

WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



Volume 13, Issue 3 June 2010

* Captain's Corner *

Howdy Pards,

Well it looks like summer is here. As I am writing this on Monday May 24th the weather forecast is for Lower Michigan to be in the 80s all week. That sounds pretty good and perfect for Cowboy Action Shooting.

We have a Board of Directors Meeting for the Wolverine Rangers scheduled for Saturday June 5th in Rockford after the shoot. If any of you have any issues that you would like added to the agenda, please contact me at rgillary@gillarylaw.com or at my office 248-528-0440 . We will be discussing the final arrangements for Range War and any other normal business that may come up before the Board.

Many of you already know that Rick Lee of Brims and Trims, the fine hat makers out of Kentucky, was severely injured in a shooting. Rick was in the hospital for about 50 days and is now recuperating at home. Like many small businesses, sometimes little planning goes into preparing for worst case scenarios and Rick needs help. Deuce came up with an idea for Range War where you can challenge your shooting buddy to a manon-man, woman-on-woman or any other variation as the case may be with your shotguns at a special stage set up to benefit Rick. The Board will also be discussing some other ways to help out Rick. Brims and Trims has been a big supporter of Range War and of Cowboy Action Shooting in general. We need to help our own on this one.

We are heading into the heart of our shooting season. Please support your local clubs and get out and shoot and enjoy the competition and comradery of our fine sport. We have a diverse set of shooting clubs in this state each with their own personality and generally unique locations. This is a good way to get out and see the state of Michigan and to have fun doing it.

Memorial Day will have come and gone by the time that you get this edition of The Epitaph. Memorial Day is a time for us to remember the sacrifices that our soldiers have made to protect this country and to preserve our freedom and liberty. I would like to ask that we all thank our veterans and support our troops and pray for their safety. It is because of what they do and have done that we have the freedoms that we enjoy today. This is a little more personal for me today. My brother Ted notified me yesterday that my nephew Grant is now in country in Afghanistan. He spent a tour in Iraq but that was relatively easy duty helping to train Iraqis. This time he will see combat. Grant is a Marine Captain in First Recon and they will be doing the heavy lifting. We are praying that Grant and his men come home safe.

Shoot safe, fast and clean.

Best regards,

R.J. Law

R.J. Law - Captain



★ Shooting News ★

"BLEZING SEDDLES!" ROCKFORD'S GUN 'N FUN

Well Howdy Pards!

Those Wolverine Rangers a'readin' this here article that made it to the town of Liberty just north of the village of Rockford, know what a fun time was had by all at the two-day long shindig! Those that didn't saddle up and

make the trek missed a good time!



We had b-e-a-u-t-i-f-u-l weather, a total of 47 shooting participants, great stages, and a how-could-ya-have-more-funthan-this theme from ... "Blazing Saddles".

We even had some visitors from as far away as Kaintucky;

namely 'Black Tom' who by the way was the only clean shooter and finished

second overall, and a visitor from the mighty U.P. 'Hardtabe Humboldt', who was passin' through and decided to join in the fun. Our own 'somewhat-famous' and always beloved Deuce Stevens was standin' at the front of the herd when all the smoke cleared (and there was A LOT of smoke, thanks to a passel of

shooters using the 'holy black'. There



were too many category winners to list here, but suffice it to say, there was some mighty fine shootin'.



Just to add to the fun, we gave away a door prize of a \$600 gift certificate to Brain Enos Distributing (a Dillon distributor among other things) who is a great guy and very supportive of the shooting arts. Drover Dan was the lucky jack to win this prize. In addition to the door prize we held a special one-day raffle for a

Norinco '97 shotgun, and the winning

ticket was for a little gal who showed up for her first Cowboy shoot, and decided to throw in for a chance, even though she had not planned on shooting the second day; it turns out she had to come back to pick up her new scattergun! Congrats to Risque Renee.

Many thanks to all those hard workin' cowpokes, Regulators and not, that helped get the range ready, put on such a fine event, and made sure all were well fed and cared for.



To those pards (and pardettes) who had other pressing engagements and could not make the rendezvous, We encourage you come for a visit and help us burn some powder and make some new steel ring (and boy do they ring!).

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★ Shooting News ★

ROCKY RIVER REGULATORS



The Rocky River Regulators hosted their May monthly match under perfect Michigan blue skies and perfect weather conditions. Six hotly contested stages were shot and when the smoke cleared from the town of Rocky River, the top gun of the 48 shooters was Faygo Kid. The top 3 D.S.C. shooters were J.J. Longley, Nine Finger Bob, and Camptown. These shooters distinguished themselves by shooting a clean match, Moe Gunns, Mike Fink, Andy Horshurodinon, Black River Pete, Rodent, and DSCs own Terrebone Bud. Congratulations to all.

