

Thunder River World-Guardian



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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: Mar 23th: match of six stages; registration cut off **9:00**

“Clean Matches, No Penalties” Feb 24: Cherokee Jones, Cowboy, Doc Jim Harvey, Doc O’Bay, Hopalong Ace, Nile City Slick, **Rusty Elder**, Tell Sackett

March 2: Bristlecone Jan, Colonel Mackenzie, Doc Bury’Em, Doc Jim Harvey, Doc O’Bay, GW Ketchum, Judge Pete, **Rusty Elder**, Texas Rooster

24% clean/no procedures: both matches combined



NOTES FROM OLE SMOKE



Well the Long Range Committee and a few folks with “strong backs and weak minds” spent quite a bit of effort in the last few weeks getting the long range at Willow Hole functional, working around rain and muddy conditions. We have a lot of work left to do to make it a showplace, but we can darn sure make smoke now! Given that this is a joint effort between **Thunder** River Renegades and Willow **Hole** Cowboys and we make a lot of noise and smoke, we’ve dubbed the facility **Thunder Hole Long Range**! And those of you with dirty minds can get your mind out of the gutter – that mental image is not what we intend.....

We had a fantastic turnout today for our get acquainted and sight-in day. 15 people showed up and let me tell you, it’s a far different experience than we had at TRR! The extra 150 yards and wide open field with more cross winds introduce an entirely new level of challenge. Everyone loved the place and looks forward to our first official match the 3rd Saturday of April.

As mentioned above, this is a joint development of TRR and WHC. Since we can no longer shoot rifle caliber cartridges at TRR, we have decided it is fair to apply all of the money collected from shoot fees and member donations (identified specifically for long range) to helping set up this range. That means

TRR will be providing about \$3,000 worth of funding to the project, which will go a long way toward building a shade structure, shooting tables, additional targets, necessary road improvements, parking etc. WHC will be providing a similar amount of money to the project.

So, we've made a great start, and a big round of thanks are due to **Fairplay John, Bristlecone Jan, Rawhide, Ellie Mae, GW Ketchum, Suzie Q, Osage Mike, Def Willie, Walter Durbin**, and especially **Doc Bury'em**. He's a great host and will be joining us at the monthly matches. I suspect he'll teach us all lots of lessons with his long range expertise.

If you want to join us, and have an RV, there's a nice dry part of the pasture where we can set up camp. It makes a great way to spend a weekend by shooting cowboy on Saturday, hanging out with all us reprobates Saturday evening, and shooting long range on Sunday.

Blackpowder Burn

Stage Adoptions at TRR:

Suzie Q and **GW Ketchum** have rounded up the **Foreclosed Cattle Co.**

Nile City Slick has jumped on board the **Wagon**

Caledonia Red now has the **Leather Shop**

Frio Kid stepped up for the **Saloon**

Diamond Rose and **Crash** have **Hooker's Hotel**

Hopalong Ace has **Utter's Freight and Powder**

Cowboy has taken on **Tombstone Jail**

Ellie and **Rawhide** are still in charge of **Miss Ellie's General Store**

That leaves the **Gallows**—any takers?

TRR Cowboy Silhouette Matches

The Cowboy Silhouette Matches for both pistol caliber rifle and rimfire rifle will be moving to the Sunday following the first Saturday Cowboy match each month starting in April. The schedule change is made possible by the Long Range Matches moving to Willow Hole on the Sunday following their monthly Cowboy match. Moving the Cowboy Silhouette matches allows us to not interfere with the practice day activities on the second Saturday of each month. Cowboy Silhouette matches require frequent down range activities to repaint the silhouette targets. By having these matches on a different day, we will avoid interruptions with those trying to get in some good practice on the Cowboy range.

Starting on April 7, we will hold Silhouette matches for both pistol caliber and rimfire rifles. These matches use the half size silhouette animals at distances from 40 yards out to 100 yards. We will continue to have separate categories for both supported and off hand firing positions so those wanting to shoot from a rest will be able to do so. Both single shot and lever action rifles may be used. Plan to come out and join us for a different type of shooting that can be a lot of fun.

Thunder Hole Long Range

The rifle caliber long range events have moved to the Willow Hole Cowboys range. Development of the range is still a work in progress, but enough has been done to allow shooting to begin. A practice and sight in day was held on St. Patrick's Day with 15 cowboys and cowgirls attending. Long range matches will be held on the Sunday following the third Saturday of each month starting in April. These will begin with our normal gong type matches and will later include a BPCR Silhouette match as well. Targets are at 100, 200, 300, 400, and 500 yards. A target will be added at 600 yards in the near future. Attached are a couple of pictures from the practice day and the first shots fired at the new long range facility.

