

# Thunder River World-Guardian

May, 2018

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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

**!! Match this Saturday:** April 28<sup>th</sup>: full match of six stages; registration cut off **8:30**

**March 24:** a fun match with a good turnout of 27 shooters. Weather was cooperative and →

fun was had by all. Check out [Suzie's Pictures](#) they tell the story of the match.



**April 7:** (thanks to **BPB** for writing the stages this time) was a different story as far as the weather went. The weather 'experts' promised us clear skies (and still showed that at match's end) but we ended up with mid-40<sup>s</sup> and wind gusts to 25 mph plus a face full of light rain as we faced the targets=perfect cowboy →

weather. Two posses for a total of 27 shooters still hung on and shot the match. *There were several lost fingers and toes to frostbight and Texas Crazy Clay had his hand freeze to his rifle barrel on the last stage. We were planning on burying a couple of cowboys but the ground had frozen solid—at least that's how I remember it.*

**“Clean Matches, No Penalties” March 24 & April 7: Baba Looy, Doc O'Bay, Hopalong Ace, Jalapeno, Lorelei Longshot, Shadow Doc, Shotshell, cheyenne**  
**15% clean: both matches combined**



## NOTES FROM OLE SMOKEY

### Long Range

Well, the competition has been stiff for the last 3 months at the TRR Long Range Smoke Pole Shooting Facility. Each month has resulted in a tie for total score, and required use of the tie-breaker rules. To give him credit, **GW Ketchum** (otherwise known as OBS – Old Blind Squirrel) has been involved in each tie. Last month he was beaten by a **GURL(!)** -- **Bristlecone Jan**.



However, he'd better watch his six, as newcomer **Dusty Bottoms** had a heck of a good showing at his first match with a brand new rifle. The OBS has a big target on his back!

As I said last month, we hope Slipshod construction will soon be issuing a call for helpers to get started building our 500-yard shooting platform. This should give the OBS a chance to show how good he is at longer ranges.

### **Fallen Shooters**

Details have been finalized for the Happy Trails shoot to honor our deceased club members. TRR and WHC will be coordinating a match to honor these friends. The match will be on June 30<sup>th</sup>, and will cost \$25, including lunch. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, so won't interfere with anyone's shooting schedule.

**Ricky** has allowed us to use the range an additional day without charge, so all of the proceeds of the match (beyond the cost of the lunch) will be donated to an organization defending the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. We're still working on which organization to donate to, but will likely be wither TSRA Foundation, NRA or the Second Amendment Foundation.

The donation will be made in the name of our fallen comrades, and the fundraising match will be held each year in the late spring or early summer. We'll purchase a plaque on which the names of all the people being honored will be engraved each year.

### **Last Stand at Thunder River 2018**

Plans are also well underway for LSTR 2018. The majority of folks seemed to like the one-day format of our last match, so we're going to continue with that theme. There will be some enhancements, however. We'll have the 6-stage main match on Saturday December 1, 2018, but will also have a few side matches on Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.

We'll have a long range match in the morning of November 30<sup>th</sup>, and a few others thrown in. Side matches are still being finalized, but this will allow those folks that can only shoot on the weekend to enjoy the main match, while providing some additional opportunities to burn powder to those that can come out on Friday.

The cost will remain the same as last year, and we'll do the same pot-luck type of lunch. As I'm sure you noticed with cheyenne's recent email, **Cherokee Jones** has very generously purchased and donated to TRR the awards for LSTR. They are beautiful pieces modeled after the Olympic medals and should be very unique among SASS matches. Practice up so you can win one!

We'll keep you updated as things progress, but mark your calendar now. Registration forms will be coming out soon.

*Blackpowder Burn*



**Texas Jack Daniels** accepts position of Range Master. **TJD** has graciously stepped up to help our club and members by becoming Range Master. **TJD** is a Life-Patron-Regulator of SASS and has forgotten more than most of us will ever know. He has more badges than there are stars in the night sky.

To put it simply, his guiding principle is "**Let's shoot stuff and have fun!**" Nuff said.

