

Wolverine Rangers' Epitaph



Volume 7, Issue 3

June 2004

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Hola Amigos. Woouoo Weeeee! I just got back from End of Trail and I can tell you folks that's one big shoot. They had close to 800 shooters over 12 stages. The Wolverine Rangers did themselves proud with Lucky Lenny finishing Senior Duelist 2nd, Dakota Doc Senior Duelist 7th, Cactus Kay Ladies Senior 4th, Colt McAllister Traditional 4th, and yours truly Frontiersman 4th. Nice job people!

Summer is here and all the clubs are putting on great matches. Every weekend things are going on so get out there and have some fun.

The Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation has graciously invited Kevin McNiven to come out to Range War this year and perform his music at the Saturday night campfire. Kevin is a world class cowboy entertainer and we are truly honored to have him come out and perform for us. I'd like to thank Randy and the whole Gillary family for making this possible. Thank You!

The membership shoot is coming up at the end of July at Rockford. We will be hitting you folks up for volunteers for all sorts of activities at RW.

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for your support of the shotgun target fund. I know that you'll be pleased with the new targets. Thanks Again!

Chili Pepper Pete

Eagleville Cowboys

Howdy Pard! The Eagleville Cowboys held their first shoot of the year on April 24. Seventeen cowboys and cowgirls took part which included several first time shooters. Lightning Wayne was top shooter, followed by Peter Pistolero, and Yooper Fred. Everyone had a good time and the weather was great — sunny with temperatures in the mid-fifties, and once again Eagleville dodged the bullet

with rain, as Sunday turned cold and rainy. Our most recent shoot was held May 22, we'll recap that match in the August Epitaph.

For more information about us visit our website at www.eaglevillecowboys.org or contact Kewadin Kid at rheadley@ersc.org or One Son of a Gun at 231-544-2461.

Thummpner John

Double Barrel Gang of Hastings

Well, another season is underway. Our first match was held April 10th. Many people were away for the holiday weekend but those of us who shot had a great time. The weather was a little cool but there was no rain. Doc Roy L. Pain was the overall match winner after he performed some plumbing repairs at the club house first thing in the morning. I guess you could say he is a man of many talents!

Our second shoot was on May 8th. Rain threatened to stop the action but just as we were getting ready to start the weather cleared and it was a great day. Lucky Lennie couldn't stay away as he had just gotten back from California the night before. We hardly recognized him when he walked in the door. But let me tell you, I hardly recognized him a few days later after he had shaved off the facial hair. We're glad to have him back. Three Gun Cole was the overall match winner for the day.

I would like to thank Slippery Pete and Two Rig a Tony for all the help and hard work putting on the shoot. Volunteers like these guys keep these matches going. Lucky Lennie will be running the June 12th shoot, he promises to show us how they run matches out west. Should be interesting! Our match fees have changed to \$12 per shooter, \$10 if you're a Ranger, Ladies half price and Juniors are free. We *do not* serve lunch so don't forget to bring a snack/lunch along. See you on June 12th.

Nitro Nellie

Wolverine Rangers Club News

Rockford Regulators

A great big Rockford Regulators "Howdy" to all the Wolverine Rangers. Well, the good Lord smiled down on us once more with nice weather for our May shoot. We had 57 shooters that were a lot smarter than the weatherman. There was a fine window in the inclement weather and our shoot went off without a hitch. A.J. Peacock was our top shooter.

As usual our ladies put on a fine feed after the shoot. I just want to acknowledge their help and support in our cowboy shoots. Theirs' is a key effort that makes our shoots run so smoothly. From the registration, scorekeeping, food preparation and serving, right down to the brass rats. We could not do it without their tireless efforts. A great big tip of the old cowboy hat to these helpers.

I have to also add a thanks to Lightning Wayne for the fine wagon that he so graciously donated to our club. It will make a fine prop and rest assured, it will be put to use by the June shoot.

Preparations are already being made for our August Hawaiian shoot. The requested clothing is cowboy hat, Hawaiian shirt, and shorts. This is one time of year that the ban on tennis shoes is lifted. There is a nasty rumor that Sunvale Petra might make another appearance at the August shoot. I'm still not sure what to make of the outfit she wore last year. My mind's eye waters every time I recall that one. Grin....

