



Thunder River World-Guardian

January, 2021

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Vol. XI, No 1

The **Premiere** Cowboy Action Shooting Club of Grimes County, Texas

⁹/₁₀ of a mile north of the Texas Renaissance Festival Main Entrance—look for the **RED**, **WHITE** & **BLUE** sign

► **Match this Saturday: December 26, 2020:** match of **6** stages.

Registration cut off **8:30** (Sunrise = 7:15 a.m.—**days are getting longer**—finally!)

Flash: we are going to have a slightly different stage this Sat; this in response to member requests. Think of it as another Beta test event we keep holding—check out the attached booklet for details.

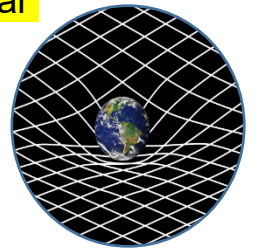
While we'll have a full set of targets at the jail you only will be shooting at the Marshal (pistol) and Buffalo (rifle) targets + of course all 4 shotgun.

Think of it as a **Speed Stage** or **Stand and Deliver** which we haven't had in a long time. And speaking of time we really don't have enough (as well as strong backs to move the target arrays so we hope you'll be able to ignore all the squares, diamonds and circles down range.

Hey, if we weren't messing with things it wouldn't be TRR 😁



Next Two Matches are a day after Major Holidays: we shoot matches the day after Christmas and again the day after New Year' Day. These are our regularly scheduled Saturdays and there is really no way to move them without causing major disruptions in the *Time-Space Continuum*.



Just wanted to give everyone a heads up so you can figure them

into your plans. Bring out all the relatives that say

guns are evil and let them join in—before you know it they'll be smiling like a *cat looking at an open can of tuna fish*.



DUES

Time to dig deep: With New Year's approaching it's time to begin thinking of taxes and changing out the calendar to 2021 . . . at least we won't have the fun of a national election to *enjoy*.

It also brings us to the time when we collect **dues for TRR**. After many exhausting meetings that lasted into the wee hours of the night, a reevaluation of priorities and a required 5% reduction in all budgets we are happy to report that our dues will remain at their current level (it actually is the same as in 2016—might even go further back but all the files were mysteriously burned just before the IRS audit):

- ❖ **Individual Adult:** \$35
- ❖ **Families:** \$70 (this means if you and your spouse shoot all 13 kids under 18 don't have to pay dues—makes you want to go out and adopt a dozen or so). If there is just an adult and junior then we only charge \$55—we're not out to gouge anyone)
- ❖ **Juniors (<18):** \$20

And speaking of officers: we pay the same amount as everyone else as well as our match fees—someone was asking about that.

There is a **renewal form** to complete which is an attachment to the email. If you have a new shooter joining use the regular form which is also coming along. This helps us keep accurate records.

See **Osage** to pay (not that he doesn't already have way too much to do). Cash or check but no children or chickens and definitely not pennies in a sock.

And speaking about membership . . . I took a trip back through the by-laws and found a few interesting items:

Once a person fills out an application form they are saying that they subscribe to the **TRR Pledge**. After this the Board rules on the application.

The Pledge you say? Never heard of it? Doesn't matter, when you sign the application you are saying you support it. For those who have a "need to know" here it is: ▼

The TRR Pledge

I CERTIFY that I am a citizen of good repute of the United States of America; that I am NOT a member of any organization or group having as its purpose or one of its purposes to overthrow by force and violence the government of the United States or any of its political subdivisions; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence; and that if admitted to membership; I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and good citizenship.*

*repute = the opinion generally held of someone or something

A Humorist note: guess it would be OK to be a member of a group that wanted to overthrow the U.S. by subversion

Currently all this boils down to this simple fact: did the applicant also pay the dues? 😊

Looking for a Caster of Tombstones



We are going to be establishing a Boot Hill and plan to cast our own tombstones.

Just checking to see if there are any experts in this field in our membership before I add another “skill” to my job résumé.

There are several ways: the inlaid sandblasted tile (left) and the press in letters while the concrete is still damp. We’ll probably have some of both. One thing I did learn is the costs are amazing low and there is not a great deal of materials though it is messy.



Crash's Communications

Well, within a few weeks 2020 will be a memory. For the most part....Good Riddance. I'm glad it's over.

So many businesses were forced to close. So many family memories that were never made.

For me, I have gotten closer to the old folks that I'm blessed to work for. I have gotten closer to family and friends.

So look back at this year with an open heart. Pick the memories that make you happy. Don't dwell on the ones that do not bring you joy.

Speaking of good memories, LSTR 2020 "Who Was That Masked Man", is in the rear view mirror. I want to thank everyone that played a part in making happen.