Remember that we shoot at DSC on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Come on out and enjoy a FREE warm up stage and 6 stages of Cowboy action fun! Next monthly matches are June 20th and July 18th. The Rocky River Regulators are putting on some special shooting events in the near future, so MARK your calendars now!

<u>July 31, 2010 Wild Bunch Event</u>. This will be a match held under SASS specs and rules for the new and fun Wild Bunch shoot.

August 8, 2010 T-Shirt CAS Match. This is an EXTRA monthly Cowboy match. Wear your best Range War T-shirt or any other cowboy T-shirt and shoot 6 stages that were shot at a previous SASS Regional "Guns of August" as a tune up for the Regional match. Not shooting GOA, no problem. Just come out and enjoy an EXTRA match. Either way come casual, avoid the heat, and have some fun!

<u>September 25 and 26, 2010 5th Annual 2-day</u> <u>Ambush at Rocky River Match.</u> The date has moved, but the action will still be fast and furious. Included in the \$50 registration fee are 10 stages of CAS fun plus FREE Warm-up Stage, FREE Side Matches, FREE 3-stage Wild Bunch Shoot, FREE 3-stage Candle Light Shoot, FREE Spaghetti "Western" Dinner (Saturday early evening), Awards to all category winners, Awards to all Side Match Winners, Match overall individual trophy, and FREE lunch both days.

Informational flyers on all the above can be accessed at www.d-s-c.org. Click on Coming Events and scroll to the appropriate date. If you can't find it there, just email lupij@wowway.com with any questions.

See you on the Range. JJ. Longley

WOLVERINE RANGERS MEMBERSHIP FREE SHOOT AT HIDDEN VALLEY



This is Mail Order Annie giving a shout out to all you Wolverine Rangers! The Membership Shoot is coming up quick so, remember to send in your entry form on the next page by July 5th. Entry form is also available on the website. The Hidden Valley Cowboys are hosting our free shoot this year and they have a great range and lots of fun cowboys and cowgirls to shoot with.

Take this opportunity to shoot at Hidden Valley in Sturgis. Lots of shootin' fun is sure to be had by all.

★ Shooting News ★

HIDDEN VALLEY COWBOYS – WOLVERINE RANGERS FREE SHOOT JULY 11, 2010 – PRE-REGISTRATION

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In case of emergency Please Notify								
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Release of Claims Waiver St. Joseph County Conservation and Sportsman Club, Inc. – 23640 Featherstone Road, Sturgis MI 49091 I fully understand that by signing this liability disclaimer, I on behalf of myself and my agents, heirs and next of kin, assume all risks and hazards incidental to my participation in this activity, including transportation to and from these activities. I do hereby waive, release, absolve, indemnify and agree to hold harmless, collectively, and individually, the elected and/or appointed officers, members of St. Joseph County Conservation and Sportman Club, Inc. or each of its members from any claim arising from sickness, injury or death to me or my property except if caused by their gross negligence or will and wanton misconduct. I agree that if the St. Joseph County Conservation and Sportsman Club, Inc. their officers or members are sued by anyone else because of claimed conduct of myself, I will indemnify the St. Joseph County Conservation and Sportsman Club, Inc. for all damages and costs including attorneys' fees. I have read and understand this agreement. Signature (parent or guardian must sign if shooter is a minor)								



Please send in by July 5, 2010 to:

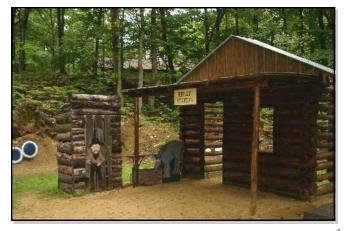
Sauk Valley Stubby 69736 W. White Tail Rd. Sturgis MI 49091

johnnsally@charter.net



★ Shooting News ★

STRAIGHT SHOTS FROM SAGINAW



Saginaw was sure blessed with a great May 29th shoot. Under a shining sun, 66 shooters, including one scary looking bear, shot our BIG targets and fun scenarios. When the smoke cleared, we had 23 clean shooters collecting their awards. Top overall shooter was Deuce Stevens. Top five men shooters were Deuce Stevens, Doc Noper, Bad River Marty, Ethan Callahan and Avalanche Andy. Top five ladies were Katie Callahan, Ledge Lady, Tessa Two Gunner, Cactus Kay and Ruby Red Jo. Our Traditional Wild Bunch winners were Ethan Callahan and Mike E. the Blaster. Modern Wild Bunch winner was Marshall Payden. Our thanks to everyone who were able to spend their Memorial Day Saturday with us and to show honor to our military heroes, past and present.