Fairplay



For those of you who like to plan ahead we will be hosting a TSRA match on June 29. More details will be forthcoming but **Texas Ghost's World Famous Balloon Bust** will certainly be there.



If there are buds on the trees . . . can range maintenance be far behind? Now that the grass is beginning to grow we turn our attention to keeping the range mowed and weed-eaten (-ate?)



With Work Days now moved to the 2nd Saturday of the Month we still have to come up with a date for taking care of all things **green**. We are going to keep the grass cutting days on the weekdays before the Saturday of the match. Since this will fall on those with flexible work schedules as well as we retired folks we want to make it as painless as possible.

This **Wednesday, March 20, we will have our first Mowing Day**. It will start around 8:00 a.m. but we won't turn you away if you arrive later—many hands make light work and all of that.

I'll be cutting grass on **Cowboy Bob** so we are looking for help in the weed eating areas. Areas needing a bit of trimming are all around the buildings, stages and in and about the targets; it's hard to get the riding mower into the tight target areas. If you are physically limited there is always filling the water tower. The plan is to be done by noon or earlier.

So . . . come one, come all and be part of getting our range looking like it should for our matches.

Bee careful with wax: back in the dark ages before writing was invented I purchased two pounds of bee's wax thinking I might try making my own bullet lube someday. I didn't know much about mixing stuff together but bee's wax seemed to be in a lot of the recipes.



Time pasted and all I found of use for it was a small pea-sized sphere in my lead pot would do wondrous things in cleaning out the junk in the lead; stir it in, try not to smell the fumes and in no time the lead would be clean and I would commence to casting. Folks, it takes a very, very long time to use up 2 pounds of bee's wax that way. I had hardly put a dent in the zip lock bags they came in; worse, the wax would soften in the Texas heat and migrate all over the casting table. Time to repackage!



Turns out easier said than done. My plan was to put the baggies in a double boiler (over electric on gas heat) and once the wax had liquefied I would pour it into some plastic screw top containers . . . what could go wrong?



As it turned out many things: first, the baggies didn't stand up to temperatures needed to melt the wax so now I have a big pan of melted wax with pieces of baggie throughout. I lost quite a bit of wax while fishing out these pieces.



Next, pouring hot wax into the small mouths of the containers turned out to be above my skill set (did I mention I was doing all this inside in the kitchen?) While I got a large part of it into the containers both sat in rather thick hardening puddles of wax. I need to scrape this wax off the counter and back into the pot. The second pour was much better. Once cooled the tops were screwed on and I was done—or was I?

Nope, still had to clean out the pot—and I was informed this needed to be done elsewhere—like Timbuktu (which brings up a little ditty I best not share here.) You can't really wipe all the wax out of the pot, there will still be a thin film inside. Oil cuts it and since this was an outdoor pot motor oil, just a bit, was used and a bunch of paper towels. After repeated applications of oil and scrubbing with the towels the pan did pass muster but we'll never be able to eat out it.

Thus is my one and only encounter with bee's wax.



Drawing for 2017 and 2018 Clean Match Winners. We finally received the tiles, I have printed the lists of clean match shooters and both are in my truck.

We will have the drawings at the beginning of the match on the 23rd. The prizes will be free entry into the Last Stand at Thunder River 2019—The Elves have gone Rouge.

Lovely ♣ Shamrock Green to Bilious Green: Back in the day when I was excited about all the various colors in which PC comes I ended up with 3 lbs of green in different shades--all in search of the elusive Zombie Green.

Yes, I did find the Z Green but needed to deal with the other 2 lbs of 'less than perfect color' powder. I finally decided to use nothing but one of the lesser greens (not related to the Lesser Antilles) until I had used it up. Then I could move on to the wonderful reds, blues and a plethora of all sorts of hues by way of mixing the primary colors.



This is taking a great deal of time . . . and would try the patience of Solomon--from Spring-like green I began to see the color as something from the 8th level of Hell . . . and finally it arrived at Bilious Green--a color I can only experience with an empty stomach for fear of losing my lunch should I have feasted beforehand.

So let this be a cautionary tale and learn from my shortcomings: too much of any one thing (color in this case) is a bad, bad thing

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



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!



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

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Down South Leather
Custom Leather Goods for the Cowboy Lifestyle
by "Rusty Reb"
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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

<p>Osage Mike 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 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**

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)**
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