The Buy-A-Miss program and the DVD's are doing well. I reckon we will have enough money to purchase those poppers soon.

Remember our next shoot is June 5. Hope to see you there. Stay safe and shoot straight.

Your Pard, Diewalker

Straight Shots from Saginaw

Our first shoot of the season was held on May 22nd. Though the day dawned rainy in many parts of the state we had 41 shooters who ignored Mother

Nature's fickle temperament and traveled to our match. Their cowboy-up attitude paid off with only an overcast sky and great shooting. But, of course, when the Six-Shooters were taking down the stages the old girl let us have it for a spell, then finally calmed down and behaved herself. We certainly had a lot of fun the whole day. Laughter was ringing almost as loud as those targets were.

Wolverine Wrangler and Lady Bluebird had the honor of hosting a Midland newspaper reporter and was photographed at home preparing for the shoot. Following them during the match, the young reporter was quickly given a temporary alias of "Chronicle Kid" and was given the opportunity to shoot a stage. Well, pard, we think we may have another new cowboy shooter to add to our list. We hope he enjoyed himself and are eagerly waiting to see the article he will publish in the Midland Daily News promoting our sport.

We were happy to sponsor the \$5 "Buy-A-Miss" program and gleaned the tidy amount of \$104 for the Range War shotgun targets. We fully support this program and hope others will also.

Top five men shooters:

1. Bad River Marty (and top overall)
2. A.J. Peacock
3. Red Beard Bandit
4. No Buk Chuck
5. Kid Alfred

Top five women shooters:

1. Lara Cross Draw
2. Katie Callahan
3. Laporte Lil
4. Krazy Horse Kate (Jr. Shooter)
5. Roxie LaRue

Checkout the scores on the website.

This year, we were able to add two new props to our line of stages. Thanks to Secondhand Jack and his fine carpentry skills we now have the Lago Barber where you can have your ears lowered, get a cheap shave by a slightly unsteady barber, and a splash of lilac water. Of course, you never know

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who's going to stop in... the good, the bad, or the ugly. Perhaps, even a high-plains drifter.

Our other new stage is Fort Saginaw cleverly designed and built by Goodshots Gettum and Old Sy. Every frontier town needs a fort like this to protect them from all those bad hombres lurking about that new barbershop. It's great to see our props continue to grow. They certainly add fun and excitement to our matches.

Roxie LaRue and Duke Dakota were able to attend End of Trail in California for their 25th wedding anniversary this spring and got to participate with the other 750+ shooters. They brought back many fine memories. If you haven't already heard, EOT has now relocated from California to New Mexico.

Growth is a good sign that Cowboy Action Shooting is alive and well in Saginaw. Sometime this summer our Field & Stream Club will be building us a new storage building on our cowboy range. Katie Callahan has been recruited to write cowboy shooting articles for their newsletter. And, we are seeing lots of new faces coming to watch us shoot. Many are getting hands-on experience thanks to the generosity of those willing to share their guns, ammo and advice.

On May 8th the Saginaw Six-Shooters put on a cowboy shooting demonstration at the opening of THE GUN CLUB in Midland. This is an awesome, state-of-the-art indoor shooting facility with anything you can imagine and then some! Located just off US-10, north on Stark Road, it is conveniently located and is operated by some really nice pards who also happen to be fascinated with cowboy shooting.

Before we arrived we were all wondering how we would shoot "cowboy action" in an indoor facility. Well, pards, it can be done and was lots of fun! The Six-Shooters entertained the crowd behind the glass viewing area then recruited those interested to try their hand at shooting cowboy style.

Our cowboy duds made a big impression, too. And of course, there just happened to be a challenge

shoot between that old gunfighter, Bad River Marty and a champion bowling pin shooter. Although our gunfighter lost the 10-round speed event and lost his horse on that bet, he did us proud by beating the .22 semi-automatic, shooting five rounds into the speed plate, and happily got his horse back. As he rode off into the sunset we could hear him mumbling something about that hombre cheatin', using that sneaky .22 instead of the .45 semi-auto he was supposed to use. We think his last words we heard drifting across the prairie were... "I'll be back!"

A big thanks to the shooters who donated their Saturday for this event in order to promote Cowboy Action Shooting and to show just how much fun it can provide.



