to adhere to their rules. Any comments?

Corrections on name and alias, etc. will be made on the mailing for the June Newsletter. I already had the ones I'm using printed out before hand. If June is not correct, please let me know. Everything should be current by then.

E-mail addresses on the applications are a challenge. I thought it mattered whether the letters were upper or lower case. Lots came in as all upper, some were lower, and many were mixed. I had hoped to be able to include these on the next membership list given out in the fall, but I'm afraid I would make a mess of them. Any suggestions?

The class I took with San Juan was great. Actually it was two half classes. Doc was in the hospital and I only stayed for half of the first one. We both attended about half of the next one at Stampede, at San Juan's invitation. It was primarily on being efficient with time and motion. I tried to take very thorough notes because I process information better that way. Also, I considered selling them later to the highest bidder (just kidding). Doc tried to get him to come to the Range War to put on a class but he is putting on an event at his own range the same weekend. We'll get him sooner or later!

A huge thanks to Catlow and Annabelle for taking such good care of me, at Winter Range, while Doc was in the hospital. Catlow switched onto my posse and kept me headed in the right direction, literally. They also moved us, motorhome and all, to a new location afterwards, so Doc could recuperate. Their effort was truly appreciated. Friends that good are hard to find.

Who Was That Masked Man?

by Wiiwan

Who is Phillip Hawk?

He's been married to Jocelyn for 28 yrs.

they have 4 children

he loves to sing and was also a dancer

he's a purest for English

O.K. here's the give away - he's a saddler and shoe-maker

he has a shop in Plymouth, MI

he makes almost anything in leather

originally from Denver

He is "The blond hawk"

Some call him Joe Denslaw

he's from Hastings MI

has been shooting for 2+ yrs. now

he's a production artist

All he does is work & shoot, thats all.

his alias is "Slow Joe" although we all know he's no slow Joe.

His name is Joe Guzniaak

from Durand MI

he works at Gander Mtn. Flint

has been shooting cowboy for 1 yr. now.

he also likes to shoot long range rifles and combat

Did you guess "Loco Bull"?

IT'S TIME

by Led Foulin

SPLAT!! SPLAT!! Not a very interesting or appealing sound, too bad, this noise is destined to replace the sound of gunfire of our Cowboy Action Shooting! Unless we gun owners hear the alarm and listen to the wake up call, we will be trading our Colts for paint

ball guns.

Think this can't happen, talk to any Canadian or shooter from Australia. One more term of the current administration and we, most certainly, will lose the 2nd amendment right to bear arms.

Ride the fence and leave it to "the other guys." I've heard all the excuses. For less than a pack of cigarettes a month you can make yourself heard. Love em' or hate em,' the NRA is the only organization fighting for you.

As I said earlier, I've heard all the excuses not to belong to the NRA, and so has Washington!!

Stampede 2000

Lucky Lenny and Country Girl

March 9 - 12, 2000 found four Michigan Rangers in Jean, Nevada. Jean, Nevada, you ask? Where is that? Well, folks, it is about 25 miles west of Los Vegas, Nevada, out in the high desert. And yes there is gambling there, but that is not why these four had found their way there. They were there to attend Stampede 2000.

Strange as it may seem there were 400 altogether that went to the dessert for shooting instead of gambling. Much to our surprise one of them was Dakota Doc who had just celebrated one month recovery from his heart surgery along with Cactus Kay. The other two were Lucky Lenny and Country Girl. We must say Dakota Doc looked great and shot all four days. While still somewhat sore from his surgery, he still hasn't learned how to slow down, and we were all still trying to keep up with him.

The weather was perfect for shooting, ranging in the 60's to low 70's. None of the four won any events, however they sure did have fun. One thing that impressed us was the high ratio of women shooting in the Stampede. On Lucky Lenny and Country Girls posse of 30 there were 9 woman and 1 junior. We shot a total of 14 stages, eight one day and six the next. It

was great attending the Governor's Ball on Saturday night to see all the different cowboy gala attire.

If you ever get the chance to travel around to the different shoots, do so. We have met people from all over the country, and they are all great, and dearly love the sport as much as we do here in Michigan. It is fun to see the different clubs and shoot through the varying stages.

Gone to Texas

The "TrailHead 00" cas match was held in Gunsmoke, Texas on March 23rd -26th or (30th -2nd for some) and was hosted by the Texas Historical Shootist Society. This year 5 Wolverine Rangers pulled up stakes and headed for Texas to be in attendance.

Dakota Doc and Cactus Kay winter in the southwest and had attended this shoot in the past. They encouraged Led Foulin,' Red Eye Lil and me to make the pilgrimage and meet them for a great time. Boy they weren't foolin' !! The Gunsmoke range is set up on a working ranch and is the home of the THSS. Over the years, the club has built a full size town right in one of the pastures including over 12 buildings, a Mine, a Stage Coach, a Cemetery and a Gallows. Most of the buildings have full interior and roofs; it was a cowboy action shooter's dream.