This year Saginaw will be hosting its **FREEDOM DAYS**, Saturday, July 31st and Sunday, August 1st. Shoot one day or both. You have the FREEDOM to choose. These are 2 separate shoots, back-to-back. Scores & awards will be handed out each day. Registration is each morning, 8:30-9:30 a.m. \$15 each day, 16 & under are free. Grub included.

We'll also be having our own "mini" Wild Bunch Match for our outlaw pards after the main match. (3 quick stages in the woods!) Cost is only \$5. Contact Ethan Callahan at j20bell@yahoo.com for specifics.

We're offering free primitive camping Friday & Saturday nights. We'd appreciate a call ahead. 989-585-3292 or mnbbell@yahoo.com If you're not on vacation somewhere else, why not come to our own little piece of "Up North" and shoot some targets with us. Then, shoot the breeze and relax with

friends. Take a walk around our lake but be warned, last year the lady walkers had the bee-jeebers scared out of them by one Onyx bear. But rumor has it the ladies will be on bear alert this year!!! Grrrrrr!!!! We'll have a potluck Saturday night if you want to join in, but it's not mandatory. Sunday mornin' we'll have a short cowboy church service to thank the Lord for all our freedoms, especially the freedoms to worship in this great country of ours and to keep and bear arms.

For what's happening in Saginaw, check us out on the web. Thanks to Ethan Callahan, we've hitched www.facebook.com/ up with Facebook. Of course, we're still at our saginawcowboys Saginaw Field & Stream site. www.saginawfieldandstream.com and the "one-stop -has-it-all" Wolverine Ranger website www.wolverinerangers.org

Our weekly Wednesday night practices, 5:00 p.m. until dark are providing a lot of fun. We have new shooters getting involved in this sport, which is a good thing to see. We get in at least 5 stages a night, usually more. We'd love to have you join us. Cost is \$5 for non-Field & Stream members...pretty cheap harassment, we'd say!

And remember... live life. Give it your best shot. Hope to see you at our Freedom Days the end of July.

Bad River Marty & Katie Callahan



Range War Sponsor 2.13 miles from Range

The Baymont Inn & Suites is once again offering special rates along with pizza and soda on Friday night for all registered Wolverine Rangers guests. Make your reservation today by calling 810-364-8000. Watch the Wolverine Rangers website for details of an upcoming hotel room give-away!

Baymont Inn & Suites—Port Huron 1611 Range Road, Kimball, Michigan (810) 364-8000 www.baymontporthuron.com

★ Shooting News ★

JOHNSON CREEK REGULATORS



In Memory of Grey Pony Nov 9, 1942-May 14, 2010

The Johnson Creek Regulator's upcoming match dates are June 26 and July 24, 2010. Registration for both these events is 8:30 and a mandatory safety meeting at 9:30. We would like to welcome both new and experienced shooters. We always promise a good time and these events won't disappoint. We are planning side matches for both events. The start time for the side matches is 9:00AM sharp!

As always we will provide some tasty grub to fill your stomachs after the shoot. So come on out and join us for a shootum' up good time.

Gabby Glenn

THE DOUBLE BARREL GANG HASTINGS, MICH

Howdy! Spring is here and shooting is in high gear. The Double Barrel Gang held its May match and without rain...something new for Hastings! I want to thank all the mothers and wives for letting 20 guys and gals shoot our Mothers Day match.

Congrats to Three Gun Cole for his win using them funny guns, the ones that take flat cylinders. Hair Trigger Elden was runner-up using regular guns. Ruby Red Jo was the top Lady. There were 5 clean shooters: Ruby Red Jo, Gunslinger, Dakota Fats, Rooster, and Lue Dee Kriss.

Many thanks to Snareman and Gunslinger for helping Slippery and I with setup and tear down.

Double Barrel Gang will be shooting on June 13th. Tiny and his four brothers are ready to take on all comers.

The Double Barrel Gang would like to invite all to came out and shoot with us this season. We hope it works out for you now that we will be shooting the second Sunday. We are going to try lunch uptown at the Big Boy.

