

Wolverine Rangers' Epitaph



Volume 4, Issue 2

April 2001

Wolverine Rangers Officers and Board of Directors

Captain Ed Smith aka
Dakota Doc

Sec/Tres Paula Smith aka
Cactus Kay

First Lieutenant Mike Carnaghi
Chili Pepper Pete

Marty Bell aka
Bad River Marty

Carmen Bryan aka
Wiiwan

David Bryan aka
Border Town Hombre

Kim Denny aka
Nitro Nellie

K.C. Fahrni aka
Texas John Critter

Bill Felice aka
Ricochet Bill

Phyllis Felice aka
Tenderfoot Tess

Wally Liley aka
Wall-Man

Rick Lewis aka
Micky Lobe

Clarence Rossell aka
No Buk Chuck

Rick Stover aka
Mackinaw Kid

CAPTAIN'S CORNER...

Howdy y'all. I hope this finds all of you ready for a new season of CAS. I know Cactus Kay and I are ready to shoot with you again. For those of you who have renewed for 2001, you already have a 2001 calendar and know the schedule. For the rest of you, come on. We are currently in negotiations with Paw Paw, under the leadership of Seven and Wildcat Elly to become our newest Ranger club. It would give cowboy action shooters another place to shoot and a welcome addition to our board. New ideas and personnel give an organization more vitality and interest. I know I'm hopeful this merger takes place.

By the time you read this TRAILHEAD will be history. I only mention this because Cactus Kay and I are looking forward to seeing some of our friends from home that are going to attend. We are only sorry that some of the rest of you couldn't come down. It would be great to have an all Wolverine Ranger posse at an out of state shoot. I'm sure the laughter and enjoyment shared would over shadow the other posses. Someday this will happen.

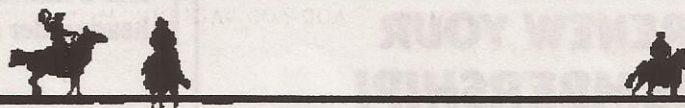
The board has been busy planning for the Wolverine Ranger Range War, 2001. This year, as a result of suggestions from last year, the words "Michigan State Championship" will be on the awards. We are thinking about including a Posse Shoot, to be shot as a sixth stage, either Saturday or Sunday. We have attended several shoots that have included a posse shoot. I see it as an opportunity to shoot more bullets for the same amount of money. Not bad, eh? The jury is still out on this decision.

Tin Star Ranch is offering another shoot, May 2-4. Since we are in the area it will give me another opportunity to see if I can handle Cactus Kay. We are also headed for The Siege the third weekend in May. Unless some unforeseen problem occurs, we will be home shortly thereafter for our shoot on Memorial Day, at William's Gunsight and Outfitters. We hope to see many of you there. Until then, watch your backside and keep your powder dry.

Think safety. As we travel and shoot we see that Michigan shooters are way ahead of most places in gun safety. Give yourselves a pat on the back and keep up the high standards you have set.

Dakota Doc

SAFETY FIRST . SAFETY LAST . SAFETY ALWAYS



TIDBITS by *Cactus Kay*

- Thanks for the tremendous early response on renewal memberships. It really helped out. Hurry and renew if you haven't. It was to be in by March 31.
- On the blue list of shoots, the far right hand column lists the side event guns to be used after the main match at each particular shoot. (On the first sixty renewals the column wasn't labeled.) As always side events are optional. Listing side events was a suggestion from the membership so it would be known which extra guns to bring. We'll see how it works out this season.
- We need some more ladies shooting, and we need them in the modern class! Come on ladies go for it!
- If you are not a SASS member or an NRA member you might want to consider joining. Pro-gun organizations are important to us right now. If you do, please tell them the Wolverine Rangers sent you. We get credit with both organizations.
- If you plan on taking the Oglesby class, listed on the Range War application, send a check for \$100.00 made out to the Wolverine Rangers and mail it to Wolverine Rangers at 4345 S. Linden Rd., Flint, MI 48507. You may do that anytime now.
- We'll try one more time to get the e-mail correct for Dodge City Duke; it is tomfran@prodigy.net
- You can tell you're traveling in Texas when "the next rest area" is 119 miles!

**THIS IS YOUR LAST
ISSUE UNLESS YOU
REMEMBERED TO
RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP!**

One of our own cowpokes is having a rough time of it with his health.

I ask you to join us is wishing Wall Man a good and quick recovery.

