

Thunder River World-Guardian



February, 2019

©Thunder River Renegades, Inc.

Vol. VII, 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

Match this Saturday: Jan 26th: match of six stages; registration cut off **9:00**

The report on **LSTR 18** will be coming out in the near future.

Jan 5: Our initial match of the year was blessed with wonderful weather, get stages, colorful targets (if you see black & white as colorful) and people ready to shoot at stuff. The drive into the range was a mite muddy but no one got stuck though **Nile City Slick** tore up those things that go in the bottom of cars—still don't know if he got it fixed.

Hats off to all who have worked long and hard on our toilet issues. We used less than a drum of water for the entire match—well done! (or thanks for holding it till you got home ☺) In

any event we, hopefully have put this problem to bed.

We had several visitors and know of some more that plan to be at the match Saturday. I've encouraged them to step up and try out the different guns our members have so they can get a 'fee' for them before buying them. Just wanted you to know before everyone wants to shoot your Steampunk 9 shot Le Mat with a steam powered coffee maker on top (BTW the Le Mat is not a legal SASS main match gun—just so you know)

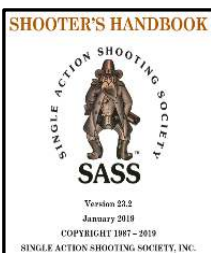


← Le Mat .44 "Old West" by EMF Co.

“Clean Matches, No Penalties” Dec 22: Doc Jim Harvey, GW Ketchum, Judge Pete, Lorelei Longshot, Manassas Jack, Ramblin Gambler, Solomon River Kid

Jan 12: Black Powder Burn, Doc O'Bay, Manassas Jack, Osage Mike, Rusty Elder, cheyenne

32% clean/no procedures: both matches combined



Wandering through the new Shooters Handbook: As of 1-1-19 we have a new SHB, a copy is attached. Unlike previous years they have **not highlighted changes in yellow** which, using the language of the 1880s, is a bummer.

As changes come to my attention I'll post them so we can all be up-to-date. Some of this you will already know but our member are at different levels of knowledge and we want everyone to be informed.

SHB p. 24: *Two SDQ/DNFs (or one of each) in the same match results in a MDQ.*

Notice a **DNF** can figure into a MDQ. This is not a new rule but one some folks tend to overlook.



2019 Dues: yes, it's that time again, a new year and as luck would have it the old rates! Seems the board never got around discussing the dollar amount so I just decided if the current dues were good enough for 2018 they were good enough for 2019 Year of the Earth Pig (so are there such things as a Moon Pig or Mars Pig?)

Rates are as follows:

Lone Adult: \$35 and no, we don't take chickens or kids in trade

Lone Junior (under 18): \$20

Family: \$70 max (there is a loophole if the family consists of an Adult and Non-adult (under 18)

A TRR Membership Renewal form is attached for your convenience.



NOTES FROM OLE SMOKEY

Back to the Real World

Well the holidays are behind us again, and it's back to the real world for another 10+ months.....I hope y'all had a good time with family and friends. Hopefully, you all got

some new "toys" to come out and play with – smoke poles, clothing, reloading gear, whatever trips your trigger. Come on out this weekend and let's put all that new stuff to good use!



Long Range

As at least most of you have heard by now, TRR is moving our Long Range Gong and Silhouette matches (anything shot beyond 200 yards) to the Willow Hole Cowboys range. Doc Bury'em already has a 1,000 yard capability on his property with lots of room and a nice **BIG** berm behind it all. Since our Long Range Committee as well as the operator of Slipshod Construction are also members of WHC, they'll simply change the hats they wear and continue doing what they already do – just in a different location. One of those folks, who shall remain nameless, proposed that the new long range facility be named "Thunder Hole". Being the non-PC bunch that we pride ourselves on, that name just may ended up "sticking"!

Our final long range match at TRR was held last Sunday, and we'll start moving to WHC as soon as the schedule for Slipshod Construction, and the weather, permit. We hope to have our first match at WHC in March. Stay tuned for details. [\(click here to see some photos of this at the end of the newsletter—ed\)](#)

Our intent at present is to hold the long range matches at WHC the Sunday after the WHC cowboy match. That way, folks can make a weekend at WHC. For those that have RV's, Doc will let us bring them and stay the weekend. Sounds like a great way to get away from Houston for the weekend.....

To Long Range, or Not to Long Range?

Along with the move to WHC by the *real* long range shooting, further discussion has arisen on the general topic of long range at TRR. One long-time member has suggested that we should eliminate all rifle caliber shooting on the TRR property, which would include Cody Dixon and Cowboy Silhouette (which goes to 200 yards). Along with this was brought up the suggestion to raise our downrange berms on the main cowboy range. The primary reason being that any rifle caliber round fired at those targets has the potential to escape the Rickett's property.

This suggestion does raise a serious question that I felt should be put before our members.

Without question, we should work with Aaron Rickett (now running the property since Ricky's passing) to raise our downrange berms. If for no other reason than that they have weathered away noticeably in the last few years. Even a pistol caliber round can potentially escape the property under the right circumstances (although admittedly much less likely to occur than a rifle caliber round). I'm currently working on contacting Aaron to discuss this issue.

