

Thunder River World-Guardian

February, 2018

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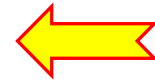
Vol. VI, No 2

The **Premiere** Cowboy Action Shooting Club in Grimes County, Texas

9/10 of a mile north of the Texas Renaissance Festival Main Entrance—look for the Red, White and Blue sign



[Click here for printable **Monthly Match Calendars**](#)



!! Match this Saturday: Jan 27th: full match of six stages; registration cut off **9:30**

Dec 30 Match: we had 25 shooters on the last match of 2017. Not a bad turnout as several of us were sick and with end-of-year events just a day away choices had to be made.

For the most part the cowfolk was our usual bunch and with several new-to-our-club cowboys present: **Cap'n Ball** and **Case Harden** were among them. **Baba Looye** made the trip down from the WHC area to blast away and **Revenoor** won for most consecutive vowels in an Alias.

Now that **Dusty Bottoms** is back from his surgery and recovery along the French Riviera, he and **Little Britches** are shooting up a storm not to mention **Ghost Bandit** having the time of his life.

Jan 6th Match: we were blessed with one of the best days, weather-wise, for engaging in our sport/hobby/obsession. The

temp was such that I could keep my cowboy hat on for the entire match and the light breeze allowed the BP shooters to only wait for 2-5 seconds before the targets became visible.

Overall was decided by 1.76 seconds— or less than .3 seconds per stage! When the dust settled **Buckshot Sully** just bested **Oklahoma Dee** for top honors. Another way to look at it: **Sully's** score was 2 ¼ times faster than mine—but I had more time on the firing line than he did.

Green Eyed Gypsy, Owen No-one as well as **Cany Creek Cowboy** were back at it again. Close personal friends of **Shotglass** and **TJD**, they felt the need to shot at the best SASS club in all of Grimes County, TX. **Jalapeno** and **Doc Jim Harvey** were first timers and we appreciate their making the long and dangerous trek from FM 1774 back to our range.

Clean Matches Dec 30 and Jan 6: **Cherokee Jones, Fast Tracker, GW Ketchum (2), Nile City Slick, Oklahoma Dee, cheyenne**

11% clean: both matches combined

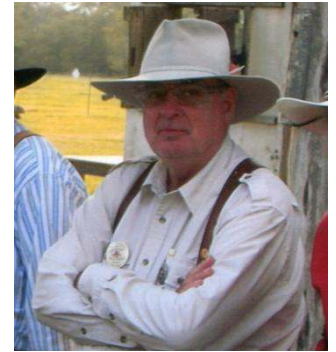


Our Friends who have moved on down the Trail

Marcus Hooker's passing: we again mourn the passing of Marcus, a great friend and fellow club member. He passed on Jan 10 and per his request no formal service was held. Our prayers and condolences go out to his family and friends as they move through these hard times.

We can take comfort that he touched our lives and for that made us laugh and enjoy live more.

Marcus, you were loved and will be missed.



Also passing from our ranks is **Red Dawg** who has been a member before dirt was invented. As you can see by his outfit he enjoyed our sport fully. He was a great posse member and in the words of **Bear Gunz**, "**Red Dawg** was one of the first people I met when I started shooting CAS in 2002. I had the pleasure of shooting with him at many of the clubs in Central Texas as well as many occasions to enjoy his company over lunch or a cup of coffee. A true gentleman and man of the world. He will be missed by all who knew him."



All start times change through March: due to the massive amount of "fun" we encounter getting up and driving to the TRR range on these cold, dark winter mornings the club voted to move forward by an hour start times for all matches and practice days.

So till the end of March the registration cut-off for our World Famous Cowboy Matches will be 9:30 a.m. You might want to throw a snack in the old saddle bags as this pushes lunch back an hour too.

Practice days will be open for business at 8:00 am., and Open Range Activities will start at 10:00 a.m. to give you time to do a bit of sighting in.

Club Badges: Our yearly info article on how you can have your very own, personally engraved **TRR Club Badge and Ear Wax Remover**.

