



# WOLVERINE RANGERS' EPITAPH



Volume 16, Issue 4

October 2013

## ★ Captain's Corner ★

Howdy Pards,

We had another successful Range War over Labor Day weekend. Congratulations to our Michigan State Champions Deuce Stevens and K.J. Stevens and all of the individual category winners. The Overall winner was Santa Fe River Stan who came all the way from Florida.

We used the Aces Scoring System this year and, although we had a couple of small glitches, it worked very well and made the job of scoring the Match much easier. Camptown, who has scored each match for the last 7 years, was even able to shoot this year. Hooray!!!

The concert on Saturday night in the Club House with Cowboy Ernie Sites went over very well. Everyone liked Ernie and he hung around and socialized afterward which was fun. Ernie will be back next year for Range War. Please check out his website at [www.erniesites.com](http://www.erniesites.com).

We skipped the break this year and had 10 poses. This seemed to go over well. We are in the process of compiling the information from the comment cards and these will be shared with the Board at our next meeting which will be scheduled soon.

Thanks again for all of the volunteers who made Range War a success again this year. I have heard many compliments about the match from shooters both during the shoot and over the past couple of weeks. We had a total of 208

people shoot Range War this year. Although the numbers are slightly down from last year, we had more shooters than Guns of August, the Regional in Middletown, Ohio.

On a much sadder note, we all lost our good friend and shooting buddy Gaslight just before Range War. Many of the shooters went to the visitation at the funeral home. Gaslight's parents Axle Shaft and Dragon Dix requested that the Cowboys show up in their cowboy gear at the funeral home and many of us did. Gaslight will be sorely missed and his family is in our prayers.

Please don't forget to tell your kids that you love them every day and pray for our soldiers who fight for our freedom and our ability to play our sport and to live in the best country in the history of the world.

Best regards,

R.J. Law – Captain  
Wolverine Rangers

# ★ Shooting News ★

## The Eagleville Cowboys - Central Lake

The Annual Match of the Eagleville Cowboys called the "Eagles Revenge" was held at Central Lake on Sat / Sun, September 28 and 29. The Lord blessed us with wonderful weather, and, also with a bunch of Cowboys & Cowgirls from other parts of the state. We had two separate shoots, for those who could not make it both days. For \$15 bucks each day, we had lots of shootin', and, Birdshot Betty's great grub.

On the first day, those who topped their category were: Senior - Riverview Rattler, Sil-Sr - Two Rig a Tony, B Western - Faygo Kid, Sr. Dulest - Big Bad Jim, Eld Statsman - Thummpner John, Wrangler - Leadfoot Luke, Cowgirl - Hey Sugar, Sr. Gun Ftr - AndyHorshrodinon, Catl. Baron - One Son of a Gun, L. Sil. Sr. - Sassy Sue, Frt Cart Duelest - Marlin Matt, L. Sr. - TN Tina, 49er - Bar Gun Hunter, Fr. Cart. - Tin Pan Sam, Cowboy - Cowgirl Killer, L. Frt. Cart Duelest - Senora Vaquera, Gunfighter - Scotty Two Shotty, L. Duelest - Laurie L'Amour, Buckaroo - Big I, 7 yrs old. .

Clean shooters were: Thummpner John, Hey Sugar, One Son of a Gun, Bar Gun Hunter, and Cowgirl Killer. Winner on the 'Beer Can Roll' was Leadfoot Luke. All were winners on the Annual Toilet Shoot, it turned into a big cloud of white dust..

On the second day, category winners were: Senior - Riverview Rattler, Sil Sr. - Two Rig a Tony, B Western - Faygo Kid, Wrangler - Leadfoot Luke, Catl Baron - Dakota Doc, Ladies Sr. - TN Tina, Cowgirl -

Hey Sugar, Eld. Stsman - Thummpner John, Grnd Dame - Cactus Kay, Sr. Duelest - Big Bad Jim, Sr. Gfiter - AndyHorsurodinon, 49er - Bar Gun Hunter, Cowboy - Cowgirl Killer, L Sil Sr - Sassy Sue, Frt Cart - Tin Pan Sam, L Frt Cart Duelest - Senora Vaquera, Frt Cart Duelest - Marlin Matt, G Ftr - Scotty Two Shotty, L Duelest - Laurie L'Amour, L 49er - Buckeye Juice, Buckaroo - Big I.