Have fun, shoot straight and keep your powder dry and we will see ya down the trail.

Dakota Fats said all that.

HAPPENINGS IN ROCKFORD

The cowfolk at Rockford have worked a lot of long hours this spring making improvements to the town of Liberty and you now have a much friendlier range layout for those guncarts than in the past; just ask some of the cowboys that have visited lately.

A lot of long hours went into updating our building facades, improving our storage, solving our sand problem and most importantly, raising a very proper flag pole. Thanks guys for your hard work.

You will also enjoy shooting our many new targets! ALL new shotgun poppers built by Doc Noper and 18 new pistol targets and stands built by Mike E the Blaster. The pistol targets are designed to reduce the amount of splatter helping us to keep targets close and safe. Our goal is to put on shoots that are *fast and furious!*

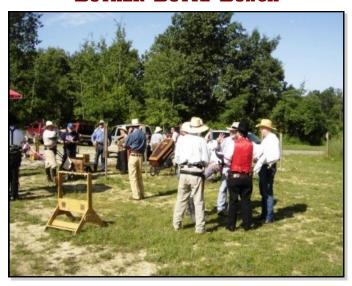
We have also been shooting 6 stages with the addition of a shotgun only stage. The feedback has been very positive. We will keep it up. Thanks for coming out! See ya at the next one!

Ketchum Quick

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★ Shooting News ★

BUTHER BUTTE BUNCH



We would like to send out a big THANK YOU TO LUCKY LENNIE for all the props he donated to the Fenton Cowboy Club, also to Dakota Doc and Cactus Kay for helping Lenny deliver them to the Club, they will make a great addition to our matches.

Thanks to everyone that joined The Butcher Butte Bunch for our match in Fenton on Sunday, May 9th, it was Mothers Day, but we still had a good turnout, we had a lot of fun, and the weather turned out pretty nice. We also talked Grubby Hardrock into letting us put the targets a little closer, so come on out next month and try it again.

The Butcher Butte Bunch

RANGE WAR

Have you sent in your Range War Entry Form?

If you want that FREE Range War T-shirt you must sign up before August 1st. We've included an application for your convenience on the following page and it is also on the website. Our Webmaster, Laporte Lil, has all the Range War details on the website also.

www.wolverinerangers.org

You may email or call our Captain, R.J. Law, with any concerns.

rgillary@gillarylaw.com 248-528-0440

UPCOMING SHOOTS

June Shoots						
5Hillman	Monthly Match					
5Rockford						
12 Bellaire						
12 Lapeer						
12-13 Ithaca						
13 Fenton						
13 Hastings						
13 Lapeer						
19 Lapeer						
19 Utica						
19 Breckenridge	Monthly Match					
20 Utica						
21-27 New Mexico	End of Trail					
23 Rockford						
26 Central Lake						
26 Plymouth						
26 Scottville						
20 Scottville	wionung waten					
July Shoots						
3Hillman	Monthly Match					
3Rockford						
3-4 Middleton, OH.						
	BP Regional Championship					
10Bellaire						
11 Fenton						
11 Hastings						
11 Sturgis						
17 Lapeer	Fun Shoot & Silhouette					
17 Utica	22 Pistol/Rifle Shoot					
17 Breckenridge						
18 Utica	Monthly Match					
18 Sturgis						
21 Rockford						
24 Central Lake						
24 Plymouth						
24 Scottville						
31 Lapeer						
31 Utica						
31 Saginaw	Monthly Match					
August Shoots (First Wee	k only listed)					
1 Saginaw						
1Lapeer						
7 Hillman						
	Monthly Match (Hawaiian)					
8 Fenton						
8 Hastings						
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★ SHOOTING **N**EWS **★**



TOTAL S

SHOOTER APPLICATION

SASS MICHIGAN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



September 3rd - September 5th, 2010



(248) 528-0440

Please fill out a separate application for each shooter. Payment may be combined.

SHOOTER INFORMATION (please print or type)							
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★ Shooting Tips ★

SHOOTING TIPS BY EL GUANO

In the last issue we discussed how to load match grade black powder cartridges for your single shot rifle. Many of the steps I covered are also used for reloading smokeless rifle ammo and I know many of you have already been down that trail. A few more thoughts on the subject won't hurt so here goes.