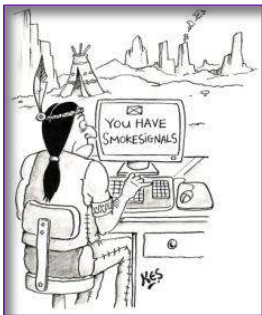


Our badges are made by the same company that makes Police and Sheriff's badges; they are heavy duty, well made and have been mistaken for an actual LEO badge by a Harris County Constable (great story—ask **Fast Tracker** about it.)

Make your check out to me, **L. M. DeBose**, for \$69. You can send it to me at **11535 Clover Lane Ct., Houston, 77066** or wait until you see me at the Range.

I will also need the correct spelling of your cowboy alias, and your mailing address.

Red River Mac



NOTES FROM OLE SMOKEY

Winter Roller Coaster

Welcome to the Texas Winter Roller Coaster – from arctic conditions to springtime in the space of less than one week. I hope everyone survived the recent visit from Father Frost without damage. For y'all that aren't natives, this is the first



time since the winter of 1972/1973 that Houston has had snow twice in one year. I remember that well as I was on Christmas vacation my first year at good old **Aggieland**. I remember driving back to school in an ice storm so I wouldn't miss any classes. There's nothing like dedication – and fear of the prof's wrath!

Long Range

Well, we've had our inaugural gong matches and rimfire silhouette match. **GW Ketchum** has stepped up and claimed the TRR 2017 Gong Match championship and also the first win of 2018! That "Blind Squirrel" (according to an unnamed competitor from Colorado) has found two acorns and is feeling cocky. However, the game is now afoot and other seasoned long range competitors are tuning up their rifles and taking practice more seriously. **GW** needs to stay on top of his game if he wants to keep his title intact. Folks are "gunnin' for him"!

All kidding aside, these matches are lots of fun. The pace is leisurely and there is plenty of time for harassing all of the competitors. I think at this point, **Rawhide's** finely honed skills have him in the lead for the "King of Harassment" title.

We've had folks shoot everything from Trapdoors, to lever guns to single shots. Drag what ya got from the back of the safe and come join us.

Fallen Shooters

As I'm sure most of you have heard, we've lost both **Marcus Hooker** and **Red Dawg** in the last month. Also, **Chance** is in a bad way with cancer. Please keep all these folks and their families in

your prayers. It certainly brings home the fact that we're all getting long in the tooth, and we're losing too many of our old friends.

Upcoming Matches

Don't forget that we have several good matches coming up in the near future. There's **Jail Break** at Oakwood Outlaws Feb 9-11. That's always a good match just a couple of hours up the road.

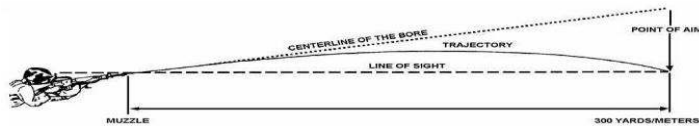
Then we have the **TSRA Regional at Thunder River** on March 10th. **Texas Ghost** always puts on a good match and we get to slip in another day of shooting during the month without traveling out of town.

And then there's **Comancheria April 12-15**. That's always a hoot and who doesn't like to visit Fredericksburg?

I'm looking forward to seeing y'all next weekend to make some smoke!

Blackpowder Burn

Open Range Information



Our next Long Range Match at TRR's new "Open Range" will be a gong match for your big bore lever or single shot rifles on Sunday, February 4. Single shot rifles will shoot 5 rounds at each of the long range targets, from 100 yards out to 350 yards. That's a total of 25 rounds for the match. Folks with lever guns can shoot a shorter distance course, shooting the targets at 100 yards, 150 yards, and 200 yards, and then back to the 150 yard and 100 yard targets. Lever guns will also shoot 5 rounds at each target for a total of 25 rounds. We are currently on winter hours so the range will open for practice and sight in at 9:00 am with the match starting at 10:00 am.