**Front: Secondhand Jack, Tacoma Tadd, Goodshots Gettem
Back: Laporte Lil, Old Sy, Cactus Pete, Bad River Marty,
Katie Callahan, Elsie Rose, No Buk Chuck**

We began our Wednesday night practice shoots on May 5th and have had excellent turnouts, averaging about 17 shooters. There are also a lot of new faces showing up to "see what we're about". We're sure, they too like our resident gunfighter, "will be back".

Our next scheduled match will be on Saturday, July 24th. Hope to see you there. And remember...live life. Give it your best shot.

Katie Callahan and Bad River Marty

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Chippewa Regulators

Greetings to y'all from the U.P. Many of you already know me but some may not, so I would like to introduce myself. I'm Giddy UP Gal, Social Hostess for the Chippewa Regulators and the following are a few items I wish to share with you all.

The Chippewa Regulators will be hosting another two-day event scheduled for the weekend of June 19th & 20th. Yooper Fred is more knowledgeable about our shooting events and you may wish to contact him about that; however, he did mention that we will have a new twist to our past events. We also have acquired some life-size varmints that will need to be "tended to".

We are going to do things a little differently for our Saturday evening dinner. The pigs can count their blessings this year..... we are having a steak fry. The cost? Just a mere \$5 per head (you, not the cows' heads). Our illustrious cookie isn't available this year so we will grill our own. If you have a grill, think about bringing it. If not, we can scrounge up a few.

We ask that you bring a dish to pass if you can. Please don't ask me what you should bring, because I don't know. Maybe chips, beans... it doesn't matter. If we get too much of one thing, then we shall eat that. But PLEASE, someone DO bring chocolate! Not everyone needs to bring a dish though, as we always have waaaaay too much to eat, and in my case, my corset just can't keep it all in! Might bust a gusset. Have you ever wondered where that term came from? Well, now I know.... a gusset is, according to my dictionary, "a triangular insert in a garment (in this case a corset) used for enlarging or strengthening". (Shameful of me to divulge that information). I'm wandering here.....

The Bait Shop Boys from Cedarville will once again entertain us. They get better and better each year. Mesa Mike and I have attended a few of their musical fun sessions this past winter at Brian Harrison's bait/sport shop (hence, the name Bait Shop Boys) and have had too much fun. Be sure to

get involved with the music which makes it so much more fun. It is perfectly acceptable to tap or stomp your feet, or even get up and twirl a few. Most social taboos are put on the wood pile for future use in our neck of the woods and we won't tell a soul.

I will host another tea party of sorts and will raffle off a pretty little teapot. Tickets are \$5 each. Men... just because the tea party is for the ladies it doesn't exclude you from purchasing a raffle ticket for the lovely teapot. Ladies, if you have a favorite tea cup or setting please bring it for our party and your favorite hat. We love to share our tea stories.

Back to the food... there is one hitch. We will have to "acquire" our beef the old fashioned way. You know, like the cowpokes did. We will draw names Friday night to see who has the privilege of going over the hill from the range to a waiting herd. *It's okay*, we've already paid for them. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Yooper Fred. His email address is ccsa@jamadots.com and his telephone number is (906) 635-9700.

Those cowboys and cowgals that don't have tin covered wagons for sleeping accommodations may want to consider a nice, clean room at the nearby Sunset Motel. If I may be of further assistance please don't hesitate to contact me at (906) 478-4105 or memayer@sault.com

We are very much looking forward to shootin' with y'all again. It's been a very, very loooooong winter and having the opportunity to "let go" is eagerly anticipated.

Giddy UP!

DSC Rocky River Regulators

Our April shoot was one for the record book. We had 89 shooters and we are glad that everyone was there. The top three shooters were: #1 A.J. Peacock, #2 Fireball, and #3 Faygo Kid. The top DSC shooter was R.J. Law.

May turned out to be a great day considering the weather we had been having, not a drop of rain for which we are thankful. Top shooters were:

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#1 Doc Roy L Pain, #2 Dodge City Dick, and #3 Led Foulin'.

