

Thunder River World-Guardian

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Vol. VIII, No 7

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

It's only 17 days till our **Independence Day Celebration**, this being our 243 birthday. So dig out your red, white and blue outfits, decorate you gun cart and plan to whoop it up at Saturday's match. We'll be looking forward to rivaling the party they had in the movie **McLintock!** (Notice the "!" is part of the name of the movie)

Click on Duke's picture to hear what he felt about America



Match this Saturday: June 22nd: match of five stages; registration cut off **8:30**

↑ Did you notice the cut off time is now **8:30**? Sunrise is at 6:21 so you have plenty of time to get to the range in daylight. This also allows us to finish sooner and miss some of the hottest part of the day. **Don't think clock time, think Sun time.**

Confusion on Buy a Miss Program: as you know you can buy a miss for \$1 at each of our matches. **These DO NOT carry over to the next or subsequent matches.** If you shoot clean without it you have the satisfaction of knowing you're a dang good shot.

Looking for some posse reporters: while I can tell you all about Posse 2 at the May 25 match I don't have any idea what happened on the other posses. So if you want to jot down a few thoughts about your posse send it on and we'll give everybody how things went with our other groups.

Posse 2 (the Posse of the *Long Walk*): **Lorelei** named us this as we always have to travel from the last stage way back to the beginning during the match. No one can say we take advantage of forming up ahead of time; remember Posse 1 starts at the beginning and travels straight down the firing line till they're done.

Our ROs did their normal fantastic job, so atta-boys to **Manassas Jack, Dealin' Lead** and **Nile City Slick**. Not only did they shoot like the rest of us, they then had to run the rest of us through the stage too—not much time for them to rest. And speaking of not getting rest, **Lorelei** pretty much handled the unloading table duties singlehandedly. While others jumped in to spell her she did most of the job with a smile of her face and a sunny disposition.

Doing the job that everyone loves to hate, brass picking were **Cowboy** and **Rooster**, might have been some others but I missed them. These two cowboys did a great job and always had a smile on their faces, they really take this job seriously. Hats off to these fine examples of *Spirit of the Game* (that's the good SotG not the one that gets you 30 sec added to your time—why SASS ever decided to name two things that are pretty much directly opposite with the same name is beyond me.)

Rooster's better half Carole did all the scoring for us. I'm glad there are folks that will do this for us, all the work and none of the fun of blasting away at things.

Shotgun Steve, Little Billy, Hopalong♠Ace and **Solomon River Kid** were 'Johnny on the spot trading out as spotters—we didn't have to wait on anyone between shooters—we *moved like the wind*.

Which brings us to **Crockett** who did as much as the others and at the end of the match was putting the carpet squares away and getting the stage building cleaned up while the rest of us could barely make it to our vehicles. That man has stamina.



NOTES FROM OLE SMOKEY



Inaugural Thunder Hole Long Range Match

While circumstances conspired to prevent anyone utilizing Wild Willie's RV and Amusement Park, we did hold our inaugural Thunder Hole long range gong match today. The first round was put downrange by Diamond Rose and the final round of the match by Dusty Bottoms. We had some gusty wind and a brief thunder shower come over about mid-match, but that just added to the "ambiance". Those of us shooting black powder just held the rifles in the rain muzzle up and actions open to wash out the bore – we don't believe in turning down any help offered by Mother Nature!

We were all a little intimidated by the targets placed out at 400 and 500 yards to begin with, but some very good scores were turned in, especially considering the gusting winds. It really was a hoot, so y'all come join us next time.

TRR/TSRA Shoot

I know you've been getting a lot of reminders about the shoot we're hosting for TSRA the 5th Saturday (June 29th). Please do come out and support it if at all possible. If you have to make a choice between coming to the regular TRR shoot on the 4th weekend, and the TSRA shoot on the 5th weekend, please go to the TSRA shoot. We'd rather help fund folks defending the 2nd Amendment so we can continue having our cowboy and long range matches.

Sayin' Adios!

