Thunder River World Guardian

August, 2026 ©Thunder River Renegades, Inc. Vol. XI, № 8

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



Yes, it's Hot, and it's going to continue through all of August and probably some of September. It's no fun to try to do cowboy action shooting from a hospital bed. Remember, you can wear shorts and tennis shoes, just no baseball caps.

Most stages have fans for the loading/unloading tables and the stages themselves, so you can position yourself to get a breeze or two during the match. We're working to get fans at all the tables and stages.

We pride ourselves on being a 'hands-on club which means we have our members stepping up to help as counters, unloading table officers, and *The Most Fun Job of All*—brass picking 😁. So, jump in and give these worker bees a chance to catch their breath, and actually shoot the stage now and then.

Bring a small towel or cloth and soak it in the ice water in the coolers. Place them on the back of your neck for best results.



Watch out for each other—if someone is acting weird (except maybe **Rawhide**), check with them. It's a lot easier to help them stagger off the range than having to drag their dead-weight body to the pavilion.

Remember **Ranger Will Ketchum's** admonishment, "Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate!"

Stage 1 has now been named



Seems it took us less time to build it than to name it. The board has chosen **The Cheyenne Social Club** as its name. Thanks to all who offered suggestions.

We are currently waiting for our new KDs, and target stands to put it into operation. Also, work on wiring it for electricity and installing fans is planned for the cooler months, like December and January—just kidding, Fall will be here in no time.

We encourage everyone to shoot off it before matches and on practice day—get used to the smooth level floorboards and solid construction.

Stages: Names, ages, moves, etc. I've been asked by several members to share some history of our stages—happy to do so.

This will be an ongoing series, and I'll examine a few each month.

We'll be looking at:

- Age
- Building them
- Moves they have made
- Caretakers
- "Named" stages



Not one of our Stages

We have a collection of buildings that range in age from 2005 to this year. The oldest have survived numerous moves on the highways and byways of our fair state and show it! Our oldest is the **Office**; we inherited it from the Texas Renegades when they went belly-up. It was built in 2005.



TRR claims lineage from the Renegades and formed when the Renegades lost their lease to big-city encroachment (no mention of the Magnolia Misfits will appear in this article).

The Office has 'suffered' three moves in its life

Originally a storeroom at the Renegades off Mueschke Rd north of US 290.

Its next move was to the Thunder Gun Range east of I-45 and FM 1488 (We took our name from that range, and they took us to the cleaners—another story for later).

From there, it and the club moved to just west of Magnolia High School off FM 1488. Life was good as was the landlord, and we were happy campers . . . then the land was sold, so the office and we moved to our present location. All the moves were not kind to the building.

We have been repairing/replacing this structure since 2006; we hope to start anytime now.

The second stage we'll cover is **Frio Kid's Cantana**. It was built at the same time as the Office and has the same history. Several years ago, **Frio Kid** offered to become its caretaker, repairing the same issues and letting **Ranger Bill** know about major issues. The last repair that took a herd of worker bees (hive?) was the replacement of a 4 x 8 section of flooring. That, and those pesky two-way hinges seem to be the sum total, although we did lower the entire

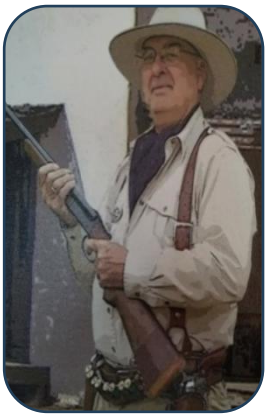


bar to accommodate some of our shooters (**Lorelie Longshot** was the main reason for this).

While at the high school range, we built several of the existing buildings: **Ellie's General Store, Osage Mike's Leather Shoppe**, **Hooker's Hotel** and **Utters Freight & Powder Company**. All were of similar floor plans with different door locations and boomtown fronts for signage and visual impact (not to be confused with several bullet impacts they have sustained down the years).



Osage Mike



Marcus Hooker

Here are some who made the structures possible, by sponsoring, building or being the caretakers of them:

Angles
Blackpowder Burn
Bristlecone Jan
Cherokee Jones
Colonel Mackenzie
Crash
Crockett Texas
Diamond ♦ Rose
Doc Clint
Doc Jim Harvey
Doc O♣Bay
Don Alejandro
Dude Cogburn
Dusty Bottoms
Ellie Mae
Fairplay John
Fast Tracker
Frio Kid
GW Ketchum
Hawk Eyes Hudson
Hopalong♠Ace
Johnny Knight



Bristlecone Jan hard at work

Judge Roy Bean
Justice Lily Kate
Little Britches
Lonestar Les
Manchaca Kid
Miss Hoppy
Neshannock Leo
Nile City Slick
Nostrum Damus
Oklahoma Bad Bob
Oklahoma Dee
Pappy Miles
Pecos Bear
Petticoat Parker
Preacherman Robert
Ramblin Gambler
Ranger Bill
Ranger Will Ketchum
Rawhide
Red River Mac
Red River Raider
Ruby Red Rider
Rusty Elder
Senior Deacon
Shotglass
Shotgun Steve
Solomon River Kid
Sundown
Sunny Spurs
Suzie Q Ketchum
Tell Sackett
Texas Jack Daniels
Texas Penny
Texas Six
Thunderhawk
Tombstone Lawdawg
Tricky Red
Two Spurs
Tyrel Sackett
Wild Eagle
cheyenne ranger



Fairplay John and Two Spurs

From the above list of 62, you can tell this club is composed of folks that aren't afraid to get their hands dirty; proud to be part of this group.

Common sense says I know I missed a few—drop me an email and I'll add you to the list—with my apologies.

More next month when we look at the ones we built at our current location.



Formalizing Gear and Gun Transactions: Many times, new shooters need gear. Many times, our members have 'stuff' gathering dust in the attic. Here is how we can get these two groups together:

If you are looking for gear/guns, let me know (email at the bottom). I'll send out the word to over 125 cowfolk plus several clubs. It helps if you are detailed about your needs: calibers, holster types, hat and clothing sizes.

If you want to divest yourself of no-longer-needed gear, same method, email me. I live to serve.

►**IMPORTANT NOTE: IF YOU ARE NEW TO THIS HOBBY/SPORT/OBSESSION, DON'T GO OUT, AND BUY GEAR. COME OUT AND SEE AND HANDLE 'STUFF' AT OUR RANGE BEFOREHAND—IT WILL SAVE YOU MONEY IN THE LONG RUN** (we now return you to the article already in progress) ◄

Plan A is you include your phone # and/or email, so interested parties can contact you directly. Sellers who include prices also help the transactions. Pictures? You bet!

Make plans to meet early on match days or at Practice Day—that's three times per month, so face-to-face exchanges are possible.

Plan B (you always need a Plan B) is you reply to the email, and I forward it to the buyer/seller. This does cause a lag in y'all's communication and could mean an item gets sold/bought before you contact the other person.

My email: walterlaich@comcast.net My email is open 24 hours a day.

The Thunder River Mercantile

Dealin' Lead

Lone Star Wood & Leather

tahitipro@comcast.net
832-867-4102

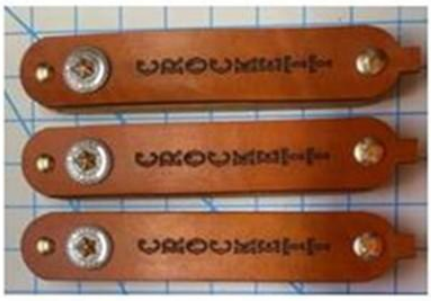
Rayland Pless











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

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



Shooting once a month not enough?

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