**Long Range Sight Adjustment by Fairplay John:** [click HERE](#) An article on how to adjust the sights on your long range rifle-bore long guns. Well worth the reading

**Summertime Weather and the Cowperson:** as we are approaching the warmer time of the year remember to drink fluids to keep you from 'becoming a speed bump on the road of life.'

Heat exhaustion can sneak up on the best of us and most of us are long past 'Best if used by' date. A bit of warmth, lack of liquids and you can be in trouble very quickly—it also doesn't help if we are in areas of high humidity and most times as the Sun rises on the range the humidity increases dramatically



Thunder River Renegades, to be known hereafter as "the club" will be providing bottled water (I was for a wooden bucket and dipper but was outvoted by everyone). Please take and drink as much as you wish—this isn't high school gym class where the coach told you never to drink during practice. As **Slashwood** said in his childhood, "Water is life!" He's changed it and now says, "Baseball is Life."



**We DO need some Stinkin' Badges:** with new members flooding the club we want to revisit how to buy a club badge. **Red River Mac** is handling this for TRR; see his message below:

*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**

**Looking at some SASS rules and TRR:** every now and then we'll explore a rule or two so everyone can have the most fun possible while retaining all of their knees and toes.

Seems appropriate to start at the loading table where all the magic starts to happen.



First, I would encourage you to come up with a loading pattern as a way to minimize loading too few or many cartridges in your rifle and pistols. Mine, used here only as an example, load from a loading block. This way I am assured that I come to the table with exactly the correct number of rounds. Over the years I have made and accumulated enough so I can load all of them at home and just pull a full one each time I arrive at the next stage. By loading them away from the match I don't get in a hurry and mix up



the rifle rounds from the pistol ones (due to my wimpy wrists and fingers my pistol loads have less powder than the rifle ones.)

I load the rifle first then each pistol. I always try to check on my shotgun shells being present as I have been known to forget this vital step—yelling “Bang!” for times still doesn’t count as KD hits.

And here is the nugget of knowledge to take from this article: at TRR you can holster your pistols once loaded or leave them on the table till you’re called to shoot. Some clubs require they stay on the table until you’re called. BUT, if you holster you cannot leave the loading table for any reason. You can take one step (baseball traveling rule) but if you can’t touch the table you are in violation of the rules.

**Brass Prep (wet tumbling experiment):** my process is to deprime, wet tumble and once dry use them to reload in a Dillon progressive. A bit of work but I’m happy with my method.



After reviewing the instructions online I reconsidered skipping the depriming step. Decided to do one batch without removing the primer to see if this was really necessary.

Did take less time but after a full day with the brass sitting in the Sun as much as possible (moonlight doesn’t do well in drying brass) I deprimed some and found dampness still in the primer pockets—this is not a good thing.

So I’m back to my original method as I don’t want to wait multiple days for the brass to dry.

As **Solomon River Kid says**, “If it’s not broke, mess with it.”

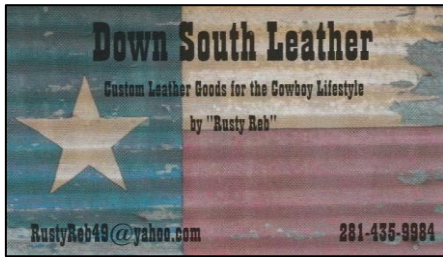
## The Thunder River Mercantile

### John Powers, Gunsmith



Powders 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



**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](mailto: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



**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](mailto: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](mailto: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. **JohnnyMorris**, [jmorris69007@msn.com](mailto:jmorris69007@msn.com) website: <http://www.jm-leather.com>

she has been battling some long term cardiac issues and that has been the priority.

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 30<sup>th</sup> shoot for the less than kingly sum of \$10. Cheaper than the Amazon price (also available there) and with better delivery!

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

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

**Questman Tales Publishing**  
The Misadventures continue in  
Volume 2 - "**Deadwood or Bust**"  
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## Shooting once a month not enough?