*Our best wishes go out to you
Wall Man*

BEES WAX FOR BLACKPOWDER LUBE

I have been getting a few questions about where to get bees wax. Here in the big city of Rochester Hills we have 3 bee keepers. I can go to them and get bee foundations or bees wax in cake form. I don't know what to tell you about other areas that you may live in, but I know there must be a lot of bee keepers out in the agricultural areas. Call J&N Honey Farm, Oxford, MI (248)628-7167. Ask for Norm and he will be able to help you out with wax. Dental wax will work well, red or blue. It is also known as jeweler's wax. You can usually find it at a jeweler wholesaler or supply house. Check your yellow pages.

Stay away from paraffin wax as a base for your lubricant. It is cheap, easy to find, but does not work well for this application. Remember equal parts of bees wax, petroleum jelly, and Crisco make great lube for blackpowder. In summer add more bees wax to stiffen the lube. In winter use more Crisco to loosen the lube.

Next month's article will be about reloading blackpowder cartridges for cowboy action shooting. Chili Pepper and I have been experimenting with a lot of different loads for several different calibers.

I appreciate all the response and questions that people have been asking. It makes it easier for me to write articles and know what you would like to see in our paper.

Until next time remember, "Reciting cowboy poetry is like a hair cut. If it is good, you feel like a million bucks. If it is bad, you hide your head under a hat."

Mackinaw Kid

WINTER RANGE 2001

This past February 8-11, 2001 found several Wolverine Rangers enjoying themselves in sunny but cool Phoenix, Arizona for the annual Winter Range. It was great to see friends once again. In attendance were Catlow and Annabelle Crow. Annabelle didn't shoot, but kept a good eye on the venders row. There was also Beaver Kid from Beaver Island and his wife, who were both just observing, but having a great time. Hopalong Hicks also shot, while his wife cheered him on, and also kept a good eye on the venders row. Also shooting were Dakota Doc, Cactus Kay, Lucky Lennie and Country Girl. While not all the scores were that impressive, it was heard that all enjoyed themselves greatly.

We all enjoyed the range. Ben Avery Range is 1600 acres owned and run by the State of Arizona. They average 300 shooters a day on the weekends, with many special events held all year around. It was a very well run shoot. Safety was of utmost importance and greatly stressed. Some of us though it was a great way to hold a two day shoot. You shot two stages, then rested for 1-1 1/2 hours, then went and shot two more stages, then rested again. Of course there was always the eating at one of the many food venders that were in attendance. Speaking of eating, it was heard that some of the above listed ate their way across Arizona, and are now dieting.

The targets and props were really quite nice, except for the shotgun targets. Anyone who is in charge of targets and running a shoot, please make sure that you have one consistent way to score your shotgun hits and misses. To say all were treated equal at Winter Range would be a gross understatement.

If you are looking for a great way to get some relief from the 'Northern Winters', consider attending the Winter Range in 2002. Reservations need to be made right away, usually around June. I know that some of are planning on attending again in 2002, so if you decide to go, let Dakota Doc & Cactus Kay or Lucky Lennie & Country Girl know, so that we can have all of us placed on the same posse.

Country Girl

THE PEPPER POT

Well Pard, I thought I'd take a moment to let you know that things are well on their way for the 2001 Wolverine Ranger Range War. The Board is currently putting together the schedule of activities to make this years shoot bigger and better than last year.

One item that we need your help with is going to be setting up the range. In the past a lot of the grunt work was done by a few people working after hours and during the day the week of the shoot. This year we thought that if we had enough volunteers we could set the range up on the Wednesday and Thursday before the match. Our plan is to work both days starting at 8:30 till 5:00 and we will provide lunch and beverages. We are looking for around 30 people to come out and work with us; we know that not everyone will be able to be there all the time. Any time you can give would be greatly appreciated. Setting up 10 main stages, side matches and the rest of the range facilities is a big job, so please put this on your schedule and plan on coming out. Our success depends on you!