Clean shooters were: Riverview Rattler, Two Rig a Tony, Dakota Doc, TN Tina (her first), Hey Sugar, Big Bad Jim, One Son of a Gun, Bar Gun Hunter, Cowgirl Killer, & Bull Dog Jim

Pride makes me write this: A three generation family shot clean both days. Grandfather -One Son of Gun, Son - Bar Gun Hunter, and grandson Cowgirl Killer. Ya, they learned from the old man.. How much more fun can it get.

The beer can roll was won by a lady with a Big Gun, Senora Vaquera, everyone won at the 'Toilet Shoot, and the 'person on person' Top Gun elimination was eventually won by Rancher Roy.

The .22 magnum Kel Tec semi-auto, with 30 round magazines was won at the card drawing by Leadfoot Luke, with the card drawn by his wife.... He was a Happy Camper!!

If you missed the Eagles Revenge this year, we hope to see ya next year.

Happy Shootin'  
One Son of a Gun TG

## Butcher Butte Bunch - Fenton

The final match of 2013 at Fenton Lakes Sportsmen's club took place on Sunday, September 8th. It was a somewhat light turnout with 24 shooters present. Not a bad turnout since it was only a week after Range War and there is some road construction going on near Butcher Butte.

When the dust had settled and the smoke had cleared at Butcher Butte, 6 shooters had clean matches. Those shooting clean were: Doc Roy L. Pain, Leadfoot Luke, Cactus Kay, Longshot Lillian, Curly Dave Hiccup and Grubby Hardrock. Category winners were: 49er-Bullwhip Karl; Cattle Baron-Dakota Doc; Classic Cowboy-Bad Brass; Cowboy-Smokin Barrels; Elder Statesman-Stoneface Marshall; Ladies Cowgirl-Hey Sugar; Ladies Grand Dame-Cactus Kay; Ladies Senior-Sassy Sue; Ladies Wrangler-Longshot Lillian; Senior-Doc Roy L. Pain; Senior Duelist-Big Bad Jim; Silver Senior-Outrider Outlaw and Wrangler-Leadfoot Luke.

There were also a couple young folks observing who are friends of two of the competitors. They had a chance to shoot a stage after the match. One of them looked as if he might have taken the bait.

After the match everyone enjoyed a lunch of white chicken chili provided by Sassy Sue and Big Bad Jim.

--Outrider Outlaw



USA Shooting Team Visits Butcher Butte

**“Shoot for Rio”** - Todd Goodnough Memorial A fund raiser for the USA Shooting Team was held on Saturday September 21, 2013. The event was attended by Amber English, Catlin Conner, and Collin Weitfeld who compete in shotgun sports and Jamie Gray who won gold in London for 3 position smallbore rifle. The day started with a Sporting Clays Tournament with the team members each at a station shooting with all foursomes as they rounded the course. To fill the time between the tournament and the evening dinner there were sport demonstrations by our Junior Rifle Team and the Butcher Butte Bunch cowhands (pictured above are Sassy Sue, Leadfoot Luke and Hey Sugar).

Also available in that time were “Bragging Right Challenges” a variety of 22LR steel targets were set up and for a donation to the Olympics any group could challenge each other on various combinations. There were Biathlon targets (at 10 yards instead of 50 meters), a dueling tree, and a stage of Ruger Rimfire Challenge. In the evening and elegant dinner dance was enjoyed by 200 participants. We’re all looking forward to next year’s matches at Butcher Butte.

--Grubby Hardrock

## Sucker Creek Peacemakers - Breckenridge

We started out the year with a lot of rain so our April match had to be cancelled because of all the standing water. Our May 18th match was much better and the weather cooperated. Our Sucker Creek members shot free at this match since the April match (our member's free shoot) was cancelled. Top three shooters for May were Deuce Stevens, Red Beard Bandit and Lightning Wayne. Seven shooters had clean matches. As always, the lunch prepared by Square Shake Lake and Spring Valley Cathy was top notch and enjoyed by all.

