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



Tell's Primers has closed, and how to find good deals for yourself (taken from the SASS Wire)

Tell Sackett, TRR Life Member

Ok, Land Run was my last outing for "**Tells Primers**"! I'm tired & my shooting is suffering.

It's time for me to just be a shooter again!

But I acknowledge there are those who will be disappointed in my decision. For them &, but to anyone else who can benefit from my experience, I'm going to tell everyone where I got all my primers to sell. There are some who believe I have a special relationship with dealers or distributors, and I bought primers by the pallet from them for huge discounts!!

It ain't true. I hunted the internet for the best prices. Period. And when all was said and done, it came down to 2 names: Ammoseek.com & Bruno's Shooter Supply in Phoenix!

Ammoseek is a search engine linked to multiple dealers. It's simple to use. It HAD to be for me to use it!! Go to the website, click on reloading components. Then click on primers. Then fill in the brand you want and more specific details, if you want. Press search. It will then give you a list of your wants in order from cheapest to most expensive by seller! Select what you want and go to the seller's website for purchasing!
You can then decide if the shipping costs and taxes are right for you. Is this what you want to pay? If so, order away!

Here's a word of advice: shipping costs are NOT equal everywhere! It depends on who the seller uses. You've got to check it out yourself. Also, how many you order can affect costs. One supplier I used averaged $10 per box added on if I ordered 5 or 6 cases. I just checked and found if you only order 1 case, the added cost was $15.
You have to do some homework if you're going to buy primers online, but it's worth it if you're willing to buy enough! It may not be worth it if you're only looking to buy 1 or 2 thousand at a time. That's what retail stores are for! I never intended to be a retail store.

But if you use/need a significant amount of primers-it's the way to go!

Now we come to Bruno's. Small business in Phoenix, but they do online! And here's where it gets interesting-if you're not in Arizona, they don't charge sales tax!! That's a GREAT savings! But there's a catch: you gotta wait till they have a SALE! Their regular prices are so-so. Their sale prices are awesome!! And their shipping is pretty reasonable!

Ok, now everyone knows where I got the primers I sold! Go to it!! It just takes a little effort, but it's worth it!

*Speaking on behalf of many members of our club, we appreciate **Angel** and **Tell's** efforts to keep us* shooting at stuff. *They went above and beyond to help all of us. – The Board*

Cataracts and Cowboy Shooting

by **Thunderhawk**



It is no secret that the participants in our sport tend to skew to the gray-haired side of the age spectrum. Aging presents many challenges, including vision issues, especially the development of cataracts in one or both eyes. For those who aren't aware, a cataract is a cloudy area in the eye lens that typically develops slowly over time. In the old days, someone with cataracts would just have to learn to live with the cloudy vision. But thanks to the miracle of modern medicine, a cataract can now be treated by replacing the cloudy lens with an artificial lens. My wife had cataract surgery in both of her eyes in May, and my eye doctor has told me that I have the early stages of cataracts. It got me to wondering how cataract surgery might impact my cowboy shooting.

*Continue reading, click **HERE**.*

Last Stand at Thunder River 2027 – A Salute to Shane

We are well on our way to making this the best annual match we have ever had in 2027!

- The **Core Group** has divided jobs among its members, shared ideas, and probably will be pulling their hair out before it's over.
- Registration forms have been sent out and are coming back, hand over fist.
- Waddie job openings are in the hands of the membership and are filling up as you read this.
- Members have been donating items for our Raffle (keep them coming).
- Buckles are on order.
- Food is coming, and Porta-Potty rental is in the works.
- We will have another portable pavilion like last year.
- And the best for last: **CT** has promised us beautiful weather for the match; what more could we ask for?



Clothes layering works at the Range, too. Don't despair; Old Man Winter is on his way, even in The Republic. It will get cold; it will get windy, and, if history is any indicator, we'll get wet. So, other than staying home and missing out on our wonderful hobby/sport/obsession, how do we handle this?

The same way **Senior Deacon** makes his sandwiches, by adding layer after layer of clothes; you need to create dead air pockets. I'll look at a cowboy's options; ladies, feel free to check with **Ellie** if needed.

Start with thermal underwear, top and bottom. Two thin pairs of socks are better than one heavy pair. Next come your jeans and shirt, followed by a vest(?), light jacket, and heavier coat, maybe an oilskin duster if the weather looks wet.



Top and bottom: good boots and a felt/beaver hat: I've actually worn a Russian ushanka with the ear flaps down, with good gloves and a neck-mitten or scarf to finish off the ensemble.

You may have to shed some to shoot, but you can put your gear back on as soon as you leave the unloading table.

My Humor is an Acquired Taste:



cheyenne

Seems a few of you actually believe what I write. Most recently, I commented that I was paid too much for my services, and several cowfolk wrote and asked, "How much do the officers make?" As the title alludes to, my jokes can be so subtle that they're almost dead.