June 19 we will be having a special shoot which we are calling "A Shot Through History". There will be five stages representing a different event from late 1890 to 1927. ***THIS WILL BE AN ALL LEAD BULLET EVENT.***

Five Categories:

1. **Cowboy** – 1 single action revolver, 1 lever action rifle (pistol caliber) and 1 shotgun (legal for cowboy)
2. **Double action** – 1 double action revolver (adjustable sights allowed; preferred early style double action revolvers), 1 bolt action or lever action box magazine rifle (bolt action rifle must be in military configuration; NO optical sights), and a shotgun (pump or double barrel – NO semi-autos)
3. **Semi-auto pistol** – could be Luger, 1911 (Kimber or any 1911 style), Mauser 96, any pre-1927 (please, NO race guns), 1 bolt action rifle (must be in military configuration; NO optical sights), and a shotgun (pump or double barrel – NO semi-autos)
4. **Double action revolver with lever action pistol caliber rifle** and a shotgun (pump or double barrel – NO semi-autos)
5. **Semi-auto pistol with lever action pistol caliber rifle** and a shotgun (pump or double barrel – NO semi-autos)

Lead bullets only, not hunting shotgun loads, #4 shot maximum, no magnum loads (due to steel targets being used).

There will be an \$11 fee. Try to dress in a period outfit as it will be judged. This event will be held on the same shooting range as our regular matches. Any questions call Mackinaw Kid after 4 p.m. at (248) 852-0351.

June 20th will be our regular cowboy shoot.

Our annual Pig-Out-Of-Luck pig roast will be held July 17th. Tickets are on sale now for \$15 per adult and \$8 per child (15 and under). Tickets can be

purchased at June's shoot or by sending a check to:
Rick or Lou Stover
2571 Harrison Ave
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

July 17th we will be shooting side events from 10 am to 4 pm. This is free if you have purchased a Pig-Out-Of-Luck ticket, otherwise there will be a \$5 range fee. The pig roast will begin at 5 pm. July 18th is our regularly scheduled shoot. If you plan to attend both days events you can and if you are coming from a distance you will be able to camp on the grounds.

Just a quick note: Hazel Miner (Phyllis Cerezo, Poco Loco's wife) took a bad fall, broke her knee and had to have surgery on it. If you have the time send her a note or card to let her know you are thinking about her.

See you at the shoots,
Lavender Lou and Mackinaw Kid

Shotgun Targets Update

Looks like we are well on our way to meeting our goal for the shotgun targets. A **BIG THANK YOU** to all who participated and is helping administer these programs.

We've collected nearly \$1000, and when you think about it, most clubs have only held two shoots. Rockford, Lapeer, and DSC withstanding, but those guys have been eating that loco weed or something. Shooting with all that white stuff on the ground? Go figure.

If you haven't picked up a copy of any of the four DVD's we have made available, you're missing out! Currently we have:

1. First annual Rockford Regulators Black Powder Shoot
2. Second Annual Rockford Regulators Black Powder Shoot
3. Wolverine Rangers at Winter Range
4. Wolverine Wrangler's Photos of Range War 2003 set to Cowboy Music

We'll have more in the future, but you'll want to

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pick up these as well. Besides, you're supporting a worthy cause! And, don't forget your W.R. Decals. We have four sizes to choose from. The 3" is \$5, the 4" is \$9, the 5 3/4" is \$12, and the monster size (12") is \$34.95

Most of these items will be available at local shoots whenever possible. They will **ALWAYS** be available online! Click on "Rangers Mart" on the website—www.wolverinerangers.org

Looking for Volunteers

We're in need of some help from a few Rangers. There's enough the "regulars" do with setting up a shoot, food, scoring, setting up posses, etc. We need someone who will handle the "Buy-A-Miss" program, and sell and keep track of DVD's and Decals.

If we can get a volunteer from each club to handle this job, I'll make sure you are kept supplied with wares. We've found folks are more apt to purchase these items if they can take them home with them.

So, if you'd set up and volunteer, we'll work you till there's nothing left of you, then throw you away! Just kiddin' here, folks. We really do need some help to make this program a success.

ONLY 90 (or so) DAYS TO MEET OUR GOAL!

I'd like to thank everyone who's participated in the Buy-A-Miss program, and purchased Decals and DVD's. Without you folks, we won't have our new shotgun targets.

