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



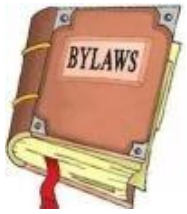
Tinnitus is not part of a Model T Car. It's fine to fire off a few shots before our matches—get the juices flowing and make sure the hardware works . . . BUT, please do this at Stage 1 or 10.

All the folks gathered for the safety meeting aren't wearing ear protection, and a double blast of black powder for a 10-gauge shotgun at the Cantina is physically dangerous for these folks.

Check with one of our Range Masters (we have two now) or any other officer to get the range declared "**Hot**" and then take a stroll to either end of the firing line and *have at it*.



Cherokee informed me that ear trumpets are hard to hold and get in the way of eating, driving, and pretty much everything.



Results of Bylaws Change. The proposed amendments will create two new board positions: Deputy Treasurer and a second Range Master. These were presented to the membership at a special meeting ahead of the Aug 28 match. It was passed almost unanimously, as a few members weren't paying attention and didn't vote.



Pawnee Possum was appointed Deputy Treasurer, and **Doc♣O'Bay** will continue as Range Master.

The Use of Flags in Cowboy Action Shooting



From Colonel Mackenzie, TRR Range Master

At our recent monthly shoot, it became clear that some shooters were unfamiliar with the proper use of warning flags on the range. Your Range Masters have been remiss by not explaining the use of the flags. So, here's the skinny. Flags play an important role in Cowboy Action Shooting, helping organize matches, communicate safety conditions, and preserve the historical atmosphere of the sport. Although Cowboy Action Shooting is designed to recreate the excitement and style of the Old West, it remains a modern shooting competition governed by carefully enforced safety procedures. Flags provide a clear and highly visible way to communicate these procedures to competitors, range officers, and spectators.

One of the most common flags used at a match is the range or firing-line flag. This is used at most ranges, especially annual matches. At Thunder River Renegades we use a bell, not a flag, which is rung to get shooters attention or to announce the range is active (hot) and that firearms handling or live firing is taking place. Its purpose is to alert everyone present that they must remain behind designated safety lines unless authorized to move forward. When the range is cold, meaning firearms are unloaded and no shooting is permitted, the flag may be removed, lowered, or replaced with another signal. Procedures vary between clubs, so participants must always listen to the range officer's instructions.

Safety Flags contribute to the visual character of Cowboy Action Shooting. At each stage at Thunder River Renegades, we have three flags. The Red Flag means to cease fire immediately, place loaded weapons down and stand away from them. The Red Flag usually means

someone, or something has happened which has created an emergency situation. For example, an animal or an individual has been spotted downrange. If you observe a Red Flag being waved on another stage, loudly announce "cease fire, red flag". In any case, whether this call is real or found to have been erroneous, the shooter who stopped mid-stage is permitted to reshoot the stage.

More often than not, you will see a Yellow Flag being waved. The Yellow Flag is waved as a warning to let shooters know the range is shutting down temporarily. Shooters continue firing, in order to finish the stage they are on, then place weapons on the table nearest them and stand away. As an example, someone must go down range to fix or repair a target. Again, if you spot a yellow flag being waved let the shooter finish, then pick up the yellow flag on your stage and wave it. Once all posses are waving a yellow flag, it is then safe to move down range.

The Green Flag is used to announce that the range is safe to allow shooters to resume firing. The first green flag presented after a down range needs to be from the stage that first presented the yellow or red flag. Once all posses are waving a Green Flag, shooting can resume.

Many clubs decorate their ranges with period-style banners, state flags, military flags, and flags associated with the American frontier. These displays help establish the historical setting and make matches more engaging for participants and spectators. Some events use flags representing the United States, a state flag, individual territories, cavalry units, or fictional frontier towns.

Despite their decorative role, flags should never be treated as merely ornamental. Every competitor must understand what each flag means at a particular range. Colors, positions, and procedures may differ from one club to another. A responsible shooter pays attention during the safety

briefing, follows the range officer's commands, and asks for clarification when necessary.

Ultimately, flags in Cowboy Action Shooting combine tradition with practical communication. They help control movement, identify safe and unsafe conditions, and enhance the atmosphere of the match. Used properly, they support the sport's central goal: creating an exciting Old West experience while maintaining the highest possible standards of safety.