I've decided to give the other officers the opportunity to get some experience running things a few weeks in my absence. I figger it'll take them at least 10 minutes to learn how to get along without me! I'm going on a combined vacation and business trip to Colorado until July 14th. It also gives me the chance to shoot Hell on Wheels, which I've always wanted to do.

So.....be sure to give the rest of the BOD plenty of harassment while I'm off making smoke in Wyoming!

Blackpowder Burn

Summer schedule is in full swing: we are now completely into our summer mode allowing both a modified dress code (optional) and shooting 5 stages in each match.

It has been noted that if we get going by 9:00 a.m. and get to shooting in a hurry we can have one or two shooters finish on the first stage before it gets too hot ☺

Liquids are you friend

Remember to keep drinking all during the match—if you're thirsty you are already behind the curve. It's always good to bring something yourself as there maybe a run on the club supplied drinks. If we may quote **Manassas Jack**, "Blink, drink!"

"Clean Matches, No Penalties"

May 25:

GW Ketchum
Little Billy
Nile City Slick
Rusty Elder
Shotgun Steve

Texas Drifter
Texas Rooster
cheyenne

June 1:

Cowboy
Little Billy
Red River Larry
Texas Ghost
Texas Rooster
cheyenne

Top Ten Shooters

May 25

GW Ketchum

TJD

Rusty Red

Rooster

Osage Mike

Thunderhawk

Dealin' Lead

Texas Drifter

Cherokee Jones

San Juan Steve

June 1:

Outlaw Dave

Texas Ghost

Osage Mike

Thunderhawk

Rooster

Rawhide

Manassas Jack

Dealin' Lead

Baba Looey

Cowboy

May 25—Ladies

Ellie Mae

Shotglass

Diamond Rose

Lorelei Longshot

Mississippi Red

Ruby♥Red River (R³)

June 1—Ladies

Ellie Mae

Ruby♥Red River

Diamond♦Rose

Lorelei Longshot

Different way to attach suspenders: I always knew of three ways to attach suspenders to your pants: the method are: clip on to your waistband with clips on your suspenders, next method: you sew six buttons on your trousers and finally the Bachelor Buttons where you hammer on the six metal buttons which stand proud of the pants. All have positives and negatives so let's look at them



Some cowfolk look down on the clip on suspenders thinking they look too modern for a sport such as ours—did you know several of our fellow shootists actually will wear wool long johns instead of modern under garments to matches?

Back to the clip on versions: they were invented in 1894 three years before our beloved Winchester 1897 shotgun. Their development removed the need to have buttons sewn in trousers and if the pants had belt loops gave the wearer a choice. Other than having to buy these ahead of the match there is no major drawback (other than I can find NO picture of **John Wayne** wearing them ☺)

The sewing method requires some skill with needle and thread—for me that means turning to **Violet** and her seamstress skills which can cause either one or both of us to alter our plans. **Violet** takes exception to being awakened at 5 a.m. the day of a match to sew them on—she has been

known to hurl her fabric shears at me when I do this—I not do this anymore. Bachelor Buttons are



easy to attach and even guys can do it. Mark when you way the button, punch a hole in the waistband with an ice pick and using a hammer whack away on the back with it's nail point into the front part—quick and unless you hit your thumb with a hammer painless. But these two have drawbacks. First, you have to plan ahead and drop by Joann's Fabrics or Hobby Lobby and pick them up. The biggest problem is they extend about ½ inch out from the waistband. They hurt if they end up under your gun belt and can catch on it



when you saddle up or when taking it off. I was able to tear one of them off when I refused to see what the hang up was.

This brings us to a new way (for me) to attached buttons, the no-sew, movable set of buttons. **Solomon River Kid** gave me the details and I'm much appreciative.

They clip-on wherever you want them and can be removed very easily. They don't leave holes in the waistband. You do have to plan ahead and obtain them before you need them, though. I ordered two sets as the postage was the same and I'm known for losing things. Here is a place to order them <https://www.suspenderstore.com/no-sew-ez-buttons-movable-set-of-6/>



Our next mowing day is Thursday, June 20

This Thursday we are calling all worker bees for a few hours of 'fun and games' in the hot and humid Texas summer weather—yes it's weed-whacking time again.

