

Thunder River World-Guardian

April, 2019

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Vol. X, No 4

*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

Matches have been put on hold till further notice: unless you have been living under a rock you understand that a person's health and even life is more important than playing Cowboys and Indians—it's a close call but, let's face it, we want you to hang around for a while.

So be safe, load ammo and hang in there

From our last two matches:

“Clean Matches, No Procedurals”

Feb 22:

GW Ketchum

Osage Mike

Texas Drifter

Rusty Elder

Doc Jim Harvey

Manco

Mar 7

Outlaw Dave

Shotshell

Dealin' Lead

Tell Sackett

Doc Bury'em

Texas Ghost

Angels

Osage Mike

Doc Jim Harvey

Hopalong Ace

Rusty Elder

Baba Looey

Emery Goodner

Blackpowder Burn

Nile City Slick

Lorelei Longshot

cheyenne

Top Ten Shooters

Feb 22:

GW Ketchum

Shotshell

Wild Card Wayne

Doc O'Bay

Three Fingered Jack

Thunderhawk

Texas Ghost

Tell Sackett

Tanner Wright

Texas Drifter

Mar 7

Outlaw Dave

Shotshell

GW Ketchum

Red River Raider

Dealin' Lead

TJD

Tell Sackett

Lonesome Lefty

Thunderhawk

Tanner Wright

Feb 22: Ladies

Ruby Red Rider

Angles

Mar 7: Ladies

Lil McGill

Weezee Anna

Angles

Bristlecone Jan

Ellie Mae

Lorelei Longshot

Lady Doc

Club Election Results: at the March 7 meeting **Crash** was elected by acclamation as President for the next two years. He ran on his slogan: “A Buick in every pot, a chicken in every garage.” He thanks his many supporters and will get around to paying off the election judges soon.

Everyone thanked **BPB** for all his hard work both as club secretary and president during the past 47 years.

A fitting memorial is planned for our departing president later this year. Details will be forthcoming.

TRR President's Column

My first thought as the brand new President of Thunder River Renegades.

I want to join everyone and give a really big Thank You to **Black Powder Burn** for his time as President of our Great bunch of cowboys and cowgirls. I have some big shoes to fill, I mean boots to fill.



Great Job **BPB**.

Secondly, a matter of importance that I had hoped would change course, but it did not—Covid-19.

We have decided to follow the guidelines of the State and Counties and cancel the next few shoots and workdays.

We will monitor the reports, but for now, we don't see anything changing for the better.

This will give us time to get that new Ruger or Sharpes from GunBroker and get them tuned and ready to make smoke.

I know that I will get a lot of loading bench time in.

Until we meet again,

Keep your powder Dry.

Crash

Winter Range TG Report – from our Range Master, TJD

I attended the Winter Range TG meeting. There was only one topic on the agenda which was the continuing discussion about the new rule regarding coming to the firing line with the hammer cocked. This was 30 minutes of listening to people who struggled to understand the clear explanation.



In short.

1. If you come to the line with the hammer cocked ... DO NOT LET GO OF THE RIFLE ...
2. When instructed point the rifle safely downrange and pull the trigger.
3. BANG = STAGE DQ. NO BANG = NO CALL.

If you let go of the rifle you will get a SDQ, regardless.

When the floor was opened there was discussion on 2 topics

1. Requiring Match Directors to be RO-I or RO-II certified for SASS sanctioned matches. I kept my mouth shut. This is a stupid idea. Requiring some who is working his ass off so that SASS gets \$5 per shooter to spend his own money. and time = Bad business decision.
2. How to deal with temporarily impaired or permanently impaired shooters. For some reason there was a lot of discussion on how to deal with this in a fashion similar to a pilot taking himself out of cycle for illness or injury. No actions or recommendations came out of this.

Lee bullet casting molds: since there has been some interest in reloading as well as casting bullets we will take a look at the Lee molds. There are custom mold makers out 'there' and as you might expect they are very proud of their products. It is very likely the costs can run over \$100 per mold. I will admit that they do have very good products but when you are on a fixed income the Lee molds are enticing at about half the price.

If you go the way of Lee molds you should consider them "some assembly required." I have two new ones and both have the sprue plate slightly off. What I mean by this is when you completely close the plate the far end of the mold will slightly open. This leads to 'finned' bullets which are rejects.

I have tried two ways to correct them: first I enlarged the sprue plate hole by using the next size up drill. That has cured most of the binding. When this didn't completely work I enlarged the notch on the sprue plate so it doesn't bind on its stop screw. Both were used on my last one and now the mold closes fully and I get good bullets each and every time.



Sometimes the “Cowboy Way” smacks you in the face: recently **Ruby Red Rider, Ramblin Gambler**

and I set up a meeting at the gas station across the street from the range road on 1774. Meeting time was 9:00 a.m. My plan was to get there early so they wouldn't have to wait on me—I arrive 15 minutes early

and both were already there because, as you might have guessed, they didn't want to make me wait. Everyone took into account the other persons and did not put themselves first.

Goes to show you that there are still folks today who hold the same ideals as our cowboy ancestors did 140 years ago.

No matter how educated, talented, rich or cool you believe you are, how you treat people ultimately tells all. Integrity is everything.



Cutting Lead Blocks with a chop saw . . . or not: the one consumable of casting bullets is lead, Pb, the Silver Stream. It's getting harder and harder to find lead as wheel weights, “plastic” army men and paint no longer contain it. Some people still smelt it (Fast Tracker for one) while other wimps like me order it on line.

Smelting requires you locate a source, melt it down, clean out all the trash and then pour it into usable chunks. And after all that you still need to cast bullets from it.

I finally broke down and started ordering off the web. While you can find all sorts of quantities on ebay, I find much better prices at two places. The Great American Lead Co <http://www.thegreatalaskanleadco.com/> out of Alaska will sell you a 30 lb block of hard lead for \$42 which includes shipping. Work out to \$1.40 a lb. Only problem is it's one block of lead. I have learned you can cut it with a chop saw but that makes a mess, noise and, think about it, my fingers and a moving blade—recipe for disaster.

Presently I get mine from “The Captain” who is a vendor on Castboolit <http://castboolits.gunloads.com/showthread.php?63886-Lead-Ingots-For-Sale-Buyer-s-Choice>. Cost is \$67.55 for 50 lbs = \$1.35 a lb and it comes in easy to use ingots.

Another company is RotoMetals <https://www.rotometals.com/bullet-casting-alloys/> which has certified alloys that run around \$3 per lb.

The Thunder River Mercantile

Osage Mike

Custom Leather for Cowboy Shooters

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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



Everyone has been noticing all the wonderful signs appearing around the range. We have **Suzie Q** and **GW Ketchum** to thank for them.

Their son commercially makes them up in Willis so if you're in the market for some custom made ones of your own give them a call (936.827.2560) or catch them on FaceBook: [click on their name] [Fallow Fabrications](#)



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).

*The Misadventures of
Double Dog Darrenger
&
Gappy Jack Daniels
in*



Volume Two

Questman Tales Publishing

*The Misadventures continue in
Volume 2 - "**Deadwood or Bust**"*

Available Online Now!

Questman Tales Publishing
www.questman-publishing.com

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!

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



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



RustyReb49@yahoo.com

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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 346-261-9620

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 2020

El Jefe: **Crash**

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Vice-Pres: **Willie Cheatem**

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Secretary: **cheyenne**

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Treasurer: **Osage Mike**

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