Best Regards,
Chili

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CLUB CONTACTS

Bordertown Hombre	Port Huron	519-336-1690
Dakota Doc	Flint/Davison	810-733-8454
Bad River Marty	Saginaw	517-585-3292
Mackinaw Kid	DSC	248-852-0351
Micky Lobe	Durand	810-629-9709
Texas John Critter	Hastings	616-374-7106
Wall-Man	Lapeer	248-628-7424
Yooper Fred	Sault Ste. Marie	906-635-9700

SAWGRASS POETRY CORNER

Birth of a CAS shooter

I remember three long years ago, when I laughed as my dad said;
how about we start cowboy shooting, dress the part and shoot out lead.
Not in this life, I told the old man, thinking time had numbed his brain,
I grew up watching Rambo, not the Lone Ranger and what's his name.
Surely his mind is slipping, I thought, to suggest that I dress like that,
Rambo never wore boots or spurs, he wore bandannas, not cowboy hats.
Yet, I do love shooting pistols, though single action was not my style.
The art of cocking hammers, would surely take a while.
Being able to shoot some pistols, was not enough to change my mind,
I had to buy into that fantasy, of what was so long before my time.
So I started watching classics, starring the Duke and a cast of more,
I watched every Spaghetti western that I could rent at my video store.
The more I watched, the more I dreamed, the more I think I understood,
I wanted to be a cowboy, just like the squinting Clint Eastwood!
I wanted to shoot a custom sharps, farther than Quigley on the spot,
Or a better tracker than Noble Adams was long before he was shot.
I wanted to be in a family, tougher than the Sackett brothers three,
Or be ol Marshall Dillon and have Miss Kitty waiting up for me.
Oh to be so Unforgiven, a gunfighter feared both far and wide,
Wyatt Earp in a shoot-out, with Doc Holiday close by my side.
So I went out and bought a cowboy hat and plain ol pair of boots,
I bought two pistols and a long gun and off to my dads I went to shoot.
The look in his eyes was priceless, his only son had made his day,
So we practiced for a little while, both dressed in the cowboy way.
Then we made us up a gun cart, though carpenters we'll never be,
We spent hours in the wood shop, just our dreams, my dad and me.
We then waited for our first Sunday shoot, it seemed to take so long,
Till we headed down to Detroit, with our guns and western songs.
We were a little apprehensive, still not knowing what we'd find,
We were helped by almost everyone, we liked the cowboy kind.
Some helped us with our shooting, others just talked and eased our minds,
A friendlier group of cowboys, you would be hard pressed to find!
We were hooked on cowboy shooting, by the end of the first day,
and I knew I had found a new love, as I grabbed my rifle from the hay.
So to all you generation Xers, who grew up with Rambo one and two,
Try to keep an open mind, and you might one day be a Cowboy too!

Sawgrass



CLUB NEWS...

Straight Shots From Saginaw
Our shooting season got off in a flurry of gunfire on February 3rd. Thirty hardy shooters showed up to brave the elements and shoot over 100 rounds of ammo. When the blizzard of bullets stopped and the gunsmoke cleared, the following cowboys and cowgals were just a grin-nin'!

- Men's Class:**
1. Texas John Critter
 2. Berneng Bullets
 3. Bad River Marty
 4. Fireball
 5. Sawgrass

- Lady's Class:**
1. Shotgun Mary
 2. High Maintenance
 3. Mercantile Annie

Sawgrass shot his first clean match ever! Redleg and Chuck Fugate only missed 1 shot each. Nice shooting, Partners! Four of our shooting buckaroos from the U.P. club, The Chippewa Regulators, showed up to shoot with us. Their club has joined the Wolverine Rangers and I urge anyone who wants to go to a FUN shoot to travel across the Big Mac (Troll Bridge) and shoot with our Yooper Pard.

Sixteen shooters showed up for our March 3rd practice shoot. Weather was fine and we didn't even need that campfire. Our next practice shoot is April 7th. When May gets here we will probably be shooting "Cowboy" every Wednesday night, if it works out. We'll let you know. Our regular shoots this year are April 28th, June 2nd, and September 29th. Cost will be \$15 and grub will be provided. Our thanks to all the cowboys who come out in all kinds of weather. That just goes to show their real cowboy spirit. Cowboy Contacts: Marty Bell, alias Bad River Marty (517) 585-3292 mnbell@yahoo.com or Bernie Eng, alias BernEng Bullets (517) 791-3169. And remember...Live life. Give it your best shot!

CLUB NEWS...

Port Huron

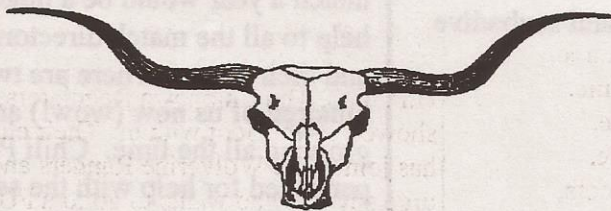
YA HOO!

