Thunder River World-Guardian

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The Oldest Cowboy Action Shooting Club in Grimes County, Texas

9/10 of a mile north of the Texas Renaissance Festival Main Entrance. Look for the Black & White sign, Eastside



12	Thursday, Mowing Day, or maybe just water tower filling day
14	**TRR First Monthly Match**
21	PRACTICE DAY
22	Thursday**, mowing for LSTR 26**
28	**TRR Second Monthly Match**
Mar 7	Willow Hole Monthly Match
Mar 8	Thunder Hole Long Range Match

Message from the President



Crockett Texas

SASS 106906 L

Last Stand at Thunder River 2026 is in the books and was a tremendous success, thanks to the efforts of everyone who made it possible! Congratulations to our overall winners! **Buckshot Sully, Wild Wendy, Slowaz Molasses, and Mar-Lynn** took home the **Overall Champion** buckles. **Nice shooting!**

The match went forward despite the best efforts of Mother Nature to foil our plans. We had **101** shooters registered and were on track to have the biggest **LSTR** turnout ever. After rescheduling and attrition due to various issues, we had **68** shooters finish the match. Still a very good turnout, considering.

We sent out a survey asking for ratings, comments, and anything else we could do better. If you haven't responded to it, please reply to the manual survey *(not the first one via Survey Monkey)* and we will take your ratings and comments into consideration.

Many have asked why we scheduled **LSTR** in January. We did so because our options at **Thunder River Renegades** are very limited. **February** is too **cold** and brings ice to many parts of Texas. **March, April, and May** are chock full of other matches with which we would be competing. These are also rainy months in Southeast Texas. **June, July, August, and September** are too **hot. October** and **November** are nicer but do not work because the Texas Renaissance Festival drives up hotel and RV rates and makes the traffic on FM 1774 very congested. **November** also coincides with deer season, which held down attendance when we tried it two years ago. Past **LSTRs** have been held in **December,** but this is a very busy time of year with the holidays and we would also be competing with another December match in George West, the **Gunfight at Gamble Gulch.** That leaves **January.**

January weather in the Magnolia area is typically very mild. Highs are usually in the 60s and lows are in the 40s. This year, the only cold weekends were the original date for **LSTR** and the following weekend when we shot. Thank you, Mother Nature. I salute the cowfolk who showed up to brave the morning lows during our match. Your perseverance was rewarded when the sun came out, and by the afternoons most folks had shed their heavy coats and were enjoying a beautiful day after **SHOOTING AT STUFF.**

I regard the weather that caused us to postpone the match as an unlucky aberration. Nonetheless, following elections in March, your TRR Board will meet to discuss **LSTR 2027** and when to schedule it. If I am re-elected President, it will be my suggestion to schedule the match on the **third weekend in January, 2027.** If the weather pattern for this year is any predictor, it should be very nice shooting weather. However I am not a dictator and I will be listening with an open mind to your comments as well as those of the extended TRR Board. The Board will make the final decision on the date of the match (or whether to hold one at all.)

In the meantime, I want to congratulate all of our participants for **LSTR 2026,** most of whom seemed to have a lot of fun. It was great seeing so many visitors from other clubs. You are welcome at **Thunder River Renegades** anytime!

Best wishes,

Crockett Texas
TRR President

Cowboy Shooting Range Safety



Colonel Mackenzie
SASS 9000 L
TRR Range Master

Cowboy shooting, a thrilling sport rooted in the American West, involves the use of firearms in a fast-paced environment. We just finished shooting Last Stand at Thunder River, our annual shoot. I'm sorry I missed the actual event due to the flu, but other than the cold weather, most shooters had a good time, and that's what it's all about. Shooting at

things with friends for a good time. I also believe you can never be reminded about safety too much, and, as with any shooting activity, safety must be the top priority. For all you beginners and experienced older cowboys, here is a comprehensive guide to ensuring safety at the TRR shooting matches.