We had a really good time putting things together. Was it perfect? No. We learned a little and will make it better next year.

We have several projects being discussed for early this next year. A new storage building, a new cover for the Cattle Company. Replacing the office building. Possibly combining all of the above. All making our club safer and more fun.

A few other stages will be due for a face lift as well. Lots of plans and shoots for the near future.

Until we meet again. Keep your powder dry.
Happy Trails.

Crash



Safety Glasses Work: during one of our recent matches Nile City Slick took a ricochet his right lens. He wear those curves lens so the piece of lead (from a pistol round not a shotgun) hit the lens and traveled down to his nose. When I looked at him I thought he had three nostrils but the third one was actually a bit of blood that dripped down his nose.

So this incident went from a possible major eye injury to a slight "scratch" on his proboscis. These safety devices do their job—keep yours on at all times!



Blackpowder Burn: Life Member: as promised way back in March of this year **BPB** would be receiving an appropriate gift for his many years of service to our club. After considering a number of gifts (mostly cheap in price) it was decided to bestow **Life Membership**.



While not always evident to the general membership he worked for the club equal to if not more than he did his “day job” and for much less money.

As any previous or current officer can tell you: being an officer is not all glamor and Fox News interviews. When stuff hits the fan the last line of defense is one of the 5 elected cowboys who take up shovels and get busy.

BPB joins **TJD, Ellie** and **Rawhide, Rooster, Red River Mac** and **Two Spurs** as cowfolk all should aspire to emulate.



New TRR Categories (like we don't have enough already): both of these have been requested by multiple members and as our motto is **Have Fun and Shoot Something!™**, we think these will increase the enjoyment factor.

- **WB-Lite** (formally WB-O): **Odessa** came up with this as a way to conserve primers and **Judge Pete** is a strong supporter. The shooter uses a 1911, magazines loaded with 5 rounds each and follows the Cowboy directions. This category can result in **saving over 100 primers** over a WB category during a 6-stage math.
- **Sharpshooter-Lite**: **Don Alejandro** has been one of the driving forces for this one. The shooter follows the Cowboy directions but shoots the Far Targets with their rifle. This means they don't have to shoot the cowboy rifle targets with their pistols, **increasing the chances of shooting a Clean Math**.

These are NOT on the sign-in slip and you will need to write them in. They will be on the new printing of this form once we use up all the current ones.



LSTR Comments

by **TJD**, Match Director



I would like to again thank everyone for their contribution and hard work to make Last Stand at Thunder River – Covid-19 edition a success.

We also appreciate all the feedback we got and while many of you were quite pleased, we get some useful thoughts and suggestions

We had a few challenges with getting the scores right. We are truly sorry about that. We did all this real time without any opportunity to review. We will be more careful in the future.

We also missed a few side match awards. We will work on that too.

We got a lot of comments about more volunteers and committees. That would be great. We will start in collecting names and forming committees. For all the many people who already volunteer we really appreciate it. Who wants to be the Match Director? **If you would like to be on or lead a committee please let me know.**

Next year we will have different awards.

We had a complaint or two about our defective plate rack. We will fix, replace, or remove it.

We also had a few requests for something other than hamburgers and hot dogs. And some sort of warmer to keep food warm.

We had one comment about using stages from/like major matches. If you would like to write the stages please let us know. I quit doing it 2 or 3 years ago.

I will do an analysis of the stages for everyone and supply it separately. Very good request.

Regarding a Regressive Sweep that was my error. Which is why we always give an example.

A complaint raised that we did not have a reserved parking spot for the **Judge** and **Kate**. That was incorrect. They do and always have had a reserved spot right next to the office.

We aren't paying for a photographer. **Rooster's** work is second to none and he has been our official LSTR photographer for a number of years. But if someone wants to volunteer to help out that is fine.

Yes and yes. Next year we will have a port-a-potty and we will get the toilet plumbing fixed.

As for how this was organized it was done solely by email. A single person was assigned/volunteered for a function (i.e. food, decorating, garbage, etc.) They were free to form a committee or whatever else they wanted to do to "get it done". There was no double checking on people. I don't have the time to do that. I had to work and still have to work 6 days a week.

In closing I am thrilled beyond words for what we were able to pull off while social distancing. I am extremely grateful for all the help from so very many of you.

May God bless each and every one of you and yours. May y'all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

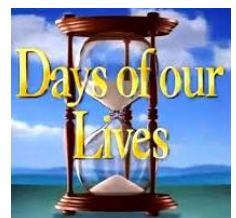
God Bless Texas,

TJD



Our Mystery Posse Safety Officer: One posse position that we often skip over is the Loading Table Officer. We may tell posse members to have the shooter behind you check your pistols (hey, what about how many rounds in the rifle?) but in this part of the country, for whatever reason, matches seem to do just fine without this post being filled.

