

Thunder River World-Guardian

May, 2022

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Vol. XII, No 5

The *Oldest* 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 & Blue** sign

Next match is Saturday, May 7th

Registration closes at 8:30

6 Stages

NOTES FROM OLE SMOKEY



TSRA Regional Shoot

We hosted the TSRA Regional shoot yesterday at TRR, with a good turnout. There was a short shower toward the end of the match, but it cleared away quickly and didn't impact the match or lunch. All in all, a nice relaxed match with good stage writing by Cheyenne.

TJD and **Shotglass** provided an excellent lunch of burger, hot dogs, potato salad and more cobbler and ice cream that we could eat. **Reckon** and **Belle Kaye** attended and helped out with the match and lunch. In case you weren't aware, **Reckon** is the other Cowboy Action representative working with TSRA.

After the match a few hardy souls stayed to shoot a couple of side matches that I thought were as much (if not more) fun than the main match. **TJD** put together two racks to hold 10 Oreo cookies on edge. You had 10 shots to hit as many as you could while being timed.

The person that hit them all (or, at least, the highest number of them) in the fastest time won. The second side match involved stapling 1 or 2 decks of playing cards to a sheet of plywood face down. You had 5 shots at the cards with any pistol/revolver. Whoever had the best poker hand at the end won.

I find these matches lots of fun, especially since everyone has a chance to win, not just those that have really fast reflexes and can shoot fast. Look for this type of side match at LSTR this year.

TJD reported collecting \$385 in donations for the TSRA PAC and \$1,459 in match fees to help pay for the TSRA Annual Match in July at the Texican Rangers in Fredericksburg. Plan to make that match if at all possible.

LSTR 2022

As we've been talking about recently, we are expanding LSTR to a 3-day match this year, December 8 – 10. Side matches will be on Thursday the 8th, with main match on Friday and Saturday. We'll also have a nice catered meal, awards and raffle on Saturday night at the KC Hall on FM 1488. We're finalizing details now, so expect to see more information in the next week or so – along with the registration form.

We'll have a new and improved raffle. Fewer items, but of much higher quality. We'll try hard to make side matches such that they are fun for everyone, not just a race to see who is fastest.

We'll start advertising the match soon to try to draw in as many "foreigners" to our club as possible so they, too can enjoy *the "Best Little Cowboy Action Club in Grimes County!"*

Blackpowder Burn

Details of our Summer Dress (now that we're already shot two matches with it)

♪ **Summer Time and the Living is . . . Hot, and Humid and as close to Hell as you can get on the Face of the Earth** ♪

Just a heads-up for our new members (plus those who have memory problems—you know who you are—then again you might have forgotten)



During the warmer months we go to our Summer Dress Program. There are two parts to it:

- Part 1: **we shoot only 5 stages** as a general rule but, usually start off summer dress with 6 per match and do our darndest to make them as close together as possible. Don't need to be traipsing up and down the range while our gun cart tires are melting in the heat. That means we shoot more of the middle stages than the ends.
- Part 2: Clothing requirements are relaxed. First, **NO BASEBALL CAPS**. After that pretty much anything goes: T-shirts, shorts, tennies are fine. Men can wear short sleeve collar shirts (the Ladies always had this opportunity, rain or shine.) And did I mention **NO BASEBALL CAPS**?
- Part 2A: you are **NOT** required to do summer dress. It's fine, in fact great if you show up in full cowboy regalia with chaps, heavy wool shirt,

THREE

layers upon layers of undergarments. We will attend your funeral but you'll look good lying there. Many of our members do stay with Old West costuming and I stand in awe of their stamina. However, if you suffer from old age, diabetes, high blood pressure, athlete's foot, the "vapors" then we want you to be as comfortable as possible.

When the Heat Index is predicted in the 90°s we usually initiate the TRR Summer Dress Code. [Heat Index Calculator](#)

Results of TRR Poll: as you remember, we polled the club back in mid-April. Here are the final results tabulated by Price, Waterhouse & Cooper:



1. Should we increase LSTR, our annual match, to 3 Days? **Yes: 28** No: 9
2. Should the cost of LSTR be in line with other 3-day matches? i.e.: in the neighborhood of \$100? **Yes: 32** No: 6
3. Would you be able to support this expanded match by being one of the Worker Bees? **Yes: 28** No: 10
4. Should we push back our matches by 1 hour? Yes: 17 **No: 20**
5. Are you able to help repair the Saloon on a Weekday? Yes: 17 No: 19

In summary: we had a total of 39 members cast votes. Not everyone answered all the question which is why the totals do not evenly match

We also had a goodly number of comments, all of which were read and evaluated.

The board thanks all who participated in this undertaking.

Treasurer's Report for April presented by **Doc Jim Harvey**



April 2022 Treasury			
Income		Expenses	
"1st Saturday" shoot fees	\$745	Rent	\$850
Membership dues	\$245	Sales Tax(Q1)	\$204
Buy a Miss	\$72	comptroller late fee	
Donations	\$54	Construction	\$522
	\$0	Targets	\$0
Practice day donations	\$15	Manintenance&operations	\$684
4th Sat shoot fees	\$555	SASS affiliation fee	\$0
lead shot sales	\$0	LSTR	\$400
LSTR	\$0		
			\$2,660
	\$1,686	To Reserve Funds	
Funds		insurance fund	\$95 4th of 12
	\$0	tax fund	\$97 1st of 3
<i>General funds</i>	<i>\$18,148</i>		
<i>tax & ins.fund</i>	<i>\$477.25</i>		
<i>Bank balance</i>	<i>\$14,244</i>		
<i>Cash Drawer</i>	<i>\$3,904</i>		
Total Funds	\$18,148		
Available, uncommitted	\$17,671		

⇒ Note that the rent and insurance for our range is right at **\$1000** per month ⇐

Match Booklet Up-date: after several philosophical discussions about the ease of reading the individual stages we have made the following changes:

- Added a second page of conventions that define our club categories

- Removed the “WB-Lite and SS-Lite” references on each stage description page. We still have these categories; we just don’t need to clutter up the page with listing them each and every time.
- It will be up to these shooters to inform the ROs that they are shooting one of these club categories
- Moved the member score sheet from the title page to this new page
- Exploring the possibility of selling ad space on the title page, see sample on first example.