Colonel Mackenzie, Doc♣O'Bay
Thunder River Renegades

Stages: Names, ages, moves, etc.

*(from the last issue, "From there the club moved to just west of Magnolia High School off FM 1488." **Blackpowder Burn** shared that this was on the Arnold's property—I had forgotten the name of the land owner—cr)*



1st Building at current location--**Nile City Slick** pic

Once we got to our current location, we continued our building of stages. We asked **TJD** to finish the Land & Cattle stage, as it was just some, but not enough, tin over dirt. He and his worker bees added all the present flooring and extended the tin roof to cover it.

TJD was also the driving force for the twin stages Dixie-Cullen and Tombstone Jail, both member sponsored. They are actually twice the size of the previous ones, and the floor was joined

at the range. Additionally, they have the loading/unloading areas built in and are cooler than the others due to the numerous fans in each. Both have brass retrieval screens which allow more brass recovery. We hope to add this to more of our stages.



October 2015--**Nile City Slick** pic

The **Nile City** **Depot** was spearheaded by **Nile City Slick**; it was his baby from the get-go. With its location in the trees, it lends itself to the open air/no walls style of architecture. We added his name to the stage in his honor after construction was complete.

Our last stage built is Stage 1. **Manchaca Kid** and **Wild Eagle** led teams of volunteers over three days to finish it. It still needs the brass recover screen, and the target stands are under construction, but it's 90% finished at this point.

Looking forward: we have run out of room for additional stages, but repairs are always go-going. The oldest among the group need care and repair as the Texas Sun and rain do a number on them each year.

We are proud of our physical structures, but much prouder of all the members who helped make them a reality. They are the heroes of this story.

A few more of our worker bees:

Texas Rooster, past president & hard worker

Welsh Rifleman—helped with Udders Freight and Powder

Little Billy

Chance

The Original Red Dawg

Shotshell

Johnny Morris

Lorelie Longshot

Lazarus Longshot

3x8

Walter Durbin

Boots Cassidy

Texas Crazy Clay **Tinker**
Trooper Tyree **Step-N-Mud**



From the Loading Bench,



Crockett Texas

I was having an issue with high primers; not all, but enough to cause headaches during reloading. Checked the machine many times, even had Nostrum Damus take a 'gander' at it. Finally, it went back to Dillon for their input and solution.

Visually inspected all my empties. The case on the left is once-fired and within spec. The case on the right is defective, ruined by my decapping die set too low. The punch enlarged the hole and pushed it outward. A side shot would show it does indeed look kind of like an undersea volcano.



I went through every piece wearing some jeweler's glasses and threw away about 300 bad empties. Now reloading is going a lot more smoothly!!

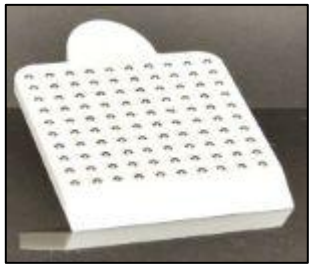


Not too early to think about dues for 2027. Before all the excitement and buying begins for the end-of-year holidays, you might want to take care of the TRR 2027 dues. Just one more thing to take care of before the Halloween-Thanksgiving-Hanukkah-Christmas-New Years rush.

- Adult: $35
- Junior: $20
- Family: Parent(s) and as many kids as they have: $70
- We will always accept the cheapest combination possible.

And just so you know, those brand new members who join in August also get the next year thrown in for free as a bonus.
Here is the TRR 2027 Member List so far:

Angles
BPB
cr
Deed Hawkin
Dodge City Mike
Ellie Mae
Lonestar Kate
Madcap Montie
Rawhide
Red River Mac
Rusty Elder
Tell Sackett
Texas Jack Daniels
Two Spurs



A Method to count the number of pellets in your shotgun load!?!? Really?, people do that?

I ran across this method in my internet travels—I guess some folks being OCD (or CDO as **Doc Jim** calls it) feel the

need for this. Don't think many cowfolk would find this useful—but hey! Something else to spend money on. **Link**

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 2026

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

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

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

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

Deputy Treasurer: **Pawnee Possum**
assttreasurer@thunderriverrenegades.com

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

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

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