The club's seven officers serve the membership for no remuneration—we don't get paid a penny (oops, another error, pennies don't exist anymore).

A closer look shows that officers actually pay for the privilege of serving through the cost of gasoline for extra trips to the range and board meetings, as well as the time required to fulfill their duties. For one of his required reports, **Doc Jim** conducted a study showing that most officers spend five to ten hours each week on club business. And, don't get me started on the workload once LSTR rears its ugly head.



A slightly different way to clean firearms (time is your friend): I was having a problem with leading in my pistol barrels—the same bullets in the rifle left nothing behind, but the pistol barrels were a mess. I had lead streaks that took forever to remove with Chore Boy pads and plenty of elbow grease.

I decided to let the Hoppe's No. 9 sit in the barrels overnight. I got the inside of the barrels wet using a wire brush and left them sitting there. Before I retired for the night, I turned them on their other side to give the solvent equal time on each side.

The next day, the leading and other junk came out with just a patch or two. No need to scrub with my homemade Lewis Lead Remover using brass pipe filters.

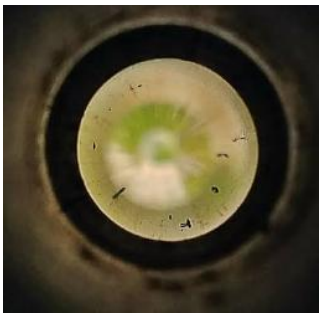
"I love it when a plan comes together," **Colonel John "Hannibal" Smith.**

Plastic Wads and Shotguns, Not a Match Made in Heaven. Turns out those nifty plastic wads many of we reloaders are using have a dirty underbelly. About halfway down the barrel, they can melt a bit and give you a ring of plastic around your barrel. I ran across this for the first time this October.



Ring of plastic in barrel

I tried brass brushes, a chamber polisher, and elbow grease, but nothing would budge it. After a quick trip to the internet, I wrapped the brass brush with several layers of a Scotch-Brite Pad, added a bit of WD-40, and chucked the cleaning rod in a drill. Back and forth, stopping to add more WD-40, and in about 15 minutes (remember two barrels here) the plastic broke down into small 'chunks' and came out. It was a messy operation, but the barrels are as clean as when they came out of the Chinese factory that made them (Coyote Cap Model 99 Coach Gun, serial #61; I got in early. My 1897 is serial #90).



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**

Dealin' Lead

Lone Star Wood & Leather

tahitipro@comcast.net

832-867-4102

Rayland Pless











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: 337.940.9400

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

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

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

Thunderhawk's *article, continue reading*

First, a quick summary of my wife's experience with that surgery this year. Before her surgery, my wife was asked to choose which lens she wanted. Essentially, it was a "good," "better," or "best" choice. A good lens was covered by insurance. The better and best lenses had out-of-pocket costs ($1800 and $3300 per eye for better and best, respectively). There was also the issue of whether to select one eye (lens) for distance vision and one for close-up (reading) vision or do both lenses the same. My wife went with the "best" lenses and close-up vision (she paints). It has been about six months since her surgeries, and she loves the improved vision. She can see better at a distance and read without readers. Her only complaint has been that she is more sensitive to bright light, which is a common side effect for a few months after the surgery. Nighttime is a little more problematic as there is an aura around bright lights (the doctor told her that would happen).

With that as a background, I wanted to gather some information from other cowboy shooters who have had cataract surgery. Back in June, Cheyenne sent out a list of questions about cataract surgery on my behalf. Below is a summary of the five responses I received.

- Of the five responses:
  - One had some unique circumstances and had surgery in only one eye. The other four had cataract surgery in both eyes.
  - Three had cataract surgery prior to 2010 (lots of advances since then).
  - Ages at the time of cataract surgery ranged between 41 and 74.
  - Four picked the best available lens, the fifth said only one level was available.

- All are happy with the cataract surgery and report generally better vision. Many reported being able to see things that they couldn't see before (like the amount of dust in their home).
- Better distance vision was reported.
- Several mentioned they have had to go back to using readers several years after the surgery.
- Almost all of those that responded to the survey are not currently active cowboy shooters. Those that have done a little shooting reported that they can see targets at a distance (out to 100 yards) without corrective lenses.
- The negative or side effects of cataract surgery were limited, but include:
  - Sensitivity to brightness for a period after the surgery.
  - Some dry eye (reported by one person).
  - An aura/glowing/halo around bright lights at night.

Between my wife's experiences and those shared by the respondents, I confirmed my intentions for when I need cataract surgery: 1) spend the money for the best possible lenses, 2) select lenses for distance vision, 3) do both eyes, and 4) don't fear the surgery when the doctor tells you that you need it. I hope this information helps you if you are also considering cataract surgery.

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