Essential Safety Guidelines

To maintain a safe environment at any cowboy shooting range (any range, really), the following guidelines should be adhered to:

1. **Familiarization with Equipment:**
    a. Know your firearms inside and out. Whether using revolvers, rifles, or shotguns, understanding their operation is critical.
    b. Ensure that all firearms are in good working condition and regularly maintained.
2. **Safety Gear:**
    a. Always wear the appropriate protective gear, including eye and ear protection, to prevent injury from gunfire.
    b. Sturdy footwear and gloves may also help reduce the risk of injury.
3. **Range Rules Compliance:**
    a. Every shooting range has specific rules that must be followed. These encompass range etiquette, shooting positions, and target management.
    b. Pay attention to any posted signs and listen to the range officer's (RO) instructions.
4. **Firearm Handling:**
    a. Always treat firearms as if they are loaded. This fundamental rule helps prevent negligent discharges.

b. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction at all times. This is crucial in preventing accidental injuries.

5. **Loading and Unloading:**
    a. Load firearms only when you are ready to shoot and in the designated shooting areas.
    b. When finished shooting, move to the unloading area, unload firearms immediately, get cleared by member at the unloading table, and ensure the action is open.

Range Etiquette

Cowboy shooting is not just about the thrill of competition; it is about camaraderie and respect. Here are some etiquette tips:

- **Communicate Clearly:**
    - Use clear commands and hand signals to communicate with others on the range.
    - If you need to stop shooting for any reason, ensure everyone is informed promptly.
- **Be Aware of Your Surroundings:**
    - Keep an eye on other shooters and be mindful of their positions and actions.
    - Avoid distractions and focus on your own shooting.
- **Respect Your Fellow Shooters:**
    - Maintain a safe distance from others while they are shooting.
    - Wait until you are finished shooting before adjusting your gear.

- Wait for the range to go cold before moving anywhere past the firing line.

Emergency Preparedness

Even with the best safety practices, emergencies can still occur. Being prepared is essential:

1. **First Aid Knowledge:**
    a. Everyone involved should have basic first aid training and know how to handle injuries.
    b. A well-stocked first aid kit is available at all times.

2. **Emergency Contacts:**
    a. Keep a list of emergency contacts handy and ensure you know how to reach local emergency services.
    b. Know the fastest route to the nearest hospital.

Conclusion

By following these safety guidelines and protocols, participants can enjoy cowboy shooting while minimizing risks. A commitment to safety not only protects individual shooters but also fosters a positive experience for everyone involved. Emphasizing safety creates an environment where the excitement of cowboy shooting can flourish, ensuring the sport's long-lasting legacy. Engagement in cowboy shooting should always come with responsibility. By prioritizing safety, all of us shooters can continue to enjoy the thrill of the sport while ensuring it remains a cherished tradition.

LSTR Summary

- Initially signed up (original date): 101
- Actually shot match: 68 (lost ⅓ of the shooter for various reasons)
- Awards:
  - Buckles: 24
  - 1st Place pins: 15
  - 2nd Place pins: 16
  - 3rd Place pins: 19
- Spirit of the Game: **Gummy Bear**
- Total shots fired: approximately **16,320**, give or take a shotgun round or two.



2026 Dues & Shooting Fees: a reminder about these two:

- Dues for 2026 can be paid anytime throughout the year, but . . .
- Starting on Feb 1, only current 2026 members receive the $5 match fee discount.
- You can pay dues when you sign up for the match
- Attached to this email is the current list of TRR 226 members.
- Membership also affects our club email list—see next article ↓

Club Email lists: how to stay on them:



- TRR 2026 members remain on our lists; it's part of our wonderful member perks.
- We do allow for non-members on the list, but they have to let me know each year, otherwise they are dropped, with great sadness, but dropped nevertheless.
    - The reason is Comcast limits me to 100 emails per hour, and with our membership surpassing that 100, we don't need to send emails to folks who are no longer interested.
- **If we made a mistake and left you off, please advise us, we have been known to make a mistake . . . or two . . . or ten.**
- **Summary: members and non-members who inform me will remain; others will be removed.**

The Elections are on March 14th



- **President**, **Crocket Texas** has indicated he will run for another term
- **Treasurer,** currently held by **Doc Jim Harvey**
- Both are for two-year terms.

We will have the election during the safety meeting before the match. As you might expect, the voting is limited to **2026 TRR members** present.