Thursday was spent visiting and exploring the vendor area. It was great to find Doc in good health and getting around fine (after his surgery). There were approximately 15 vendors in attendance with a wide selection of dry goods from clothing to fire arms. Led Foulin' was kind of partial to this nice Vaquero jacket but we convinced him it was too small. By the way it fits me just fine. In the afternoon they held side matches and when it got dark, the night shoot. For you that have never done a night shoot it really gives you the feel of how poorly lit towns of the old west were. All the lighting was done by lantern and you could hardly see the front of your pistol. The stage consisted

of 5 pistol and 6 shotgun and boy did the shotguns light up the town.

Friday morning started the main match and we were on posse 8 with a group from Louisiana. After a short shooters meeting and a blast from a small cannon, the match was on. With all the great buildings, the stages were filled with all sorts of movement, running, ducking, kneeling and jumping. We shot over, under and through many props along with a few moving targets. Targets were fairly small but not bad, pistol targets were close but rifle targets were a little farther than I was use too. One target in particular was a sporting clays rabbit that was indestructible, As I shot the target, the ground seemed to erupt in a cloud of dirt and smoke (a clean kill if I ever saw one) only to have my nemesis emerge from the other side unscathed. Most shooters would have wept after such a defeat but not 1, the next two targets were obliterated by my precision marksmanship. All in all the stages moved along steadily and no major delays were encountered. In the afternoon we went to the long range single shot event. This was supposed to be a sanctioned NRA BPCS match but was shortened because of time. The event ended up 5 shots off hand at the steel chickens at 200 meters. Foulin' Doc and I gave it a whirl

and much to our amazement we missed much faster then the other competitors; well better luck next time. The winner was shooting a 1871 Buffalo Classic and had 3 out of 5 hits in 51.48 seconds. As darkness fell over the range we headed for the bunkhouse for some vittles and a good nights rest.

The sun was bright as we arrived on Saturday morning and we were ready for whatever. the stages had in store. The stages went along with out a hitch until I was seriously injured while jumping from my horse. Being the trooper that I am; I continued shootin the bad guys as my life blood flowed out of my body. Finally after dispatching most of the bad guys, my gun jammed. Dizzy from the blood loss Cactus Kay helped me to the dispensary where was issued a band aid for my boo boo and a hammer for my rifle. Now back to our posse... We finished the remaining stages without incident and retired back to the bunkhouse to get ready for the banquet.

The banquet was in full swing upon our arrival and we were seated among the rest of our posse. There was a photographer doing beautiful Victorian portraits of the manv great outfits. After a buffet style dinner it was time for the awards. The Rangers can be proud of our showing with Led Foulin' ending up third in the duelist category and Red Eye Lil

winning best dressed Fancy Lady. The evening ended with a gun raffle but, lady luck was not with us.

Things seemed to be moving at a little bit slower pace on Sunday. The Man on Man competition and Team event were held and ended with another pleasant surprise. I had the opportunity to be on the same team as Tequila. He was very friendly and helpful. I believe we came in second but it was still a big thrill just to meet him.

In closing, I would like to thank Cactus Kay, Red Eye, Doc and Foulin' for their wonderful friendship and camaraderie. I would also like to tip my hat to the people of THSS for a job well done. They put on one heck of a shoot and hope to see them again next year. This was a trip this cowpoke won't soon forget.

Via Con Dios

Chili Pepper Pete

Safety

Club News

From Fint/Davison

Again this season we will put on three shoots at William's Gun Sight and Outfitters; the last weekends of May, June and July.

Our first shoot will be on **Monday**, May 29th, Memorial Day. The retail store will be closed, that day, and we will have the whole range to ourselves! Come out and join us, rain or shine, for a really good time.

Dakota Doc and Cactus Kay

From Hastings

Our first shoot of the season will be Sunday, May 14th, Mother's Day!! We are planning a fun, and fast moving shoot, since some of us are a little rusty after the long winter, and we all need to spend a little time with our moms! Registration opens at 8:30am and the shooters meeting will start at 9:30a.m.

We are looking to finish the match by about 12:30 for those who need to leave. We're planning on having a couple of side matches for those who want to stick around. Come join us if you can, I'm sure we'll have a great time! If you have any questions you can give me a call M-F 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at 616-945-4106 or contact Texas John Critter at 616-374-7106.

