

"March Winds"  
**Thunder River World-Guardian**



March, 2019

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Vol. VII, No 3

*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:** Feb 23<sup>th</sup>: match of six stages; registration cut off **9:00**

**Notes on Matches:** The past two matches had several similar characteristics: both had a 4-wheel drive kind of feeling on the drive to and from the rain. Weather was a bit cool but nothing to complain about (I still remember how hot last summer was!)

Range maintenance was not needed as far as grass and weed whacking were concerned and the ground was soft and while we didn't lose anyone, several cowboys sink into the bogs at the south end of the range. All in all it beat freezing weather and 3 feet of snow—we're lucky to be able to shoot year round in our neck of the woods.

We did realign categories by replacing CD with Sharpshooter. **Cherokee Jones, BPB and Osage Mike** shot the new category and liked it so we may have come up with a win-win situation by having something for the long range shooters and keeping from shooting a moose down range of the berms.

We welcomed several new and returning shooters to the club: **Devlin McBride, Allen Anderson, Cowboy, JJ Mcgee** and **Pappy Ray Mcgee** were enjoying CAS with us in January.

Just a quick final note on categories: we had 36 shooters and 30 of them ended up as 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in their category.

**"Clean Matches, No Penalties" Jan 26:** **Frio Kid, Lorelei Longshot, Neshannock Leo, Outlaw Dave, Rusty Elder, cheyenne**

**Feb 2:** **Doc Bury'Em, Doc O'Bay, Hopalong Ace, Solomon River Kid, cheyenne**

**17% clean/no procedures: both matches combined**



**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:

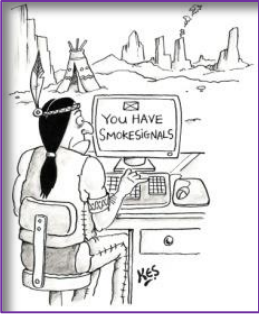
Lone Adult: \$35 and no, we don't take chickens or kids in trade

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 SMOKE



### Long Range



We had a discussion between the Willow Hole management (aka **Def Willie**) and the TRR Long Range Brain Trust (such as it is, and what there is of it) after the WHC match last Saturday. Unfortunately, the continued wet weather is

making it difficult to make any progress in setting up long range facilities at Willow Hole. As weather permits, our intent is to:

1. Survey the WHC location for placement of target backstops/berms. If we can dodge rain, we hope to do that this week.
2. Disassemble the railroad ties serving as berm frames at TRR and move to WHC. Again, Ma Nature permitting, we hope to do that the week of Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>.
3. Set up our existing gong and silhouette targets at WHC and have a match there in March.
4. Firing line shade/rain cover
  - a. We will initially use the Easy-Ups we have now for this purpose. As time permits, we'll work on permanent cover for the firing line.
5. We also plan to purchase additional gong and silhouette targets as funds permit. This will allow us to accommodate larger relays of shooters and/or go longer between required trips downrange to paint targets.
6. Also considering purchasing some target impact sensors/lights. These will flash a strobe upon sensing an impact on a target. This would potentially take the place of spotters for calling hits on simple hit/miss targets like silhouettes.

All-in-all, we have some grandiose plans for the future. With a little time and elbow grease, we'll have a really nice facility for folks to come enjoy – and try to unseat the reigning “Old Blind Squirrel” from his throne.

If you have some free time in your schedule, or would like to take a trip to scenic North Zulch (I'm still looking for South Zulch) consider coming out a lending a hand. We're always looking for another ~~sucker~~ friendly, energetic soul to help!

### Sorta Long Range

Now that we can no longer shoot *real*, “**growed up**” rifles at TRR, **Osage** pointed out to us that there are several clubs that shoot what is termed “Sharpshooter” category. This is shooting your revolvers at the normal rifle targets, and your pistol caliber rifles at what we were using for Cody Dixon targets. We tried it out at the last match and had a hoot with it. Now don't get “skeered” as **Rawhide** would say – it ain't that hard!

And to make it easier for you, there is this little knob or pointy thing on the end of your revolver and rifle barrels that help to point them at the targets. We've discovered that if you put that in the middle of the target, the bullets actually can reach 10 to 15 yards from the muzzle of your hand cannons, and even out to 50 or 60 yards for the rifles! Who woulda' thunk it!?

Several folks came out to practice day to sight in their rifles for Sharpshooter, even with the dang cold temperatures we had last Saturday. In truth, it shouldn't take much change in sight settings. If you have your rifle sighted reasonably well for our regular targets, I'll bet you can also hit the Sharpshooter targets. Unless you use really "mouse phart" loads like **Rawhide** (he's just cheap, uses about 2 flakes of Trail Boss per round), you'll probably only have to hold slightly higher to hit without a sight adjustment. In many cases (such as me) no change was necessary at all – a center hold hits center on both targets. Of course, I do tend to use a skoosh more **real** powder than most folks. 😊

### **Adopt A Stage**

As cheyenne mentioned in the last TRWG, we'd like to see folks adopt a stage at the TRR range. It just involves taking 5 minutes to check it over before a match to make sure the counting sticks, gun mats, etc. are in place and trash picked up. Also keep watch on the physical condition and if repairs are necessary, let someone on the BOD know about it so it can be taken care of. If you would like to do the repairs yourself, we'd be really happy, and would pay for the cost of materials. Extra decorations and ambience would also be great if you have some ideas.

