

Wolverine Rangers' Epitaph



Volume 9, Issue 6

December 2006

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Howdy All.

Well all good things must end.

It is with mixed emotions that I turn over the reins of the Wolverine Rangers to R.J. Law. My tenure as Captain has been a real joy and a lot of work.

I have had the opportunity to get to know a lot of the Cowboy shooters better and have enjoyed working with all of them. Being involved with all of the vendors and shooters at Range War and the Membership Match has been wonderful.

I believe that The Wolverine Rangers organization has taken some positive steps while I was Captain and I hope that you feel the same.

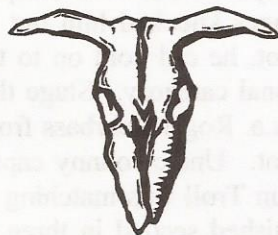
I am sure that you all join me in wishing R.J. Law the best and in promising him our support for his time as Captain. R.J. has some wonderful ideas for advancing the Rangers and I for one am committed to helping him bring those ideas to fruition.

I don't really know what else to say to all of you except that I plan to continue working to support the Rangers and look forward to seeing each of you at matches down the road.

Thank you for all of your help over that last couple of years.

Mail Order Annie and I want to wish all of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

No Cattle



Rockford Regulators

Please join us all winter long on the first Saturday of the month as usual.

The Regulators held a 'town meetin' to do some planning for 2007, and we came up with some range improvements we hope to accomplish this year. Among them some new shotgun and rifle targets, and more permanent storefronts on a couple of the stages. We are proud of all the pards that have worked hard to make Rockford a great place to shoot and look forward to hosting more great times.

E X T R A ! E X T R A !
The Rockford Regulators will be hosting a New Years Gala at the club this year. Everyone is invited. You don't have to dress 'Cowboy', but you are encouraged to, and the more formal the better. It is only \$5 per person and a dish to pass. Bring your own refreshments of choice. Paper products, ice, and party favors will be provided.

If you aren't too far away from our territory, or you'll happen to be around that weekend, we'd love to have you join us. If you have any questions please contact me @ gvanorman@charter.net or 616-874-1742

Case Harden

Special Notes:

West Walker Rangers will be having a match on December 9th !!

Rockford Regulators will have matches on the first Saturday of EVERY month, all winter long.

Lapeer is shooting the 2nd Sunday of the month for their winter league.

Don't put those smoke-wagons away just yet !!

Wolverine Rangers Club News

Straight Shots From Saginaw

Well, Pard, did you get enough to eat on Thanksgiving? We were hoping that our bathroom scales and waistlines would be "forgiving" after that feast. Living in America, we modern-day Pilgrims have a lot to be thankful for and, speakin' of thanks, the Six-Shooters would like to thank No Cattle and Mail Order Annie for their dedication to the Wolverine Rangers over the past years. We are extremely proud of their accomplishments. I don't believe we can comprehend all the work that goes into running a statewide club. We also wish our new Captain, R.J. Law, and our new Secretary, Killin' Kelin, a very successful term of office. We encourage ALL Wolverine Ranger members to lend a hand in continuing to make our organization grow. There are skills and talents that only YOU can add by becoming a volunteer. Saddle up, Pard, and join in the ride!!!

We had a lot of fun at our September 30th. match. Top five men were Deuce Stevens, Bad River Marty, Lightning Wayne, No Buk Chuck, and Ethan Callahan. Top five ladies were K.J. Stevens, Katie Callahan, Laporte Lil, Lainey Mae and Ruby Red Jo. We had 48 shooters and 9 shot the match clean.

Christmas is peekin' just around the corner. I'm sure Santa is checkin' the list for 'good' cowboys & cowgirls, but I doubt he'll have to check it twice. He knows us pards haven't been naughty, right????

And speakin' of lists, the Six-Shooters started their 2007 "to do" list at our annual planning meeting and potluck on November 4th. We'll be settin' up a cowboy action shooting display again at the Midland Gun Show in April. (Watch the next Epitaph for all the particulars.) We also have some range improvements we want to accomplish next year, along with holding three match shoots. They will be on Saturday, May 26, July 28 and September 29, 2007. We're pleased with how the new lower range in the woods worked out this year and plan to put in a couple permanent props, more challeng-

ing BIG targets, and some really interesting scenarios. Our cast of bad guys want revenge, so watch out!