GW Ketchum has shot extremely well at our first two long range gong matches. We need some more folks to come out and challenge him before he gets too big for his britches! These matches are a lot of fun, and there is a real sense of satisfaction to lob that big chunk of lead out 350 yards and hear that steel ring!

We held our first official Cowboy Silhouette match for pistol caliber and rimfire rifles in January. The next silhouette match will be on practice day, Saturday, February 10. This match will be for rifle caliber rifles and will shoot the full size silhouette targets. The chicken is at 50 yards, the pig is at 100 yards, the turkey is at 150 yards, and the ram is at 200 yards. Silhouette matches shoot 10 rounds at each of the animals, for a total of 40 rounds. Again, winter hours are in place so the range will open for practice and sight in at 9:00 am and the match will start at 10:00 am. You can shoot either lever or single shot rifles at this match. If you have a big bore lever gun that is just dying to be brought out for a little exercise, come on out and give it a whirl. Cody Dixon shooters should come out and show us how it is done!

Those of you with 30-30 lever guns, we know it can be a little hard to find non-jacketed ammo for your rifles. So if you only have jacketed bullets for a 30-30 or a 38-55, those will be allowed at the silhouette match. However, only cast lead bullets will be allowed for any other caliber, for example, 40-65, 45-70, or .30 caliber rifles other than 30-30. We want as many folks as possible to be able to shoot, but we need to protect our targets and assure safety for our shooters as well, hence only lead bullets for all the more powerful rifles.

Now that we are getting to shoot our long range guns a little more, we would like to know if folks would like to see some training or guidance offered on long range shooting topics. Some topics that may be of interest are; 1) how to read and how to use a long range sight, 2) how to reload for long range shooting, 3) what is important in developing a long range load for high accuracy. Training or guidance could be in the form of articles in the World Guardian or hands on instruction at the range. If this is something that might interest you, please let us know so we can try to meet your needs.

Fairplay



Product Review Part II: last month we took a look at the RCBS Brass Shotgun Die; this allows you to reload and crimp slightly the mouth of the brass shell improving loading into shotguns.

This month I want to look at a modification I made for this die. Using it in my Lee Classic cast press I find the locking ring to be too thick; the die body doesn't have enough external threads to allow the die to screw into the press as deep as it needs to. It needs just an 1/8" more to work.

First possible solution was to buy a set of locking rings but there was no guarantee that they would be thinner than the OEM. Next I thought about using a belt sander to thin the locking ring (nope—too likely to sand my fingertips off) or grind down the top of the press (really, I could keep it level with hand held equipment) and rejected both of these as unrealistic or dangerous to life and limb.

What I came up with it taking an internally-threaded PVC fitting and carefully cut off a slice of it.

Now the plastic threads are not a perfect fit to the die but it will do an adequate job of acting like a jam nut which is all I really need. It won't survive a 12" crescent wrench but I find finger tight is all that is required.

One thing I did learn was not to use the outermost threads, rather cut off about 1/16" and then cut your locking ring. The initial threads aren't threaded the same as further in.



The Thunder River Mercantile



Osage Mike's: I'm a one man shop building custom leather goods for cowboy action shooters. I build holsters, cartridge belts, shotgun belts and cowboy shooter accessories one at a time. TRR member **Osage Mike**, jayemgee@msn.com Phone: 281.785.2397



Wooden Fully Adjustable Bench Top Shooting Sticks

Made in the U.S.A.

Solid Oak, wood sealed for long life, heavy duty construction, leather strips on uprights to protect rifle, pinned-easy height adjustment, fully adjustable to match

shooting bench height and shooter, collapses for easy transportation.

If anyone is interested in owning one of these bench top shooting sticks built by one of your fellow TRR members please contact Cartwright at gauth1965@gmail.com Currently have 5 ready for delivery shortly after 08 December, also currently orders would take about 2-3 weeks to deliver.

