

Thunder River World-Guardian

October, 2019

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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: September 28: match of **six** stages; registration cut off **8:30**

“Clean Matches, No Penalties”

August 24: Brass Tacks, Doc Jim Harvey, Judge Pete, Manco, Red River Raider, Shotgun Stevel Sue Nommy

September 7: Rooster, Osage Mike, Revenooer, Red River Larry, BPB, Sundown, Manco, Judge Pete

Top Ten Shooters

August 24:

Brass Tacks
GW Ketchum
Totes Magoats
Red River Raider
Outlaw Dave
Rawhide
Rooster
Ginger Vitis
Manassas Jack
Hoss

September 7

Shotshell
Manchaca Kid
GW Ketchum
Red River Raider
Lonesome Lefty
Lead Leg Vaquero
Wild Card Wayne
Rusty Reb
Rooster
Osage Mike

Ladies August 24

Ginger Vitis
Ellie Mae
Sue Nommy
Diamond Rose
Ruby Red Rider

Ladies Sept 7

Weezee Anna
Diamond Rose
Aiyana Kay

How to squeeze even more Fun out of Cowboy Action Shooting! Coming up during the months of December and January are **SASS RO Classes** presented by RO Instructor **Texas Jack Daniels**. “Back in the day” any RO II qualified cow-person could teach an RO I class but in the interest of presenting a uniform ‘product’ to the SASS membership the Powers that Be decided to come up with the RO Instructor Program. TRR is extremely fortunate to have one of these qualified “Black Badges” walk among us.

There are two classes: RO I and RO II. The club officers highly recommend everyone take the RO I class—it explains in detail the operations of a posse and presents valuable info that can only make you a better part of the club. Cost for this class, which will be taught in the Magnolia Library (thanks **Nile City Slick** for reserving



the meeting room) is a mere \$5, and for this tiny amount you get invaluable knowledge plus an RO I Pin + a rocker showing the year in which to took the class.



RO II is directed at those who want to be the guy/gal with the timer. Having qualified timer operators is part of the very heart and soul on any SASS club. Cost here is \$10 with a different color badge and the aforementioned year rocker.

Think it over, ask questions and let me know if you are planning on attending

Class dates: Sat, Dec 14 for RO I, Sat Jan 11 for RO II



NOTES FROM OLE SMOKEY

TSRA Regional & Lady Ghost Memorial Match



The TSRA match held at Plum Creek on August 31st also served as a memorial for **Lady Ghost**. There was an excellent turnout for this memorial with folks from a wide area attending. While I'm not privy to the final numbers, I estimate the total amount contributed to TSRA by shoot fees, auction and raffle items topped \$3,000. Our fellow cowboys were really generous in showing their love of **Lady Ghost**.

I'm told **Texas Ghost** will be back to join us at some time in the future. However, he is, very understandably, in need of some time to process his sudden loss and get back to living life. Y'all keep him in your prayers.

LSTR 2019

cheyenne has been promoting the upcoming extravaganza known as the Last Stand at Thunder River 2019. As we've done the last couple of years, our goal is to keep this as an inexpensive little party for folks to enjoy. Since the match will be on December 7th, our theme will be "Cowboys in Combat" to honor all of our cowboy movie heroes that served in the armed forces in WWII.

We'll hold side matches on Friday, Dec. 6th to include the normal fastest this'n that, as well as a rimfire and pistol caliber rifle silhouette match. See the TRR website and registration form for more details.

TRR will provide the main course (burgers and dogs) as well as drinks. We ask club members to bring side dishes and deserts. I know I have as big (or bigger) sweet tooth as anyone, but perhaps this year we could bring a few more sides and a few less deserts?

Seasonal Changes

As we're hopefully moving toward fall, just be aware that we're moving back to 6 stage matches this Saturday. Regardless of the season, if temperatures are projected to hit 90 degrees, or more, summer dress is welcome. If we're going to be below 90, let's wear our full costume. **HOWEVER, if your health situation makes it preferable to wear lighter clothing even below our official 90 degree change point, you are always free (and encouraged) to do so. (and remember the TRR T-shirts/henleys are always OK to wear—cr)**

As **Texas Jack Daniels** says....."We're just here to shoot stuff and have fun!"

TRR's 114th Shooters Clinic is scheduled for Nov 9: where you can learn basic skills, pick up pointers from the fastest in the land and generally find ways to improve "The Sass Cowboy Experience®." This is a hands-on event so be prepared to shoot multiple times during the class—bringing 100,000 rounds of ammo is not out of the question.

No matter what your shooting level you will find ideas and skills that will help you hit the targets more often, shoot faster and get from Point A to B in lightning-like time. This is a dynamic practice session taught by some of our *Texas Mentors of Excellence*: **TJD, GW Ketchum, Crash** and **Osage Mike**, all who finish consistently at the top of the heap, are on tap and we hope to entice **Red River Raider, Wild Card Wayne, Shadow Doc** plus others who know a thing or two about gun handling . . . quickly.

We also have on tap **BPB** who can show you everything you wanted to know about black powder loading, shooting and match maintenance for the novice BP shooter. As **BPB** has said about black powder guns, "If it were easy everyone would be shooting it."

Drop me an email if you want to be part of this 'fun for the whole family' event.