The posse may start out with one but this job seems to drop off as the stages pass like sand through an hourglass (with apologies to the **Days of Our Lives** soap opera).



Now we will be sure our newer shooter have their guns checked but for Joe “Average” Cowboy there usually isn’t one on duty.

First of all, the TRR Club, Inc. never condones absent safety officers of any type. We strive to see that all safety positions and conditions are in place any time we are at the range. Safety is Job One®.

That being said, the onus is on the individual shooter to see they have properly loaded all 4 firearms correctly. If not, the shooter collects any penalties and/or disqualifications. Remember you can always ask a fellow shooter for help checking your equipment.

LSTR: from somewhere in cyberspace you should have received an evaluation for the match. We hope you take a few minutes to let us know your thoughts—we can’t improve if we don’t know there was a problem.



From the officers of all the worker bees that made this possible we are ever in your debt (but not the kind of debt that nets you money).

Why do the Targets seem Set in Stone?

I understand there have been some questions as to why all the targets are in the same spots month after month. Here’s the low-down:

Our steel targets are heavy(!) and usually require a number of able-bodies folks to move them. Sight lines and possible splatter areas need be also figured in. The club Range Master needs to sign off on the changes. Then the stage diagrams need to be modified to match the new arrangements and submitted to the *Thunder River Renegades Official Stage Writer and Water Tank Filler*—me early enough so they can be included in the match booklet that, hopefully, comes out on the Monday of the match week.



The answer, simply put, is this is a low priority for the club. Dealing with club Covid issues, cancelled matches, building and repairing physical structures, LSTR's *fun and games* plus the fact that most of the powers-that-be have lives outside of TRR there is a lack of remaining daylight hours to do this.



We will be covering selected targets at the Jan 2 match to change the number of targets at one stage—think of it as a Beta test.

By shooting some different stages each match and varying the order of guns used and the shooting patterns it was felt that enough change would be.

Now if there are members that are willing to step forward and move them around and follow the other guidelines about getting changes published then by all means let an officer know. We would welcome them with open arms.



From the reloading room: both **Rawhide** and **BPB** were dealing with some issues of powder clinging to the inside of their powder measures and not giving consistent charges.

One solution that has been around since  **Col Mackenzie** was a  **Major** is to rubber band an aquarium pump to the powder measure, this results in a small vibration that keeps the powder from clinging.

Rawhide came up with an even easier way to mount the pump on the measure. To quote him, “An old plastic Planters Peanut jar is a perfect size if ya cut it in the right spot. Everything is a snug fit but I can lift the air pump out for easier screwing and unscrewing of the powder hopper”

Match Quiz of the Month: if you have 3 pistol targets in a straight line:



And the instructions are: **Pistols: (0,5,0), repeat**, how would you shoot it?
Food for thought

“Clean Matches, No Procedurals”

LSTR:

Tell Sackett
Charlie Ringo

Cherokee Jones
Willie Cheatem
Nile City Slick

Angels
Col MacKenzie
cheyenne

Top Ten Shooters

LSTR:

Shotshell
Outlaw Dave
Texas Scout
GW Ketchum

Tell Sackett
Wide Card Wayne
Charlie Ringo

Three Fingered Jack
Thunderhawk
Dealin Lead

Top Lady Shooters

LSTR:

Dream Chaser
Bristlecone Jan
Hot Tamale

Ellie Mae
Angles
Kuckleburr

Ruby Red Rider
Lady Doc
Lorelei Longshot

The Thunder River Mercantile

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.

Close-Out - \$60 Thanks, **Cartwright**



them up in Willis so if you're in the market for some custom made ones

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



of your own give them a call (936.827.2560) or catch them on FaceBook: [click on their name] [Fallow Fabrications](#)

John



R3L Co.
Ruby Red Raw Lead Co.



50 Pounds Raw Lead
Recycled from Indoor Range
\$45.00 each
\$40.00 (3 or more)

rubyredrider.cas@gmail.com


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 or 346-261-9620



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

Off-Cowboy but still a lot of fun: Did you know that **Crockett** is a Class 3 FFL? This means he can handle **suppressor (silencer)** sales. From the talk round the pavilion this sound like a lot of fun and while not cheap still is within the price range of many of us.

For more details contact him at: trentffl@gmail.com

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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Range Master: **Texas Jack Daniels**

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TG: **Texas Jack Daniels (TJD)**

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