Its wild west time at the range. Westworld at the Bluewater Sportsman Association in Port Huron will be having its first cowboy shoot of the season on May 5th. So roll-up the bed-roll, dust off your travelin' clothes, scrub up the family, oil the shooting irons and make tracks to the outdoor range for a day of foot stomping, gun toting, fun!!!

Start time-9:30 rain or shine

Cost-\$18.00 includes lunch

See ya there,
Border Town Hombre



DSC/Rocky River Regulators

Got a couple of things to clarify for ya all. Because April 15 is Easter Sunday, we cancelled our cowboy shoot and we moved our annual cowboy cook-out and free side event day from the 3rd weekend in July to the 21st and 22nd of July. Our September shoot will be the 23rd, just as it says on the W.R. calendar. Sorry for the inconvenience and confusion caused by the discrepancies in the sheets that were passed out and the calendar.

Things are going great on our range. Chili Pepper is building a new bank building. We will be adding a new registration and food building. I think we have settled on a new name for Lavender Lou's Cowboy Restaurant... Sam-N-Ella's. Catchy huh! Well, that is about all we can report at this time. The winter has been kind ta our bunch, hope it has been treatin' yours well too.

Thanks,
Mackinaw Kid

Lapeer

(With Wall Man being laid up for a little while I thought I would mention a few things going on at their club - Editor)

Lapeer will be having their first outdoor shoot on the first of April. It's a good time to get out and knock the cobwebs out. They have been working on new targets through out the winter, so the shoot should be new and exciting, Come out and join them if you can.

Hastings

Well it's about time for us to kick things off. April 8th is our first shoot and we couldn't be less prepared! Just kidding. We're starting to get the itch to write scenarios and set up props. We have a few new targets, and at least one new prop. If I get off my butt we'll have two new ones. I think things are in good shape and I can't wait to see some of you who burrow in for the winter. Don't worry Mickey Lobe or Led' Foulin. I won't mention any names.

We're going to have pocket pistol, derringer, and long range rifle side matches after the main match on the 8th. Bring em if you got em. Times are the same for all the Ranger clubs so 8:30 sign up and 9:30 shooters meeting. We'll be shooting 5 stages with lunch served after we finish shooting. We're going to have a lot more classes than in the past, and prizes will be door prizes instead of shooting awards.

If anyone would like to try their hand at writing a couple of stages I would be glad to look at them. Just send them to me, and I'll see what we can do.

Texas John Critter

CORRESPONDENCE

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WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN?

By Wiiwan

- Denis Vertress is his real name
- He collects old #3 Smith and Wesson's
- Has been a Cowboy Action shooting for 2 years
- Also likes to shoot P.P.C, sporting clays and muzzles loaders
- Lives in Sterling Hights MI with his wife Chris "Alvira"
- They have 2 sons
- He is a lab technician
- Does some amateur gunsmithing
- His alias is "Kid Vicious"

- Some call him Jack Curry
- He lives in Canton MI
- Has been a Cowboy shooter for 1 year
- He has a training manager who writes technical manuals
- Also likes to do other shooting sports, skydive and scubadive
- We call him "Sanilac Jack"

- Tom Doudna
- Has been shooting cowboy action for 2 years
- Also shoots P.P.C in winter
- From Rochester Hills
- Married for 26 years and 2 children
- Works for Chrysler/writes training programs
- He is "Camptown"

- Scott Doudna is his son
- He's been shooting for 1 year
- Likes video games and computers
- Lives in Auburn Hills
- Married but no children yet (as of when I wrote this)
- He is known as "YIPE KYA"

EDITORIAL

I have been cowboy shooting for about five years now and have loved almost every minute of it. One thing I've noticed is that I see the same people doing the work all the time. Now I'm not saying that you should give up your entire life like some of us have. I know this is a recreation, a leisure activity for most of us. I would just like to ask that each and every Wolverine Ranger help out in some aspect in the behind the scenes work of putting on a match. Just one match a year would be a huge help to all the match directors, and their crews. There are two hundred of us now (wow!) and growing all the time. Chili Pepper asked for help with the setup for the Range War and I for one plan on being there. It's not all work although set up and tear down off the props is hard work. Help out by writing scenarios, helping with the lunch, leading a posse, setup and tear down. Just pick one and do it. For all of you who already do it Thank You!! Without you there would be no CAS in Michigan. Then what would we do with our spare time?

**Remember this is your last issue unless
you sent in your dues!**

SAFETY IS EVERYTHING