### Oakwood Outlaws

2nd Sat. & Sun. every month and the Monday following the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend. [www.oakwoodoutlaws.org/](http://www.oakwoodoutlaws.org/)

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

## TRR Officers 2015

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

Vice-Pres: **GW Ketchum**  
[vicepresident@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:vicepresident@thunderriverrenegades.com)

Secretary: **cheyenne**  
[secretary@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:secretary@thunderriverrenegades.com)

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

Range Master: **Texas Jack Daniels**  
[RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com](mailto:RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com)

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



## Reading, Understanding, and Setting a Soule Vernier Sight



Most big bore long range rifles have a vernier style tang mounted sight. These sights are very repeatable, which provides a great advantage in long range accuracy. However, many folks are confused or even intimidated when trying to read and understand what the sight markings mean. I will try to help take some of the mystery and confusion out of reading these sights.

The tall staff of a soule sight is usually marked in inches. Often the 1" mark will be given a marking of "1" or "100" with sub markings of 75, 50, and 25 at 3/4", 1/2", and 1/4" respectively. Sub markings are often made in 0.05" increments so there will be a total of 20 marks per inch on the vertical staff. The elevation slide will also have marks, usually from 0 to 5 with four equally spaced marks in between. Using the marks on the vertical slide in conjunction with the marks on the vertical staff allows you to adjust the sight in 0.010" increments. This is significant since for a rifle with about a 32" to 36" sight radius (that is the distance between the rear and the front sight) a 0.010" movement of the rear sight will result in about a 1 minute of angle movement of the point of impact of your bullet. That is why we often refer to the sight adjustments as moving in minutes of angle rather than what we are actually doing, which is moving the rear sight in hundredths of an inch increments.

An example of these sight adjustments is as follows. Please refer to the sight sketches in Figures 1 thru 6. If you line up your 0 markings on both the vertical staff and the vertical slide as in Figure 1, you are at your bottom setting, or the Zero set point. Then move the vertical slide up until the first mark above "0" on the slide is in line with the first mark above "0" on the vertical staff as in Figure 2. You have just moved the slide up 0.01", or one minute of angle. This is your 1 minute setting. Next move the vertical slide up until the second mark above "0" on the slide is in line with the second mark above "0" on the vertical staff as in Figure 3. This is your 2 minute setting, which is actually 0.02" above zero. Continue moving the vertical slide up until the third mark above "0" on the slide is in line with the third mark above "0" on the vertical staff as in Figure 4. This is your 3 minute of angle setting. This process continues for the fourth mark above "0" for your 4 minute of angle setting as in Figure 5 and then the fifth mark above "0" as in Figure 6. Note that when you get to the fifth mark above "0" on the vertical slide, both the 0 and 5 marks on the slide are lined up with a mark on the vertical staff. You can ignore the 5 in this case and now go back to the 0 on the vertical slide to read the minute of angle setting. Note that it is now lined up with the first mark above 0 on the vertical staff. Since this mark is actually 0.05", this is your 5 minute of angle setting. As you move on up the vertical staff with the slide, you can read the sight setting by noting the first mark at or below the 0 on the slide and then adding 1 minute for each mark above 0 on the slide until you reach the one that is lined up with a mark on the staff. For example, say your vertical slide is positioned such that the 0 is just above the 50 mark on the staff and the third mark above 0 on the slide is lined up with the third mark above 50 on the staff. This setting would be 53 minutes (50 plus 3 for the third mark).