Standard list of jobs:

- Edge around all the structures and boardwalk
- Edge around the targets NOTE: due to my many run-ins with target stands I won't be do the 'up close and personal' **Cowboy Bob** mowing of these anymore. We'll be counting on the weed-whackers to do the close in work.
- Water tower needs topping off—two barrels should do it
- Looking for anyone wanting to take some trash home for disposal—bag or two per person would be a great help

Remember to bring some liquid refreshment as we're on the *cusp of summer*.

Finally, be sure to watch each other, besides the heat/humidity there is **Rusty Elder's** favorite song:
♪ I don't like spiders or snakes . . . ♪

Dillon up-grade report

I bought my first Dillon SDB back in the early 70s when its price was \$129.95. Since then I have turned out literally tens of thousands of rounds in a number of categories from .44-40s to .32 Longs. I know of some reloaders who see the machine as too small to maneuver their hands around but I have found it to be my pride and joy. This is not to say it is perfect as I have added a number of after market items to it as the years progressed both for ease of use and safety.

My machine was in fact a SD, no "B" model had come out yet. A couple of the first things I added were the low powder and the low primer alarms. Once I get into a rhythm I can sometimes go a number of shells before check these two levels and these do a good job of giving me a sense of security—belt

and suspenders if you will. I did add a flashing light and louder busser to the low primer alarm so I could see and well as hear it—if I have the fan running I can miss the OEM buzzer plus it was fun to build the unit. I exchanged the AA battery for a 9 volt one to power the lights and mounted just two lights right to the board <https://www.moreleds.com/kits.htm>

I tied a D handle in place of the round ball but found it not to my liking. I see where they have a roller handle that is more like the other Dillon presses but for now I'm happy with the original ball.

I added a micro switch that would count how many times the handle was pulled—rough way to keep count of my progress but since I put my cases in 50-hole loading blocks I found this to be a better way to keep track.



The screw in collar clamp that holds the powder measure in (SDB's powder measures attach differently than all the other presses) was replaced with a spring loaded one. Now it just a matter of removing the failsafe rod on the back, pulling the collar clamp out a bit and the powder measure lifts right off. He has them for both SDB and other Dillon reloaders



<http://castboolits.gunloads.com/showthread.php?370225-VS-Dillon-Powder-feed-quick-disconnect&highlight=dillon+disconnect>

NEW: Ordered a modified powder funnel that makes reloading lead bullets much easier. The new one not only flares the case but expands the diameter so the lead bullet will sit vertical and not tip over during the operation of the press—keeps from shearing off those fingernail slivers that seem to always fall into the press. They come in 44/45, 9/38 and 40 caliber.



Finally, so far, got a follower rod holder so I can keep from bending/breaking it. First one attached to the primer tube blast housing which is part of the primer housing and shield. The second has four slots and mounts to the wall. One thing to note is you have to have a bit of room underneath so you're not hitting the primer tubes all the time.

Stage Adoptions at TRR—One to Go

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

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

Caledonia Red is tooling around the **Leather Shop**

Frio Kid bellied up at the **Saloon**

Diamond Rose and **Crash** are sleeping it off at the Hooker's **Hotel**

Hopalong Ace is shipping out to **Utter's Freight and Powder**

Cowboy has taken on **Tombstone Jail**, bar none

Ellie and **Rawhide** are selling rock candy at **Miss Ellie's General Store**

That leaves the **Gallows**—anyone want to hang out there?

The Thunder River Mercantile



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 lmdebose@swbell.net

Osage Mike

Custom Leather for Cowboy Shooters

MIKE GREEN

SASS 49,044

JAYEMGEE@MSN.COM

281 785 2397

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**

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

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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 or 346-261-9620281-435-9984

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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Vice-Pres: **Crash**
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