Our June match contained some interesting stages written by Kid Al Fred and enjoyed by 42 cowboys and cowgirls. Top three shooters for June were Deuce Stevens, Riverview Rattler and Straight Arrow. Twelve shooters had clean matches.

We had some simple shooting patterns for our July match. Top three of the 40 shooters were Doc Noper, Riverview Rattler and Lightning Wayne. Eight cowpokes shot a clean match.

We had a special treat at our August 17th match. Gold Tooth Dave provided a roasted pig with all the fixings enjoyed by some 51 shooters and guests. Top shooters were Slo Mo, Riverview Rattler and Nunica Kid. Twelve shooters had clean matches.

September's match was great! Good weather and our stage write-ups were reminiscent of the MI State match. Top three shooters were Doc L. Pain, Riverview Rattler and Johnny Bing-Go. Four cowpokes had a clean match.

Our last match of the 2013 season will be October 19th. Till then, check our web site at [www.SuckerCreek.org](http://www.SuckerCreek.org) for match results, pictures and videos.

We hope to see you down at the Creek!



Regards,  
Wolverine  
Wrangler

## Huron River Raiders - Commerce

Howdy Folks!

The Huron River Raiders introduced about 200 attendees to Cowboy Shooting at the Multi Lakes event called "The Good Old Days" on August 24th.

On September 14 we had about 25 Boy Scouts try our sport before a memorial celebration honoring our country's service men and women.

We will again offer Cowboy Shooting to the NRA Women-On-Target event at Multi lakes on October 5th.

After all these events we will be settling in for the winter break.

Regards,  
Cool Hand Carl and co-chairs: The Keego Kid and Trail Rider Dave

## Straight Shots from Saginaw

Our last shoot of the season was Aug. 24th. Stages were taken from the upcoming state shoot and out of 34 shooters, 11 shot the match clean. Yee Haw!! Everyone enjoyed the stages, along with another great meal that the gals put on. Red Beard Bandit was overall match winner! Scores and category winners are listed on the Wolverine Ranger webpage, as well as Wild Bunch winners.

We had many shooters attend the State Shoot from Saginaw and all had a fun time, on and off the range! Many Saginaw pards found themselves wearing great big grins and fancy prize buckles, along with the honor of special braggin' rights. Congratulations to ALL the State Shoot winners.

With fall officially here, the leaves turning and the temperatures putting a crispy bite in the air, our matches and Wednesday night practices have come to an end, but we hope to see you all in the spring. Thanks to every-

one who attended and/or offered help in many different ways. It's always wonderful to share good times with everyone.

On a more personal note, we'd like to thank everyone for their prayers for Marty and his recent surgery. We have found over the years that cowboy shooters are some of the nicest pards you could have in your corner, good times or in bad. We can't express just how much our pard's encouragement and prayers mean to us both. We are very blessed to have such good people praying for us. Thank you and may the good Lord bless each of you. After all the health problems we have both endured this year, we can honestly say... "Remember to live life. Give it your best shot!"

Happy Trails,  
Bad River Marty & Katie Callahan

## Johnson Creek Regulators - Plymouth

Hello Rangers,

For the 2014 season, we are changing our free match policy. If you have 6 period playing cards or Johnson Creek Poker chips in any combination, they will be good for a free Match through April of 2014.

Beginning in May, 2014 we will hand out a card for each participant when scores are read after the match. One card in the deck will be marked for a free match. When we have our October 2014 match, bring the cards you have and the shooter with the highest hand will

shoot October's match free! So keep those cards when you get them! Our hope is to allow ALL shooters a chance to win a free match instead of winners only.

We have our final match of the season on October 26th. We have some new stages, new props and we always have challenging target distances and configurations. So come join us for a great time and some good shootin'!