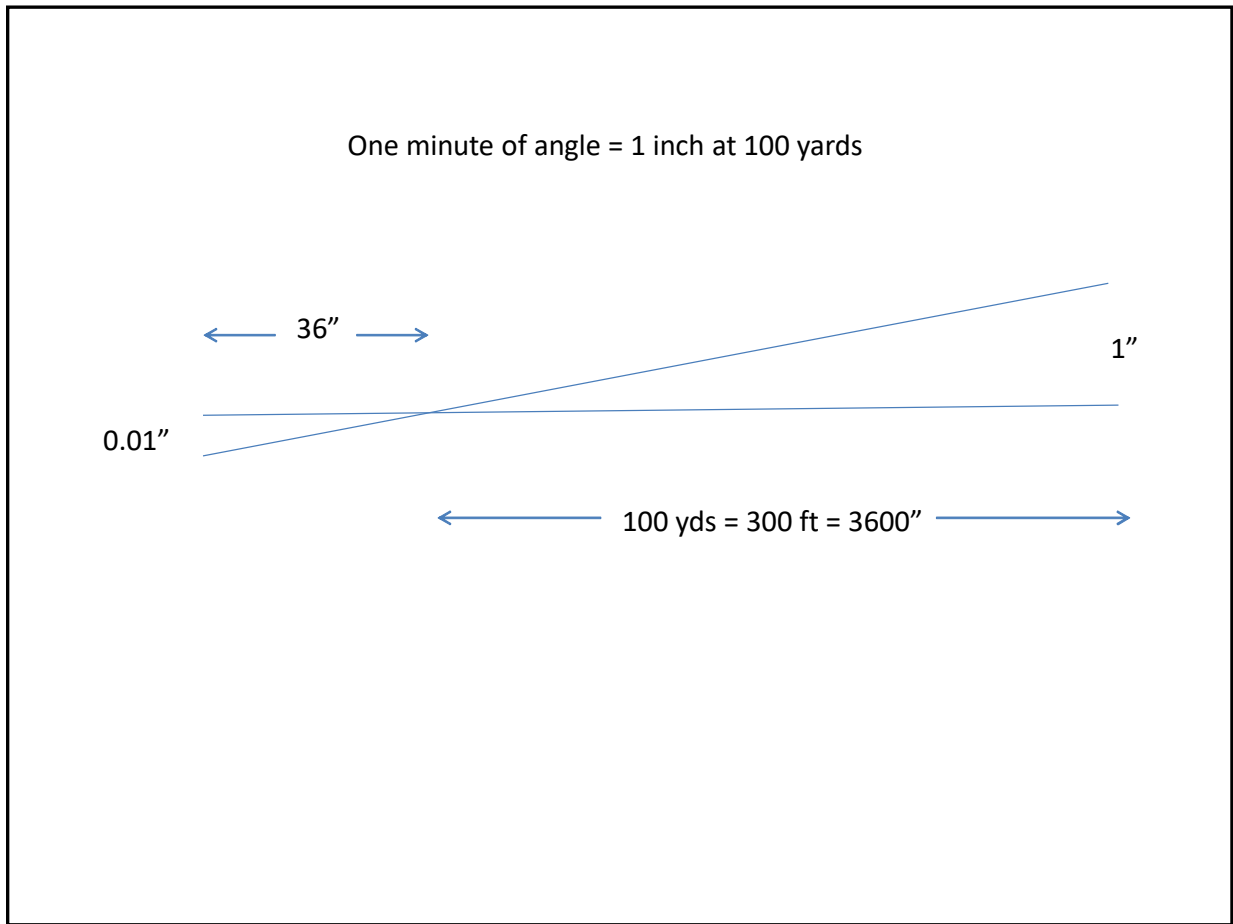
Now that we know how to read the sight, what type of change can we expect when we adjust our sight up by say 1 minute? For this exercise we just need to look at a simple trigonometry diagram. From the diagram below, you can see that if we make a 0.01" adjustment on our rear sight and if our rifle's sight radius is 36", then at 100 yards, which is 100 times further, the change is 100 times greater, or 100 times 0.01" equals 1". So for every 1 minute of angle we move our rear sight up, we will see about a 1" movement in the point of impact of our bullet at 100 yards. If we double the distance to 200 yards, the movement will be 2", and so forth. This makes adjusting our sights to get



our bullets on target a fairly easy task once we see where the first bullet strikes. If you are shooting at a target 300 yards away and the first bullet strikes 12" low then you know to move your sight up by 4 minutes (4 minutes times 3" for each minute of angle at 300 yards equals 12" movement).

Hopefully this takes some of the mystery out of a soule vernier sight. Once you understand them and know how to read them, you can quickly make good adjustments to get your bullets on target, no matter what the distance.

### Fairplay John



For detailed look at sight readings see Soule Sight Diagram attached to the email

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Suzie's Pictures of March 24 Match:





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