Speaking only for myself, I think Cody Dixon and Cowboy Silhouette can be handled safely. Especially given the qualification procedures recently put in place for Cowboy Silhouette. However, what's more important is the opinion of the TRR membership. Let us know what you think about the subject by replying to Cheyenne. He'll keep a tally of your votes and any comments you want to make on the subject.

Club T-Shirts

Club T-shirts are here if you ordered them. I think most folks have already picked them up, but be sure to get them at the next match if you haven't got yours yet.

Blackpowder Burn



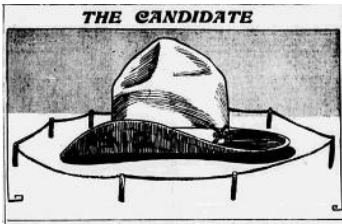
Drawing for 2017 and 2018 Clean Match Winners.

We will be holding the drawings for these two winners at the first February match, 2-2-19. We have numbered tiles with numbers that correspond to the numbers in front of each person's name(s), remember a person can be on the list multiple times.



Some poor, unsuspecting soul will be asked to draw the winning number and we'll match that to the name it represents. This will happen twice, one for each year.

Remember you can get your own Clean Match Pin by shooting a Clean and No Procedural match at TRR. See one of the officers at the end of the match to pick up your pin.



Time to throw your cowboy hat in the ring! Anyone wishing to run for club officer may announce up until the election at the March 2 match when the election will be held.

Up for election this year are the offices of Vice-President, Secretary and Range Master. Last year we elected the President and Treasurer.

Vice-President is tasked with range upkeep. This includes repairing what has broken, worn out or walked off. He calls work parties as needed and is just a heartbeat away from being the Big Kahuna.

Secretary's job is dealing with the paperwork and communication to and from members. The storage of all the old files and reports is included.

Range Master is the expert who deals with SASS rules and makes decisions at our matches as needed, writes the stages for the two monthly matches and sees to it that RO Courses are offered to the membership in a timely manner.



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



Reloading and SASS: I was inundated by ads from Midway/Brownells/Dillons/et al. during the holidays hawking everything imaginable for shooting/reloading. While I deleted most I did check out the current prices of .45 Colt ammo to see how they fared compared to "rolling your own."

Cheapest price was AGUILA for \$32 per box of 50 which works out to 64¢ per cartridge not counting shipping (I usually figure shipping will be close to Texas sales tax). They of course were out of stock but will be back on the shelves at some point.



Let's see if we can make some comparisons for our two 6-stage monthly matches.

- 6 stages x 20 rounds (rifle and pistol) = 120 rounds/match (figuring you don't have to load any extra.
- 120 x 2 (matches per month = 240 so for purposes of exercise there let's call it 250 per month = 5 boxes on ammo
- 5 boxes x \$32 = \$160
- If you want to stretch this out to a year: \$160 x **12 months = \$1920** give or take a bit (remember there is shipping fees on top of this too.)

And what do you have at the end of this? 2880 empty cartridges assuming you didn't lose any rifle cases which we know we always do.

Reloading these 2880 cases at 10¢ each results in a cost of about **\$300**. The cost is based on casing your own bullets and reloading; it does not figure in the cost of the reloading press or the assorted 'stuff' that is also needed nor does it put a price on your time that will be required.

Different calibers will have different numbers above but the end result is the same: reloads are cheaper and can be loaded to your needs not the manufacturers.

Personally I enjoy the bullet casing as well as the reloading process. As Violet says it keeps me off the streets and except for the occasional explosion or two I can pursue this without making too much noise

Our club probably has hundreds of thousands of shooters who would be happy to discuss the reloading hobby/past time/obsession with you and we have a number who would be willing to mentor the new reloader so if you're interested in exploring this part of cowboy shooting all you have to do is ask.



Review Part 2: SliX Shotshell Sizer was mentioned last month and since then I've had a chance to use it at a real, live match. Here are some further observations:

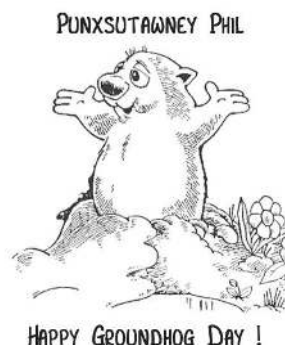
The sizer is tapered and it is not necessary to push the shot shell all the way to the top. While turning the shell you push it in till you get a bit of resistance and you're good to go. Right now you're thinking, "How much resistance?"

Only thing I can tell you is you have to do it a number of times and keep checking to see if the crimp is rounded over. Once you get the feel of it you can duplicate the force necessary without too much trouble.

It works quickly enough that as you pull shells to replenish your shotgun belt or slide you and use the tool before putting them in. I dumped all the shells I needed in a jacket pocket and used the tool while listening to the next stage's instructions. This works out very well for me.

Still concerned about it growing feet and walking off but for now I'm keeping careful watch on it though if you'd like to give it a try come on by my gun cart and give it a spin.

And let's hope Punxsutawney Phil doesn't see his shadow on the 2nd.



The Thunder River Mercantile

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

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

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



Down South Leather
Custom Leather Goods for the Cowboy Lifestyle
by "Rusty Reb"
RustyReb49@yahoo.com
346-261-9620

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



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



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 7 shooting sticks ready for delivery.



Cost - \$100 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>

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 2018

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

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

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

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

Range Master: **Texas Jack Daniels**
RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com

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

Photos of Our Last Long Range Shoot









[Return to World-Guardian](#)