Yours Respectfully,  
Panhead Pete



## Rocky River Regulators of DSC (Utica)

On August 4th the DSC Cowboys hosted their 3rd Wild Bunch match of the season. In addition to the regular cowboy action shooters that regularly attend this match the DSC Cowboys sent an invitation to the DSC Pistol committee inviting them to shoot this match. Although a regular Wild Bunch match usually requires a 1911 pistol, a pistol caliber lever action rifle, a 1897 pump shotgun, and some period dress we relaxed the requirements and indicated that they could shoot both the rifle and the pistol targets with any semi-automatic pistol (with lead bullets) and they didn't need a shotgun nor did they have to wear any period dress.

We moved the rifle targets in and set the pistol targets at very hittable target distances and the results were a lot fun and some incredible fast times. Winning the match was J.J. Longley and shooting the only clean match was Camptown. We even had a few pistol committee members that brought a pump shot gun and pistol caliber lever action rifles. They had a blast shooting the rifle targets and shooting our knock down shotgun targets as part of 5 different stage scenarios.

Some of the DSC Pistol members brought friends and their junior sons to shoot. All the juniors did extremely well. It is hard to compete against junior shooters with good eyes, good coordination, and quick athletic ability. Our next Wild Bunch match is Sunday, October 13th.

On August 18th we had a tune up for the Wolverine Ranger's Range War. Thirty nine cowboys and cowgirls were in attendance as they polished their shooting skills. When the dust settled Faygo Kid just edged out Clay Creek for the overall rating. Shooting clean matches were Faygo Kid, Buslin' Bell, Soaring Red Hawk, DSC's John Weston, and DSC's J.J. Longley.

Over the Labor day weekend five DSC members participated in the WRRW Michigan State Championship in Port Huron. All five members: Shootin' Old Coot, Camptown, Nine Finger Bob, Coyote Claxton, and J.J. Longley, distinguished themselves in their respective shooting categories. J.J. Longley shot a clean 10 stage match. This was J.J.'s 4th consecutive clean State match. Congratulations go out to Camptown for flawlessly scoring this large match.

On September 15th Rocky River played host to 36 cowboys and cowgirls who tested their shooting skills at an array of targets. The day was almost a perfect shooting day, cool and cloudy but the action was hot. When the shooting stopped and the participants were busy eating Penny Ante's lasagna the overall winner, J.J. Longley, was announced. J.J. was closely followed by Dodge City Dick and an international duo of Clint Chisum and Colt McCloud. Shooting clean matches were Clint Chisum, Dakota Doc, Cactus Kay, DSC's Shotgun Willy, Outrider Outlaw, and DSC's Coffin Nail Bob. This was Coffin Nail Bob's first clean match.

Our next monthly Cowboy match at DSC will be Sunday, October 20, 2013. This is also our annual Chili Cook Off. If you have a special chili receipt please bring a sample and enter it in our contest on that day.

See you on the range.  
J.J. Longley

## Letter to the Editor

### **Impressions of Range War from a first-time competitor**

This year was my first time competing at Range War. While I've gone to watch and photograph a few friends the last couple years, I never felt I was good enough to attend the big state championship match. After talking to several people, and realizing that it's not just an event for the "top shooters", that it is for everyone, I finally made the leap and sent in my application and entry fee.

Not knowing exactly what to expect, naturally I was nervous. I think I was nervous two weeks before the match. I would be camping out by myself as well, so there was a lot of preparation before I even left home.

I thought I would share my experiences about Range War, from the perspective of someone who had never gone before, for those of you who may be thinking "yeah, I'd like to go, but I'm not good enough".

I arrived Friday afternoon. Check in at the clubhouse was quick and easy. Once you have your shooter's packet, you just find a place to squat, and pitch your tent (or park your RV or camper). If camping out is not your thing, there are also hotels in the area, not far from the club. I chose a spot that was easy to access with my car, and close to the ever-important Port-a-Potty. I had already pitched the tent on my own at home, so I knew I could do it by myself. It was breezy, so it was a little more of a challenge, but I got it up in short order. After I had the tent up and was moving into it, a lady from a nearby camper stopped by and said that she was going to come over and ask if I needed help, but saw that I had it under control. How NICE!