I can be reached at 616-510-1354 or via e-mail at allegandan@macatawa.com

Looking for a Few Good Sponsors

We've made available, on the website, forms you can download and print for someone who might want to become a Wolverine Rangers Range War Sponsor. The forms are available as an Adobe .pdf file that can be emailed. They spell out everything fairly well but if they have any questions they can email me at allegandan@macatawa.com or at 616-

510-1354

Charities

From time-to-time someone asks the question "What do the Wolverine Rangers do for the community?" We've addressed this question by making a new page on our website. Aptly named "Charities" it can be accessed from the home page **ONLY**. On it you will find links to the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation (coming soon) and to the SASS Scholarship Fund. We've also explained why we are doing this below.

The Wolverine Rangers proudly supports the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation and the SASS Scholarship Foundation. We are offering links to their websites so you can help them directly if you so choose.

We have at least one Wolverine Rangers member who has benefited from the SASS Scholarship Fund.

The primary goal of the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation is to place an AED (defibrillator) in every high school in the state of Michigan. The AED and the necessary training of faculty members is provided free of charge by the Foundation. To-date, the Wolverine Rangers have raised approximately \$6,000 towards this very worthwhile goal and will continue to provide support for the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation with proceeds from the Charity Challenge held every year at Range War.

So, if you're ever asked that question, you've got an answer!

See you on the trail!
Allegan Dan

Handlebar Doc Shooting School

There are still openings available in Handlebar Doc's class, September 1 & 2 prior to Range War in Port Huron. Contact Cactus Kay at 810-733-8454 or docandkay@yahoo.com

The Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club "Wranglers"

Present

GREAT LAKES ANNUAL MATCH #7

June 26th and 27th, 2004

Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club, Attica, MI

SASS rules apply as to equipment and dress

PRE-REGISTRATION BY JUNE 15, 2004

Side Matches Saturday afternoon. Five main stages Saturday and Sunday.

Side Matches: .22 Pistol & Rifle Derringer Pocket Pistol Long Range Rifle-Big Bore
Lever Action Rifle Lever Action Pistol Caliber Rifle Long Range Pistol
Man-on-Man Contest with entry fees to the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation

Pig/turkey roast Saturday night includes a costume contest!

Camping space available with indoor showers and privies. No extra charge!!!!

Bunkhouses available:

Best Western—Lapeer—800-528-1234 Fairfield Inn—810-245-7700
Town & Country Motel—Lapeer—810-664-9132 Red Oaks Motel—Lapeer—810-664-3862
Super 8—Imlay City—800-800-8000 M-53 Motel—Imlay City—810-724-2845

Questions and/or further information:

Wall-Man—248-628-7424 Ricochet Bill—810-793-2376 Wolf Creek Tom—248-693-0873

PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME SCHEDULE BELOW:

Both Saturday the 26th and Sunday the 27th
8:00AM—Shooter check in at clubhouse
8:45AM—Mandatory shooter safety meeting
9:00AM—Five main stages begin

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____ Alias: _____ NRA#: _____
Street: _____ City: _____ SASS#: _____
State/Prov: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: () _____ W.R.#: _____

Check ONE Category

Fee Enclosed ***

Traditional ___ Modern ___ Woman ___ Duelist ___ Individual (\$65) _____
Spouse (\$45) _____
Senior ___ Junior (under 17) ___ Gunfighter ___ Junior (\$40) _____
L.C.S.C. Member (\$40) _____
Black Powder & Cartridge ___ Pig Roast (\$15 ea) _____

*** All fees above (except Pig Roast) may be reduced by \$5 if you are a Wolverine Rangers member, SASS member, and/or NRA member. Largest reduction allowed is \$15.

*** PLEASE FILL OUT ONE ENTRY FORM FOR EACH SHOOTER ***

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND MAIL TO:

WALLY LILEY, 245 OXFORD LAKE DRIVE, OXFORD, MI 48371

Wolverine Rangers Articles of Interest

Shoots on the Road

Lucky Lennie aka L.L., Country Girl aka C.G., Cactus Kay aka C.K. and myself, Dakota Doc aka D.D. joined forces last October to shoot the Missouri State Championship just outside Branson. The shoot was conducted on an abandoned racetrack which crowded the stages together at one end of the oval. At the time, L.L. wasn't feeling too well but managed to outgun the competition. C.K. did all right... managed to beat yours truly, which is getting to be a habit. L.L. and C.G. returned home for the holidays while C.K. and myself traveled to Texas to see grandkids and shoot. Which came first (kids or shoots)?