Requirements for an office are

- Age of 21 or older

- current year’s membership in TRR
- An added plus is to be a SASS RO II (but not required)

Anyone meeting the above requirements and wishing to run for one of these offices, please reply to this email to allow me to get the information to the membership



More on Cylinder Throat Opening.

Nostrom Damus shares some very interesting facts:

So, in order to see any short-term impact of opening your guns' cylinder throats, you would have had to shoot 5-shot groups at 15 yards from a bench rest, before and after opening the throats, and you would have had to chronograph three shots (to get an average muzzle velocity) from each cylinder, again before and after the work. I guarantee that both have been improved even though neither is noticeable in our sport. The barrel fouling/leading is a slow process and I would not expect you to notice any difference in the short term.

Another less frequently mentioned benefit is that you've reduced the peak chamber pressure in each cylinder chamber, essentially by "unplugging" them. That also won't likely be noticed in our sport with our mouse-phart loads, but it can be measured.

2025 Club Stats: cause I love numbers:



- Members on 12/31/2025: 106
- Number of matches: 24
  - Largest: 56, **Shotglass** and **TJD's** picnic
  - Smallest: 18, tie
    - April 12
    - June 16
- Total number of stages: 141
- Shooters for the year: 713
- Clean shooters: 221 = 31%
- Most clean matches by individual shooter: 21
- Match authors:
  - **Wild Eagle**
  - **Nostrum Damus**
  - **Doc Ø'Bay**
  - **Thunderhawk**
  - **-me-**

The Thunder River Mercantile

Recline Lodge: **Doc Jim Harvey's** storefront:



I have created some 10-10-4 merchandise on the TeePublic site (link below or click on the graphic on the left). Stickers, t-shirts, coffee mugs, travel mugs, and many more items are available. Check it out. I will be creating some more 10-10-4 graphics soon.

Link to his store: **LINK**

John Powers, Gunsmith

Powers Metal Works
228 Colorado Rd.
Duson, LA 70529

Phone number for Texas
281.513.3438 Cell
281.254.7881 Fax
NEW LA number: 337.940



Dealin' Lead

Lone Star Wood & Leather

tahitipro@comcast.net
832-867-4102

Rayland Pless











Off-Cowboy but still a lot of fun: Did you know that **Crockett** is a Class 3 FFL? This means he can handle **suppressor (silencer)** sales. From the talk round the pavilion this sound like a lot of fun and while not cheap still is within the price range of many of us.

For more details contact him at: **trentffl@gmail.com**



Tells Primers

My wife, **Angels**, and I are traveling more these days, so it's best to contact me regarding primers and see what can be arranged. Or when I might be out to the range



I can be contacted at: **cmjdaj@gmail.com** or **texted at 714-857-4471.**

Tell Sackett

Shooting once a month not enough?

Willow Hole Cowboys 1st Saturday of the month
http://www.willowholecowboys.com/

Thunder Hole Long Range Cowboy Rifle Match: the Sunday after the 1st Saturday of the month: **Blackpowder Burn:** garry@laxtontx.com

Oakwood Outlaws
2nd Saturday & Sunday of every month and the Monday following the 2nd weekend. www.oakwoodoutlaws.org/

Brazos Rangers (part of Greenwood Gun Club)
https://greenwoodgunclub.org/cowboy-action
Second Sunday of each month
If planning on shooting the Match, contact **Scott** beforehand to get the gate code for entry to the range.
Director: **Scott Miller** (AKA "Slimy") scottlittlefish@hotmail.com

Texas Historical Shootist Society: Weekend of the 3rd SUNDAY of the month(both days). https://www.thss.org/

Orange County Regulators: 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month.
https://www.facebook.com/orangecountyregulators
Texas Gator: rtexasgator@aol.com

TRR Officers 2024

President: **Crockett Texas**
president@thunderriverrenegades.com

Vice-Pres: **Ranger Bill**
vicepresident@thunderriverrenegades.com

Secretary: **cheyenne**
secretary@thunderriverrenegades.com

Treasurer: **Doc Jim Harvey**
treasurer@thunderriverrenegades.com

Range Master: **Colonel Mackenzie**
RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com

Assistant Range Master: **Doc Θ☘Bay**
AsstRangerMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com

TG: **Texas Jack Daniels (TJD)**
TG@thunderriverrenegades.com