Nitro Nellie

From Lapeer

Being a former teacher, I thought I knew every excuse for an assignment not being done. Well, I'll have to draw upon my experience to provide an acceptable excuse as to why there are no final results from our Winter League. First, I thought I could say "the dog ate it," but not having a dog I knew that wouldn't fly. Next, I thought I could say my granddaughter colored on the page and threw it away. But in the end I decided to be honest and say I simply misplaced the paper with the last shoot results somewhere. Therefore, I would like to list everyone who shot with us (in no particular order) and say it won't happen again! The shooters were: Rusty Steele, Duke Steele, Bushy Mills, Alley Kat, Two Bit Charlie, Apple Annie, Tenderfoot Tess, Wacko Kid, Ricochet Bill, R.J. Law, The Lady, Dodge City Duke, Alibi, Chili Pepper, Grizzly Armstrong, Shutterbug Slim, Cactus Pete, Shooten Old Coote, J.D. or is it G.E.?, Heavy Metal, Bushwacker Bob, Saddle Tramp, Polecat, and Wall-Man.

A great time was had by all following the expert stage construction of Ricochet Bill. The culinary skills of Tenderfoot Tess kept us well fed. Many thanks also to the the setup and takedown crews. Coop

eration gets many things accomplished without a certain few having to shoulder all the work. Hopefully, this will carry over into the outdoor season!

We finished the League with a cowboy get together at Lennie Miller's restaurant in Dryden. Everyone had a good couple of hours eating and enjoying each others company. Prizes were awarded to all shooters in attendance.

One final thought, our first outdoor shoot is April 9th/00. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the mandatory shooters meeting is at 9:30 a.m. This is to be followed by five action packed stages designed to get rid of any cobwebs that might be lingering in your barrels from the winter.

WALL-MAN #5009 L.T.G.

From Port Huron

Hope everyone has had a good winter. Well for those of us who don't get to shoot much in the winter months, its time to dust off our sixguns and get ready for another exciting season of Cowboy Action Shooting. Westworld will be hosting 2 regular shoots this summer as well as the Wolverine Ranger's Range War 2000. The dates are Saturday May 6th and Saturday July 22nd. We will start a

Port Huron cont.

shooters' meeting at 9:30 a.m. sharp. The cost will be \$15.00 and \$3.00 for B.B.Q. lunch. If anyone needs directions to Port Huron's Bluewater Sportsman's Club, or for further info, you can contact us, Bordertown Hombre or Wiiwan at 519-336-1690.

Hope to see ya all soon!

From Utica (DSC)

1999 brought us our first year shooting cowboy at the DSC. Starting all over again was a tough job, but with all the support from the Wolverine Rangers and all you "Cowboy Shooters" out there it was very successful.

People like Camptown, Chili Pepper, Sid Vicious, Fox, Firestorm Smith, Yip E. Kya, El Dorado Ed, Buffalo Blair, Dorado Slim, Scratch McGee, Chia Pacos Pete, Grizzly Armstrong and the ladies who feed us Dee Hate, Beth Van Neste, Christine Vertrees (Elvira), Cathy Canapini, and Lou (Lavender Lou) make up the Rocky River Regulators. We have been very proud to host you and with our new 2000 schedule we are looking forward to having everyone come and join us at the DSC for more fun and shooting "THE COWBOY WAY".

Our first shoot of the year will be on May 21. As usual, registration will start at 8:30 a.m. followed by our mandatory shooters meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Just to give you plenty of advanced notice (in case you need to try some new recipes), our annual Chili Cook-off will be held on October 15.

Keep your branding irons hot and as always think safety first.

Mackinaw Kid a.k.a Rick Stover

Straight Shots From Saginaw

I would like to thank everyone who came to our shoots last year. 1999 was a great year for Cowboy Action Shooting in Michigan.

We've been having practice shoots outside on the first Saturday of the month all winter. January found us with 15 dedicated (or crazy) shooters who braved the snow and cold. February was just as successful with 12 cowboys shooting in a foot of snow. Now that shows their true grit. March 4th was nice and 16 shooters blasted away at the bad guys. Our next practice shoot will be April 1st from 9 a.m. until noon.

We will probably be having practice shoots most Wednesdays, starting May 3rd and running through September. Our Wednesday shoots start at 6:00 p.m. and go until dark. Cost for winter and Wednesday night shoots is \$3.00 for members and \$5.00 for non-members.

This year we've switched our big shoots to the second Saturday of the month. 13 dates are: May 13, June 10, July 8, and August 12.

Hope you all can make them!

Last year we tried what I called a "Tenderfoot Class". It was aimed at beginners who wanted to try C.A.S. without having to buy all the guns to compete in regular competition. All that was needed to compete was a single action pistol, .22 cal. or larger. Eight people shot the class and we received a lot of positive feedback. (This is a great way to get that lady involved.) We'll be having the Tenderfoot Class again at our 4 big shoots if the response is good.

Our Web site is: www.saginawfieldandstream.com

E-Mail address: saginaw6shooters@aol.com

Phone:

Marty Bell aka: Bad River Marty

(517) 585-3292

Bernie Eng aka: Berneng Bullets

(517) 791-3169