Red River Mac (right) receives his Life Member Badge from Club from President-for-Life **Black Powder Burn**



Mini Shotgun Shells: Don Alejandro has enjoyed his mini shotgun shells but is running out of them. I was *tasked* (don't you love jargon?) with seeing what I could come up with without blowing the garage up.

1. The shells need to be cut down about an inch so I settled on my mini 4" stained glass saw as it gives a very clean cut. For once didn't have to make any kind of jig to do this
2. I can deprime/prime, load wad and initial crimp on the MEC shotgun loading press
3. The powder and shot are done by hand much like I did **Little Billy's** black powder brass shells
4. Was able to "mickey-mouse" some nitro wads together from what I had laying around--this will be a cost item if/when I follow through on loading them.
5. Final wad size will slightly affect the shot column
6. I roll crimped and star crimped the prototypes, roll crimp is 2 1/8" and the star crimp is 2". The roll crimp is actually quicker to do and has room for more shot.
7. The final star crimp operation is done with a hammer--working on how to keep it uniform
8. I did two powder loads and two crimping styles so that's 4 variations to try.
9. Both powder loads are less than I put in my full size shells and that load is weaker than commercial ones.
10. we can still adjust the powder/shot loads as needed (up to where we run out of room)
11. **Don** is the Official Unpaid Lead Tester for this.
 12. Have no idea as to the life of the shells--right now using the ones with worn out crimps as I cut the shells below them anyway.

Will report back once we've shot these at our KDs



Our next mowing day is Thursday, Sept 27

With the rain we had last week we are hoping that the grass has returned from the dead.

An aside: years ago I belonged to a R/C model club. When get got our field the "experts" convinced everyone to tear out the native stuff and replace with something like putting-green grass. Needless to say the field was brown and crunchy in no time.

With our native ground cover all that should be needed is a bit of water and some time to revive the stems and shoots of the green stuff, that's what we're planning on anyway.

I'll be there at 7:00 a.m. to beat the heat so show up when you can.

Jobs/Chores/Back-breaking Labor:

A bit of weed eating

I'll get **Cowboy Bob** out and about

Maybe some water for the tower

General cleanup of stages

Check of the Buzzard's Roost for overall cleanliness and also to install the strips on the toilet seat:

Sanitized for Your Protection.

From the Reloading

Room: during my time in the sick bed I didn't do anything relating to reloading—mostly I wanted to concentrate on surviving one more day.

After attending the first September match and finding that I was still vertical at the end I ventured into the garage during periods of

relative cool weather—there isn't much going on in the neighborhood at 1:00 a.m. but at least it was below 90°.

One of my 'most' favorite tasks is to deprime fired cartridges prior to wet tumbling—I know you don't have to do either before the actual reloading process but then I'm on the edge of crazy—my wife had me tested

What I found, besides it hadn't gotten any more enjoyable, was after sitting there for 6 weeks the gunk that's left in the cases along with the high humidity over these 40 days has basically turned into JB Weld and depriming became a major event. Many times I had to run the cases through the press twice to get the primers removed—sometimes the primer centers would budge out rather than the primer coming out, a few times I actually punched a hole through the primers. A number of cases went into the scrap pile as the center of the primer punched out but the outer ring of the primer stayed in the case. Another topic for this section will be hydraulic depriming which [Tracker](#) shared with me.



Moral: I will endeavor to deprime as soon as possible after the cartridges are fired even if they just sit there for a while after that.

Pulled Primers Providing Power in Pistols: Seems [TJD](#) did some cleaning out and brought a bunch of less-than-perfect reloads to the range. Folks could tear them down for the lead and cases. I got in late but there were still a goodly number of .38 Sp and .44 Mag cases in the bags and being the definition of cheap I took them home to see what I could do. Above report deals with the fun and games of getting the primers out of the cases. Now I had a bunch of cases that cleaned up very nicely using the wet tumbler method. Plenty of lead to cast new bullets and a bunch of powder to use as fertilizer.

But . . . what about the primers? They should still be good, they were just old. So on practice day I loaded up some .45 Colt ammo for a new shooter [NA Mike](#) (No Alias Mike—still working on one) and



he shot all 100 rounds—and they all went off! So I hope the 900 other primers I recovered will do the same in all my future practice ammo.

The Thunder River Mercantile

I have a like new **Ruger New Model Vaquero in 45.**

Blued

4 5/8" barrel

It needs a new home.

Asking \$500.00

Crash

texascrash@att.net



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 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 346-261-9620



Unfortunately, the source for Thunder River Renegades badges has gone out of business. We were getting a substantial discount from retail for both TRR and Willow Hole badges which was being passed on to our members. None of the other vendors for Smith & Warren badges has agreed to anything less than retail.

I am still actively searching for lower pricing but it does not look promising. We can still purchase badges but at retail prices plus shipping.

Red River Mac lmdebose@swbell.net

<p>Osage Mike Custom Leather for Cowboy Shooters MIKE GREEN SASS 49,044 JAYEMGEE@MSN.COM 281 785 2397</p>

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!

<p><i>The Misadventures of Double Dog Darrenger & Gappy Jack Daniels in DEADWOOD or bust Volume Two</i></p>	<p>Questman Tales Publishing The Misadventures continue in Volume 2 - "Deadwood or Bust" Available Online Now! Questman Tales Publishing www.questman-publishing.com</p>
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https://www.amazon.com/Deadwood-Bust-Madeleyn-Questman/dp/0999736620/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1514293695&sr=1-1

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: **Crash**
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