### **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*

Osage Mike's treasury report:

January 2019 Treasury

		28- Jan	
<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenses</b>	
1st Sat Shoot Fees	\$340	Rent	\$850
Membership dues	\$875	Sales Tax(Q4)	\$343
Buy a Miss	\$46	Insurance	\$0
Donations	\$30	Construction	\$0
Silhouette & Long Range fees	\$85	Targets	\$0
Practice day donations	\$65	Maintenance	\$0
4th Sat shoot fees	\$395		
	<b>\$1,836</b>		<b>\$1,193</b>
<b>Funds</b>		<b>To Reserve Funds</b>	
	-----	insurance fund	\$95 <small>7th of 12</small>
Bank balance	\$14,208	tax fund	\$107 <small>1st of 3</small>
Cash Drawer	\$3,150		
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$17,358</b>		
special fund	\$0		
tax & ins.fund	\$772		
LSTR	\$0		
<b>Available, uncommitted</b>	<b>\$16,587</b>		



**Many Eyes find all the Problems:** GW and his Merry Elves are gearing up for the Spring Repairing Season. This is where we tackle those areas that need to be fixed, replaced or burned to the ground.

Right now the floor of the **Saloon** is in danger of putting one of the shooters into the dirt (below the floor). Worse case: the shooter ends up straddling a floor joist with his feet ALMOST reaching the ground . . . Ouch!

**Saloon, part 2:** the bar needs to be lowered for our height-challenged shooters. It is unsafe to have these cowboys shoot while standing on their tip-toes. This won't be a structural job, more of a cosmetic one.

**Stage brass catching sheets or netting:** Way back when the Jail was built we were planning on adding the angled 4x8 sheets to all the stages. These sheets are used to catch the brass that is thrown forward. A similar idea has been suggested to use netting which could be pulled in after each shooter. This netting would not be anywhere as heavy as the plywood and not warp or distort from the weather.

To this end we would like to hear of any concerns you have about things that need attending to, either repair, replacement or removal. Let us know so we can get them on the list.



**Adoption of Stages by Members:** happy to report that **Diamond Rose** and **Crash** will continue to take **Hooker's Hotel** under their wings. They will be checking the building now and then and report of the officers those needed repairs and any additions. Thanks to these two great TRR members!



Remember we still have 8 more stages in need of caretakers. Let me know if you wish to be part of this group (remember this is something that can be done in just a few minutes before a match—no need to show up during the work week).

**Accoutrements for your leather:** when we cowfolk 'saddle up' at the beginning of a match our belt usually has two holsters and either a shotgun slide or separate shotgun belt. That's about all you need to 'go forth and whip the bad guys.'

If you check out the long time members of SASS you might discover a few handy additional items. One of my necessities is a pistol cartridge slide. These can be found on both shotgun belts as well as a small slide for your main belt. I am finding I am *jacking out* at least one rifle round per match these days and it's much quicker to pull a round out of my slide than reach down on the ground, keeping the rifle pointing in a safe direction while I recover the ejected live cartridge; all my posse members really appreciate it, too. But wait, you say you have loops on your belt—fine, they work as well but I find that a full row of cartridges weigh quite a bit and if I only load a couple the empty row look somehow funny to me—personal preference and all.



Another item you'll see is a screwdriver holster usually on the back side of one of the holsters. You keep a screwdriver near and dear to deal with jams in both your pistols and rifle as well as using it as a toothpick. Many of these screwdrivers will have a bit of antler used as the handle

As always, you have to keep from adding too much stuff or you'll weigh yourself down to the point of not being able to move 'quick like a bunny.'



**Drawing for 2017 and 2018 Clean Match Winners.**

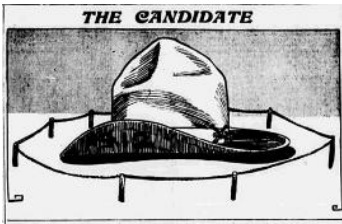
We will be holding the drawings for these two winners as soon as the tiles arrive from the *land of the Red Dragon*. They are supposed to be in this week but you know how the mail runs.



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.

At present there are no candidates plus **Osage Mike** wants a recount from last year when he won without opposition. 😞, so we need some folks to step up or at least see about convincing the current office holders to 'hang in there' for one more term of office.

## The Thunder River Mercantile

**Reloader for Sale!!!** I have a **Dillon Square Deal-B** progressive for sale.

It's set up with dies for 38/357. It works well. I just prefer my 550B and I'm running out of bench space.

Asking \$225.

I'll bring to the match if anyone is interested.

**Osage Mike**



**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](mailto: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 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!



*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](http://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](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](mailto: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**

<p><b>Osage Mike</b> Custom Leather for Cowboy Shooters MIKE GREEN SASS 49,044  JAYEMGEE@MSN.COM  281 785 2397</p>
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**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 7 shooting sticks ready for delivery.



Cost - \$100 Thanks, **Cartwright**

## 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 2018

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

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

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