Examples below ▼

Thunder River Renegades

Frost on the Saddle Horn

February 5, 2022 Match


Version: C

REGISTRATION

ENDS AT 9:00


Stage Descriptions
and Diagram of Stages
by
cheyenne


Proofreader: **Manassas Jack**



Rancho Grande

Where we don't serve the food until we have squeezed as many drink orders as possible out of you.





Special TRR Category Conventions

▶ **Sharpshooter:** Unless stated otherwise a sharpshooter's shoot:

- The long range targets the same sequence as the regular rifle targets.
- The regular rifle target with his pistol in the same sequence as the regular pistol targets
- A person may take a rest for the rifle. Just like a regular category.
- Sharpshooter is broken down into
 - **Lever Action**
 - **Single Shot**

▶ **Wild Bunch Lite:** shooter uses 5-round magazines and shoots stage using the Cowboy instructions

▶ **Sharpshooter Lite:** shooter shoots the sharpshooter rifle targets, the Cowboy pistol targets and shoots the stage using the Cowboy instructions

▶ **Josey Wales:** shooter uses 4 pistols and no rifle; two pistol on pistol targets and two pistol on rifle targets

▶ **Rifleman:** shooter uses two rifles and no pistols; one rifle on rifle targets and one rifle on pistol targets

▶ **Renegade:** shooter shoots a different category at each stage

▶ **Outlaw:** both shotgun and pistols are shot from hip.

Shooter:					
Stage	Time	Miss	Penalty	Bonus	Total
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

Mowing, Weed Whacking and Small Projects Day

It's been two weeks since we had a mowing day. Time to dig out the weed eaters and give it another "go."

It will be our normal outing of cutting anything green that is over ¼ inch tall.

Date is Thursday, May 5th.

Start time is anywhere from Sun-up to ?? but it's getting warmer each and every day

As **BPB** says, "Many hands make light work and usually get in the way."





Possible Modification for Henry Big Boys: [Widder](#), a well-known Henry .22 gunsmith has come up with a mod that greatly speeds up loading Henry's .22s. You can find details on this YouTube Video [Here](#).

The short description is you turn your magazine tube and open up the cartridge port a bit so the rounds slide down between the barrel and mag tube right into the port—check the video at about 10:30 and on to see it in operation. There are some caviets but for a “working cowboy gun” it would make sense to explore it further.

He has never seen it done on the center-fire versions of Henry's guns but thinks it might work. Here is a photo of how the loading port is rotated on the .22; check out the port just above the yellow “^” midway on the mag tube.



Poor Man's Gunsmith Screwdrivers: Not any old screwdriver should be used on our firearms. The proper screwdriver will keep you from dinging both the screw head and the surrounding area when you work on your guns. Gunsmith screwdrivers are hollow ground which means they don't taper like the normal handyman ones you find at Lowes or Home Depot. They fill the screw slot in all directions maximizing the contact area and as a result don't 'cam out' of the slot.

They can come tempered so you can apply great force without twisting the tip, though not all have this feature.

A set can run you \$10 per screw driver and it's not unheard-of spending upwards of \$50 for a 4–5-piece set. These aren't the ones you use to pry open paint cans or hit with a hammer.



Another route is the set that has a common handle and individual, replaceable tips. They still can be pricy and keeping track of those little, tiny tips can be a challenge, especially when they seem to grow feet and run off just when you need one.

Being frugal, **Violet** calls me cheap, I decided to make a set for my Marlin rifle. There are 5 sizes needed and while Grace Screwdrivers will sell me a set of them for \$36, I wanted to have something much less costly and a bit smaller.

Simply put, I bought the tips I needed from Brownell's and used a bit of dowel rod for the handles. A dab of JB Weld to hold them in place and all done. I was able to make three sets for about \$36.

The photo shows a set of tips, some handles and a complete set. I made them with the short handles so I can carry them in my pocket and check my rifle at every other stage—Marlin rifles are notorious for having their screws loosen all the time.



The Thunder River Mercantile

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



TELLS PRIMERS



I have **Servicios Aventuras** small pistol and **Ginex** small rifle primers available for sale at my cost: \$100 per 1000 and \$110 per 1000 respectively.

I also have a small amount of Remington, CCI, and Winchester small pistol available at cost(\$100 per k) **IF** a like amount of SA or Ginex is purchased.

Also available: Federal Premium Gold Medal match small pistol primers. At my cost, with the purchase of SA or Ginex, which is \$143 per 1000.

Contact me at: [cmjdaj@gmail](mailto:cmjdaj@gmail.com) for more information or to RESERVE the limited American primers.

Tell Sackett



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



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](#)


R3L Co.

Ruby Red Raw Lead Co.



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

rbyredrider.cas@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 2021

El Jefe: **Blackpowder Burn (BPB)**
president@thunderriverrenegades.com

Vice-Pres: **Willie Cheatem**
vicepresident@thunderriverrenegades.com

Secretary: **cheyenne**
secretary@thunderriverrenegades.com

Treasurer: **Doc Jim Harvey**
treasurer@thunderriverrenegades.com

Range Master: **Texas Jack Daniels**
RangeMaster@thunderriverrenegades.com

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