That evening, we got a nice little thunderstorm, with a lot of lightning. Close lightning. I had at least three people come by and tell me if I needed shelter more than my tent could provide, that I could just give a knock on their camper/RV and I had it. I had a plan that if it got too bad, I would shelter inside my car until it passed. Still, I was grateful that people were so caring, concerned and willing to share their space. I spent probably about an hour in the car, and returned to my tent for the night. There was a live band playing (prior to the thunderstorm), but they were done by about 9:00pm, and most of the campground was fairly quiet, as generators were shut down gradually one by one.

The first day of shooting, I was nervous of course. The shooter's meeting first thing in the morning, was much like those at any local club match. We said the pledge, and we also paid tribute with the Canadian and U.S. national anthems. We also learned of the very recent passing of a fellow cowboy shooter, and had a moment of silence in his memory. Very touching. After the basic rules were laid out, we all went to our assigned starting stages and the fun began.

One of my nervous points was that I wouldn't know anyone I was shooting with. On the application, you are able to request to be on a posse with someone. I requested to be on a posse with a couple that I respect and knew would be a calming influence on me and I was assigned to their posse. Much to my delight, about 80% of the posse were people that I knew. I felt right at home!

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The stages are a little more elaborate than those we shoot at my local clubs. A little more difficulty involved, at least as far as remembering the sequence for the shots. I can say honestly it was a welcome challenge. They were a lot of fun. There was a lot of physical movement on some of the stages, and I don't think there were two shot sequences that were even close to similar. A lot of time and thought was obviously put into them. There are cooler's with water at every stage, and there are strategically placed Port-a-Potties throughout the shooting area.

After our posse was done shooting, I went back to my campsite, where everything was as I left it. I packed my gear away (locked in my car), and went off to get some lunch. There is a vender on site, or there are many restaurants, both fast food and family style within about 3-4 miles of the club, and they are easy to find and get to. There is also a Meijer store for last minute toiletries that are forgotten and for ice. After lunch, there was plenty of time for socializing and/or chilling out and reading.

There are indoor restrooms in the clubhouse that are available around the clock. I can only speak for the ladies' room. There are a couple stalls, and a sink, as well as a laundry tub with a sprayer. Outside the clubhouse, there was a temporary shower stall, made of steel pipe and tarps, with a hookup to warm water, set up on a concrete slab. The way it is constructed, one needn't worry about the walls blowing open, or someone pulling the curtain away and exposing you.

The second day of shooting, there was no shooter's meeting. You just arrived at your posse's assigned starting stage at 8:30 ready to shoot. More really fun and challenging stages awaited me for the second day. Once each posse was done shooting their final stage, we

did a shotgun salute to our fallen fellow shooter. Everyone that wanted to, grabbed a shotgun shell, loaded it and on the posse leader's mark, we fired all at once into the berm. You could hear the salute everywhere as each posse finished. It was touching. After shooting, it was back to the campsite to change and stow the gear away, get some lunch, and back to visit the venders. Unfortunately, there were very few venders this year, compared to the last couple years I had gone to watch. Hopefully, that will change in the future.

The awards banquet on Sunday evening was very nice. The food was buffet style, and was very good. Everyone was decked out in their finest cowboy duds. It was fun just to see so many people in great old west or Victorian attire in once place. The banquet didn't go very late, so no worries about driving home late at night. Camping an extra night at the club is also not a problem.

So, now that I have competed in Range War...the question is, would I do it again? Most definitely! I'm already looking forward to next year! It was tiring, but it was great fun, and there were so many great, friendly people to meet and become friends with. I had everything I really needed between my car, my tent and the shower and indoor restroom facilities.

If you've been thinking about attending Range War, but have been thinking you're not good enough, you wouldn't know anyone, you're too new to the sport or have some other excuse, mark your calendar now for Range War 2014, Labor Day weekend. You'll be sure to run into people you know and you'll be just about guaranteed a great time! Look me up, I plan to be there!

Longshot Lillian  
SASS 94602  
WR 758



## ☆ 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*

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