You absolutely must invest in a powder scale, a caliper, and some kind of case trimmer. Your scale will allow you to accurately measure your powder charge and increase or decrease it by EXACT amounts during load development. Your caliper will tell you when your cases should be trimmed and your overall cartridge length. Remember, your cases grow in length when you full length resize them. Measure your cases AFTER you size them and trim them to .005 under the recommended max case length, then chamfer the inside and outside of the case mouth. Lee makes a very inexpensive case trimmer set that works really well for minor trimming. If you trim a lot of cases you might want to invest in a bench mounted case trimmer.

When choosing a bullet to reload, you must choose the right bullet for the task at hand. Remember, soft is good, as in 30:1. The common 405 grain flat point .45 caliber bullets are fine for hunting, short range target practice, and the long range match at "Range War", and big, long bullets are needed for mid-long range work. No need to weigh your bullets unless your gonna shoot a creedmoor match. If you shoot smokeless powder, the hard waxy bullet lubes that come on store bought bullets will probably work ok, but if you switch to black powder, you will need a softer lube like SPG to keep the black powder fouling soft from shot to shot. The big bullets usually have enough grease grooves to carry ample lube down the bore.

Your overall ctg. Length with the 405 gr. Cowboy bullets is usually determined by the crimping groove on the bullet. The longer heavier bullets usually don't have a crimping groove so you can seat the bullet fully in the case with no grease grooves showing [although this practice reduces powder capacity in the case and is generally less accurate] or you can seat the bullet to just barely touch the rifling, depending on what combination is most accurate in your rifle. When using smokeless powder, NEVER cram the bullet into the rifling. This could cause a dangerous spike in pressure with potentially harmful results. DON'T DO IT!

When the time comes to take your reloads to the range for accuracy testing, try this. Use different colors of magic marker on the primers to differentiate between the different loads. Make sure you write down which is which. For initial accuracy testing I load up 6 of each different load. I shoot from the bench with sandbags front and back to eliminate as much movement as possible. Don't do any load testing at LESS than 100 yards. 200 vards is better. Pick a calm day if possible. If you can't, WATCH THE WIND! I fire the first shot of each load into the berm to foul the barrel because generally the first round is out of the following group. I then fire the next 5 shots as carefully as I can. I wipe the barrel and then move on to test the next load. Generally 5 shots are usually enough to tell you what loads have potential and which loads don't work. Once you have weeded those out, load up 11 rounds of the ammo that shot good groups and re-test them. Why shoot 10 shot groups you ask? Well Bub I'll tell va. If the load is TRULY an accurate one, the second 5 shots will be as accurate as the first 5. The group should be fairly round with no fliers. If the bullet holes are strung vertically it could indicate velocity variations from shot to shot. Horizontal stringing is usually caused by the wind. If you are incredibly lucky, you will get some ragged one hole groups on your first try. You might win the lottery too. It could take a month or a year to find the right load for your rifle so hang in there and keep trying. Remember, group size is a subjective thing. A group that makes you happy might be WAY too big for the next guy so strive for the smallest groups possible. As a rule, if you can keep most of your shots within 2 minutes of angle [2 inches at 100 yards, 4 inches at 200 yards] you'll be doing REAL GOOD. Small groups win matches!

Here is one more tip for you pards that shoot the long range single shot rifle event at Range War. Once you get a load developed in your rifle and KNOW its' true accuracy potential, you must practice shooting from the position required in the event. You can't do all your shooting from the bench and then waltz up to Range War and try shooting 5 shots from X-sticks as fast as you can and expect to win. WHY? Cuz you haven't practiced it pilgrim! Here's what you can do. Remember, shooting from prone X-sticks is WAY steadier than from sitting Xsticks. Have your ammo laid out in a way and place that takes only a minimum amount of movement to eject the spent cartridge reload a new one. Load up 5 dummy rounds and practice the load/aim/fire/eject sequence at home. You can't stick your X-sticks in the carpet [and keep your cowgirl happy] but you can rest your rifle some books etc. Get set up EXACTLY like you will be when you shoot the match. Have someone time you. PRACTICE! When you shoot that match in 2010 you will be confident that you have the speed and a rifle that can win....now all you have to do is hit the target! Hold center EL GUANO



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



★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
- · Requests to receive Epitaph by mail

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

★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

248-528-0440 egillary@gillarylaw.com

MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATORS

CARD SHARK CHARLIE & LAINEY MAE

616-874-3406 <u>drury1954@chartermi.net</u>

<u>WEBMASTER</u>—LAPORTE LIL laportelil@speednetllc.com

EPITAPH EDITOR—MAIL ORDER ANNIE

616-363-2827 mailorderannie@comcast.net

WEBSITE—www.wolverinerangers.org