Cost - \$120 Thanks, **Cartwright**



J M Leather: is a small leather shop where leather items are crafted one at a time to provide long service to the cowboy shooter. **Johnny** and his wife **Montana Hannah** are cowboy shooters as well and understand getting what you paid for and being treated fair. The promise is a simple one, if you are not happy with your gear, let us make it right. We want you to be proud of the gear you wear, and proud that you got it from us. We are not a big

name maker, but we will put our reputation and gear up against anyone. **Johnny**

Morris, jmorris69007@msn.com website: <http://www.jm-leather.com>



After months of anxious anticipation, **Volume Two of the Adventures of Double Dog Darrenger and Gappy Jack Daniels: Deadwood or Bust** was published on December 16, 2017 and is now available. A little late for Christmas, but just in time for that special Epiphany gift or your personal celebration of Elvis Presley's birthday (we don't judge).

Copies will be available at the December 30th shoot for the less than kingly sum of \$10. Cheaper than the Amazon price (also available there) and with better delivery!

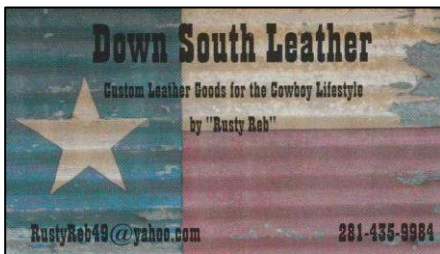


*The Misadventures of
Double Dog Darrenger
&
Gappy Jack Daniels
in*
**DEADWOOD
or bust**
Volume Two

Questman Tales Publishing
The Misadventures continue in
Volume 2 - "**Deadwood or Bust**"
Available Online Now!
Questman Tales Publishing
www.questman-publishing.com

For those that were expecting a June 2017 publishing, as announced in the *Cowboy Chronicle*, the author would like to apologize for the delay, but she has been battling some long term cardiac issues and that has been the priority.

https://www.amazon.com/Deadwood-Bust-Madeleyn-Questman/dp/0999736620/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1514293695&sr=1-1



Down South Leather, Custom Leather Goods for the Cowboy Life Style by **Rusty Reb** is proud to announce the opening of its Houston branch. Contact **Rusty** and discuss your needs and wants; he's only an email or phone call away: RustyReb49@Yahoo.com or 281-435-9984



Oklahoma Dee Vendor/Services/Products Company is on line and open for business. **Dee** has been working on this for some time and is proud to announce the start of this business as well as his operational website.

Take a few moments to check out this new and exciting venture.

<http://oklahomadee.com/> or RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com

Shooting once a month not enough?

Oakwood Outlaws

2nd Sat. & Sun. every month and the Monday following the 2nd weekend. www.oakwoodoutlaws.org/

Willow Hole Cowboys 3rd Weekend of the month <http://www.willowholecowboys.com/>

TRR Officers 2015

El Jefe: **Blackpowder Burn (BPB)**
president@thunderriverrenegades.com

Vice-Pres: **GW Ketchum**
vicepresident@thunderriverrenegades.com

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

Treasurer: **Osage Mike (Osage)**
treasurer@thunderriverrenegades.com

Range Master: **Oklahoma Dee (OkD)**
RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com

TG: **Texas Jack Daniels (TJD)**
TXTJD@sbcglobal.net



Did you ever notice the new SASS Trademark doesn't have the name of the organization spelled out like the old one? Sometimes I wonder if we don't want to offend folks who find the word "**Shooting**" repugnant.

TRR Calendar -- January 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
					TRR Maintance Day	TRR Match
28	29	30	31			

TRR Calendar --February 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
					TRR Maintance Day	TRR Match
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Long Range Gong Match						Practice Day & Rifle-cal. cowboy silhouette
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
						Willow Hole Match
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
					TRR Maintance Day	TRR Match
25	26	27	28			

TRR Calendar --March 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 TRR Match & Election
4 Open Range Gong Match	5	6	7	8	9	10 TSRA Match
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Willow Hole Match
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 TRR Match
25	26	27	28	29	30	