Had a couple of fun shoots which included a Christmas shoot and dance in Abilene. Small turnout... large enjoyment. We were even invited back. Just in case you are keeping score C.K. won again. However, I shot the match clean. Well, almost clean. This match permitted miss pick-ups with the appropriate firearm. I reloaded two shots in the pistol for a clean match. I thought it added to the shoot, gave some practice for the speed reloads and was an added option to add flavor to

the game. C.K. thought the people were nice and the Christmas dance was over a hundred-year tradition (there weren't a lot of young people dancing).

In late December we hooked up again with L.L. and C.G. and went to Smithville, TX for a club match. Needless to say, L.L. and C.K. weren't invited back. C.G. and myself were welcomed visitors. San Antonio was the next stop across the country. Ran into Tequila who is teaching shooting classes at the Kactus Korral outside of Gonzales, TX. Nice cowboy store, gun shop, and boasts one of the largest cactus sales in the U.S. They sponsored a booth at the Convention last year in Las Vegas. Nice people.

Traveled to Yuma, AZ and shot the Territorial Prison Breakout in mid-January. This shoot gets better all the time. Better props, bigger targets and a very interesting side event called the Death Star, or something similar. The crux of the matter is the following: Rifle port arms with six alternating shots, stage rifle on table, pick up shotgun for a ten shot run (these are falling targets.) The first shot releases a 16# bowling ball, which begins to roll

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down an inclined ramp at a slow pace. With one eye on the rolling ball the shooter continues with nine more shotgun targets shooting as many as possible before the bowling ball releases a clay bird upon reaching the end of the rack. At this point, the shooter should be loaded and ready to shoot the bird. Shooter can always go back and pick up shotgun targets still standing after shooting the bird. The tenth shotgun target releases the Death Star to spinning, round and round. Shooter stages shotgun on table, steps outside prop wall and draws loaded pistol. The points of the star fall when hit, which causes the wheel to jerk in one direction or another as targets fall. Great side event. C.K. had shot the event clean, including the clay bird, proceeded to draw her empty pistol..... Won a Cow Butt Award for that stunt. These are awarded for doing something less than smart. (Trying to be politically correct, don't you know?) We all won some timber at that shoot. We even took in the local flavor and dropped into Mexico.

On to Winter Range where we teamed up with other Wolverine Rangers and had a great time. You have read about all the success in a previous Epitaph. Winter Range was propped bigger and better this year than all the other years since I have attended. Really was fun to shoot and pleasant to look at. Exactly what you would expect from a national match. Food court wasn't bad either.

Somewhere along the way we ended up at Stampede in Jean, NV. This was one of the rockiest places you will ever try to pull a gun cart around. Better wear some comfortable shoes as well. The props are getting old, needed paint and less complicated stages. Seven out of ten stages had "land mines" for the shooter. You really had to stay in the game mentally or you were in trouble. For some of us "old guys" this was hard. Top all this off with a posse marshal who was appointed the morning of the shoot and you had a recipe for disaster. L.L., C.K. and myself did timing and made some difficult calls. I think I wore out my

welcome. The only smart one was C.G. She knew when to keep her mouth shut. Probably learned how from living with L.L. Next year Stampede, which had some trouble in the past, is moving to a new location, hopefully with fewer rocks and troubles. English Andy did as well as he could with what he inherited.

However, as difficult as Stampede was the New Mexico State Championship, in my opinion, was worse. They shoot on Fowlers Ranch, which was very picturesque. We parked in the wrong spot because of lack of communication, asked to shoot with Led Foulis' and Attitude Annie, and when L.L. asked about the location of the handicapped parking, we should've read the writing on the proverbial wall — OUTCASTS, TROUBLEMAKERS AND DAMN YANKEES! In L.L.'s own words to the high muck-de-muck and his compadre, "We can still make the Gathering of the Posses at Casa Grande" (which is held the same weekend). It would have been better if we had gone to Casa Grande, AZ for their two-day shoot. Since C.K. covered the New Mexico shoot in her article following, I'm all done except to say L.L. took a first in Senior Duelist, C.K. a first in Senior Lady, C.G. took third in Lady 49er, Michigander took an award in Elder Statesman and I had a clean match..... that's like saying "she has a really nice personality." (Did I lose my politically correct status?)