Wednesday night practices are on the agenda again, beginning April 18th. and will run thru the summer. Our practice nights are lots of fun and a good way to sharpen up those shooting skills. And, of course, the heckling is free.

We also have a new club representative for our Six-Shooters. No Buk Chuck has volunteered to be one of our spokespersons.

Cowboy shooting in 2006 was great...and in 2007, it's going to be even better. We thank everyone who was able to participate at our shoots & practices this year. We missed a few pards due to illnesses and are thankful that they will, or have been, able to continue this great sport. As you open your presents (new guns & cowboy goodies, of course!), lets remember the true Spirit of Christmas and the reason for His birth. God bless everyone in the upcoming New Year. And remember... Live life. Give it your best shot!

Katie Calahan & Bad River Marty

Showdown On North Darr Road

It was the last of seven monthly Cowboy Action Shooting matches put on by the Mason County Marshals at the Fin & Feather Club north of Scottville. Turn out was small, but the fun was large and the competition tight. The five stages were won by 4 different shooters. Deuce's Uncle Johnny, a.k.a. John Schrottenbuer from Zeeland turned in the fastest time on stage one to take an early lead. Stage two was won by I.V. Drip, a.k.a. Ralph Briese from Hesperia, but misses on other stages knocked him out of contention for the top spot, he did hold on to the top spot in the Traditional category. Stage three saw Two Gun Troll, a.k.a. Roger Lehrbass from Custer blaze to the top spot. Uncle Johnny captured stage four but Two Gun Troll was matching him shot for shot having finished second in three of the prior stages while

Wolverine Rangers Club News

Uncle Johnny had two firsts and two thirds in the prior stages.

The stage was set for the final showdown on stage five. It was a stage with a lot of movement that favored the younger legs of the Troll. Of the two shooters, Uncle Johnny shot first. He shot fast but had one miss and also missed the bonus, the fifth round from the second pistol placed on the bell located at the back of the shooting bay. Two Gun followed him to the line, the door was open, he knew what he had to do. Shoot steady and clean. He shot the rifle clean, shot the pistols clean and hit the bell for the bonus. Moving quickly to the left he picked up his 97 and tossed a shell into the chamber. It bounced out. Concentrating on the target he didn't notice and pulled the trigger. Bad primer, he thought and pulled the hammer back to try again. It slipped from his thumb only making it the half cock position, the gun wouldn't fire or cock. Aided by a shout from a spotter that the shell was on the ground Troll finally got the action open and inserted another shell and finished the round. Two Gun shot the match clean and got the bonus but the shotgun fumble was costly.

When the smoke had cleared Andy Horshurodinon a.k.a. Mike Day who rode for over three hours from Gaines, won the stage and finished first in the Gunfighter category and third over all. Two Gun Troll won the 49'er category but fell short of the overall title by 55 hundredths of a second. Deuce's Uncle Johnny had prevailed taking the Elder Statesman category and the match. These fine shooters were followed closely by several others including Hondo Dan a.k.a. Dan Hahn from Manistee who won the Frontier Cartridge Duelist category and his wife Miss Elaineous, a.k.a. Elaine, who won the Frontier Cartridge Ladies. Shooting in only his second shoot, Tom Bones, a.k.a. Tom Shepardson from Scottville improved steadily as the day wore on placing him first in the Senior category and fifth overall. Kewadin Kid, a.k.a. R. Hoadley, from where else but Kewadin was sixth overall and second in Gunfighter. Rounding out the field were, Slim Chance a.k.a.

Harold Hansen, finishing second in the Senior category, and Wildcat Slowdown, a.k.a., Paul Markov, who finished second in Senior category, both from Ludington.

This year we had 110 shooters from all over the state come to the Fin & Feather Club to participate in Cowboy Action Shooting. We plan to hold shoots in 2007 during the months of April to October on the second Saturday of the month, so mark your calendar. Thanks to all who participated and helped, for a great year. Happy Trails!