We are looking forward to reporting more from EOT and Cajon and shooting with (Chili) Pepper and Colt (McAllister). At EOT I'm sure these cowboys will not be invited back either. Remember, the closing line in the Lone Ranger program, "Who was that masked man?" The tongues will wag after Colt and Pepper shoot. I'm going to tell everybody I know them. May even have to pull their gun cart!

Until later,
Dakota Doc

Wolverine Rangers Articles of Interest

Shooting – New Mexico Style

Seven of us Michiganders had the pleasure of shooting the New Mexico State Championship last March near Silver City. They were Lucky Lennie, Country Girl, Led Foulin', Attitude Annie, Dakota Doc, Cactus Kay and Michigander. We managed to garner two first places and three thirds in the regular match and two places in the side events. I think we put Michigan on the map for them!

This was their second state championship and they are still learning as we did. On the plus side of the equation was the fact that they worked very hard to put on the best shoot they knew how to do. The weather was perfect, in the seventies, and worked in their favor. Located at 7,000 feet, last year they had snow at the shoot! Big trees and shade also added to the flavor for me. In the southwest we see mostly warm, dry, desert conditions so the trees were more like home and a welcome change.

They have five great, permanent props with a lot of variety. We shot two stages at each site, so for a 10-stage match we only moved 5 times. Each site had multiple spots to shoot from so it gave us plenty of variety. Four of us got to shoot together and were put on a fun, capable posse of experienced and more than your average fast shooters. We had plenty of "workers" and that made it easy. We noticed that our posse did not seem to have any New Mexico shooters. They were from Colorado, Arizona, Michigan and Florida. I guess we were the "foreigners".

They were lavish with the awards, even if there weren't five in the category. The plaques were set up with place finished on them but not the category. Supposedly they will mail a metal plate with the shooter's name and category to put on the plaque in a space at the bottom. It personalizes the plaques and saves them from trying to guess categories ahead of time. I thought it was a great idea.

We shot on a private ranch out of town a ways. They talked the closest restaurant into opening early for the season. The owner ran hours from very early morning until late in the evening. She

had a Saturday night buffet and they arranged for a cowboy singer for the evening. The restaurant personnel couldn't have been nicer.

They had the local 4-H Club come in and shag brass for their annual fundraiser. They did not pick up after each shooter but waited until we left the stage. It seemed very efficient and smooth. We only used a rake or broom if brass fell in the way of the next shooter. I thought it was a very speedy and unobtrusive way of handling the job. The really neat thing about it was they sorted the brass by caliber! At the auction you were only bidding on the caliber you wanted. They raised WAY more money that way than we have ever seen, even at the bigger shoots.

Now there were a few down sides for us. First of all they didn't honor posse requests to shoot with Led Foulin' and Attitude Annie. We all came a long way to get together and did manage to do that before and after the shoot, and at dinners but it would have been a lot more enjoyable to shoot together. This was a first for us. Usually shoot organizers bend over backwards to see that shooters enjoy themselves.

The range slopes away from the stages and we were always standing on an angle when we were not shooting. It took its toll on legs and knees of those that tend to have problems anyway. In addition, three of the props were made for very tall people. Being height challenged, as some would say, I had to be very careful. At one stage the half-door ledge where we staged our shotgun was at shoulder level for me. I could barely get my gun down!

The person that wrote the stages is back where we were some years ago. It looked like they thought the more complicated the shooting order the better. It was procedural heaven. I have never seen target order more difficult to remember. Not only were they complicated, but also rifle, pistol and shotgun were all different on the same stage. Lucky for us the timers were sharp and on the ball. They coached closely and saved us many times. We had surprisingly few procedurals but I pitied the less

Wolverine Rangers Articles of Interest, etc.

experienced posses and timers.

The absolute worst of the shortcomings was the SHOTGUN targets. Most of them were metal cylinders about three inches wide and twelve inches long, suspended from a chain which was attached to a long metal rod leaning out of the ground on an angle. They reminded me of a fishing pole with the target attached. Not only were they small and hard to hit, they were very subjective targets. We could re-shoot the shotgun targets if the counters said it was a miss. The problem was counters had to be very fast and decisive to make that call and so many fast shooters were past the target before it was called a miss. I noticed that eventually they stopped trying to have people re-shoot a missed shotgun target. It wasn't a fair way to handle things and this was the best argument I've seen for having all knock down shotgun targets.