Two Gun Troll

Lapeer Wranglers

Our Winter League begins Sunday, Dec. 10th with registration at 9:30am and the Shooters Meeting at 10:15am with shooting beginning shortly thereafter. The remaining Winter League dates are Jan. 14, February 11th, and March 11th. Our Winter League Banquet will be at Lenny Miller's in Dryden on March 17 from 4-6pm. Shooters will receive a \$3 rebate for each shoot they attend provided they also attend the banquet at Lenny Miller's. Everyone agrees Lenny Miller's is the best place to be on March 17 from 4-6pm. If you have a St. Patrick's Day party to attend that later that day you should be able to attend the Banquet and your party without a problem as the Banquet is early enough to permit you plenty of time to make the later starting time for most parties. Hope to see a lot of shooters this year...don't forget that we split our shooters into two groups at the Winter League Shoots and only have 1/2 the shooters outside shooting at one time.

Remember that carts are not permitted at the Winter League Shoots as we don't have the room inside the building. Just bring your shotgun, rifle, pistols and ammo and store everything outside in the gun racks and storage provided. As usual, Tenderfoot Tess will be handling the food and I'm sure her world famous soup will highlight the menu for the majority of the shoots!

Wall-Man

Wolverine Rangers Club News

Sucker Creek Peacemakers

The Sucker Creek Peacemakers held their last shoot of the season on October 14th. The weather was a little cold but there was a big camp fire to keep us warm throughout the whole day.

The top five overall shooters were: Bad River Marty, Gunfighter; Riverview Rattler, 49er; Shoulda Dun Gun, Classic Cowboy; Gunshy, Traditional and Kid Al Fred, Duelist. No one shot a clean match (must have been too cold). Laporte Lil won the Trivia contest and received a ticket for a free match.

Final scores for all Sucker Creek matches and the match schedule for next year are posted on our web site: www.SuckerCreek.org. Check it out to see the latest pictures of recent matches taken by Wolverine Jack.

Our next scheduled match is May 12th 2007. The Sucker Creek Peacemakers wish everyone a very **Merry Christmas** and the best to all for the New Year. In the future, we hope that you can join us down at the Creek. Shoot straight & fast,

Wolverine Wrangler

West Walker Rangers

Preparations are on going for the SASS Michigan Black Powder Shootout, Smoke on the Range II-match in 2007. The dates are Saturday June 30th and Sunday July 1st.

The match will consist of 8 stages, 4 on Saturday and 4 on Sunday. This is not only in line with many other BP shootouts but it will keep the shooters out of the mid-day sun.

Great Basin Cartridge Company and Mike's Custom Hatters have agreed to sponsor the main match. Last years sponsor, Kirkpatrick Leather was also contacted and their decision is expected by year-end. Great Basin Cartridge Co. is a leader in manufacturing loaded BP ammo. It was their

Ammo SASS used when coming up with the smoke requirement. Great Basin has very good prices and loads excellent ammo. I have used their ammo in two BP Shootouts and have never been questioned about smoke. Their web site is www.greatbasincartridge.com Skip Wiarda (Lineas A. Puffbuster) is the man to talk to about your BP needs.

If your shooting BP once or twice a year, don't bother loading it. Your time is worth something, give Lineas a call.

Mike's Custom Hats; Can you find a better 7X hat? I doubt it. You have all seen Mike's hats at Range War the last two years. Outstanding prices and top quality workmanship. No sewing machines here, all hand made hats. To boot, you can't find a nicer guy than Mike. If you don't see a style or color in his catalog, tell Mike. Chances are, he can get the color and for sure make the style.

Just ask Pinky LaRue or Miss Misery (pink hats)

Need a hint on what to get that favorite cowboy or cowgirl for Christmas? A new hat from Mike's Custom Hatters! You can contact Mike at www.mikescustomhatters.com or 1 877 653 8991.

For our match, Great Basin will be donating ammo, Mike's Custom Hats will be donating (2) 7X hats and I have requested another rig from Kirkpatrick Leather.

While we had terrific attendance for the 2006 match, it appears the 2007 match attendance will be greater. I already have commitments from shooters in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky. Applications will be available on the Wolverine Rangers web page and the West Walker page in February. Our SASS ad for the Chronicle will be out there in March.