The last shortcoming I'll expound upon is picky, but it annoyed the heck out of me. They had really nice, sturdy, large loading tables that had indoor/outdoor plastic carpet attached to them. About half of them had carpet that was disintegrating. As I picked up each bullet I had to blow it off because tufts of the carpet came with it and got in the gun. It was odd actually that no one thought to replace it for a state level match.

In addition, we had problems with parking and the spelling of our aliases. They were both pretty interesting tales, but I won't go there.

Now that I've picked the shoot to pieces I'll have to say we really enjoyed it. A lot of it has to do with the friends you are with and the posse composition. All of the shortcomings can be corrected, and since Led Foulin' and Attitude Annie are moving to Silver City in the very near future we will look forward to shooting there again. We will see if they have any influence. At one suggestion a month I figure it should take about a year. Let's hope Led and Annie don't get bounced out of the club!

Sincerely,
Cactus Kay

Items For Sale

Competition ready Ruger Vaquero's 5 1/2" barrel length, .357 mag., stainless steel, rosewood grips (new and unblemished). Competition springs, action job, trigger job, Belt Mountain locking sheriffs model base pins (see www.beltmountain.com), Power Custom Free Spin Pawls (see www.powercustom.com). All original parts, manuals, boxes and locks are included. Front sights have NOT been shortened, you can adjust point of aim for your loads. I used these revolvers for 18 months before switching to a set of blued Vaqueros. Revolvers are actually smoother than the set I am using now and are set up identically to my current revolvers. Revolvers are ready to run. I will have them at the monthly matches this summer, stop over and try them out. I'd like to sell as a set - \$850 for the pair or will split for \$475. Contact A.J. Peacock at don_peacock@hotmail.com or 810-441-8075 (8am-10pm).

Colt, 3rd generation, serial number SA50***, .357 caliber, 7 1/2 barrel, custom shop wood grips, with box, very nice condition. \$1200. Contact Cousin Gary at radgk44@aol.com or 517-703-0910

CLUB CONTACTS

Rodeo Rode	Breckenridge	989-205-0096
One Son of a Gun	Central Lake	231-544-2461
Scholfield Ranger	Durand	810-629-6494
Rady Delgado	Grand Rapids	616-735-2915
Lucky Lennie	Hastings	616-891-8376
Texas John Critter	Ionia	269-506-7325
Wall-Man	Lapeer	248-628-7424
Border Town Hombre	Port Huron	519-336-1690
Table Top Tom	Rockford	616-363-2430
Bad River Marty	Saginaw	989-585-3292
Yoooper Fred	Sault Ste. Marie	906-635-9700
Mackinaw Kid	Utica	248-852-0351

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WOLVERINE RANGERS
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Range War applications will be mailed soon!

W.R. Members Only Free Shoot
Please Advise If Attending

The Wolverine Rangers Members Only Free Shoot will be held at Rockford on Saturday, July 31. We need members to advise if they will be attending so there will be enough food to serve everyone. Limited camping space is available so reserve your space early. Please contact the Wolverine Rangers office at wolverinerangers@yahoo.com or call 616-361-6720 to advise of your attendance and/or camping request. Remember that Fun Night will be held the evening before if you'd like to get a little extra practice beforehand.

Pickin' Up Pards

Welcome to new members Judge Red Beans N Rice, Artemesia Hunter, Texas Barney, Dirt Bag Devon, Batwing Betty, Little Miss Wrangler, Raisin River Ron, Lara Cross Draw, Teton, Whiskey River Ron, and Troublesome Todd. We are pleased you have joined the Wolverine Rangers!

Membership Directory

We will be sending out a membership directory to all Wolverine Rangers by the end of June. The directory will include Name, Alias, City, State, Phone Number and Email Address. We will not publish the street address. ***If you do not want to be included in the directory, please let us know before June 15.*** You will need to join up or renew your membership by June 15 to be included in the directory. Our members have requested we send this out and will be a useful resource when you need to contact a pard. It is **NOT** intended for any purpose other than providing contact information for conducting the business of Cowboy Action Shooting.

Mail Order Annie
wolverinerangers@yahoo.com or 616-361-6720

Alias Change

From this day forward T.J. Barnless will now be known as Rodeo Rode.