The 2006 match was a success and I look to have the 2007 match even better. Mark your 2007 Calendars, Smoke on the Range II, June 30th and July 1st.

Two Rig a Tony

Wolverine Rangers Club News

DSC-Rocky River Regulators

The month of October brought the DSC Cowboy's a beautiful fall day for our monthly match in the town of Rocky River. Despite the cooler temperatures the sun was shining, the leaves were falling and once again the camp fire was blazing. We had 52 contestants match their skills for top honors at this match. When it was all over, the top three overall shooters were Dodge City Dick 1st; Faygo Kid 2nd; and J.J. Longley 3rd. We also had several shooters who shot a clean match. They were: Dodge City Dick, Camptown, Tanqueray Kid, Dar B Shureshot, Nine Finger Bob, and Andy Horshurodinon. Way to go Cowboy's!

As part of the match we also held our 8th annual Chili Cook-off which has become a tradition for our club. There were pots of chili simmering everywhere. Our judges made their way through a variety of chili with a bottle of Tums in one hand and a spoon in the other. When the judging was over there were four winners selected for the seven categories of chili. They were; Hazel Miner for Most Bean, Onyx for White Chili-Poultry-Most Flavorful, Batwing Betty for Wild Game and Andy Horshurodinon for Hottest-No Bean. A special thanks goes out to all the contestants who brought their favorite chili. Nobody went home hungry.

In November, 48 shooters came out to play in the snow flurries for our Thanksgiving Shoot. When the smoke cleared the top three shooters overall were Faygo Kid 1st; Mackinaw Kid 2nd; and Dodge City Dick 3rd. This month we also had a number of shooters with a clean match. They were: Beer Belly Willie, Andy Horshurodinon, Dar B Shureshot, and Goatlips. Yee Haw!

When the match was over and our gear was put away the shooters were treated to yet another DSC tradition, Thanksgiving Dinner. Complete with all the trimmings. There was turkey and stuffing and mashed potatoes and gravy and rolls and..... You get the picture. Many thanks go out to The Lady, Lavender Lou, and Batwing Betty for all their hard work in preparing such a wonderful meal.

The DSC Rocky River Regulators hold monthly matches and Saturday practice 12 months a year. In December we will begin our winter Saturday practice hours. Saturday practice will be from 10:00am until 12:00 noon. We will resume our regular summer hours in April 2007. So don't let the cold weather get you down. Come on down to the Town of Rocky River for practice or a match and have some fun. See the DSC website at www.d-s-c.org for more details. That's all for now.

Keep your spirits up and you bullets down range.

Shotgun Willy

CLUBS & CONTACTS

Check the website for club contact e-mail addresses

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MERRY COWBOY CHRISTMAS!

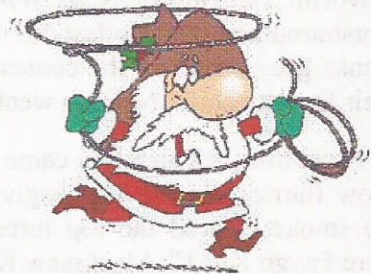
A note from Allegan Dan;

I would like to thank everyone that emailed me, or sent a card wishing a speedy recovery. It's this kind of thing that makes our club what it is, and keeps it as special as can be. When one of us is down, we all feel the pain and suffering of one another, and rise to the occasion. Again, I'd like to extend a great big Cowboy 'Thank you' to all who called, emailed, sent cards, etc.

Best to everyone; Allegan Dan aka Bill Penning

Editors Note; For those that didn't know, Allegan Dan recently had back surgery due to a serious infection that resulted from a ruptured disk that was misdiagnosed and consequently went untreated in a timely manner. He is now recovering at home after a lengthy stay in the hospital. Anyone wishing to break his 'monotony' is welcome to call him at home his number is 616-510-1354

*Merry
 Christmas
 to all the
 Epitaph
 readership*



Pickin' Up Pards

Welcome to the brand pards!

Mike Hangem – Michael Kolodge

Gentleman Gus - Richard Stephenson - dickris623@aol.com

The Better Half - Patricia Stempien

Charlie Goodnight - Norris Denno - norrisdenno@aol.com