

# THE LONG RIDERS, INC

Volume XIII, Issue 8

*"We put the fun in Cowboy Action Shooting"*

September 2008



## From The Trail Boss **Loco Poco Lobo**

As we close out the shootin' season, it is time to renew our memberships and start planning for next year. Don't forget to send in your membership application (see the "Membership Info" section of the website or the attached application). Also, if you would like to help the club by serving in some capacity, please let me know.

We have had some inquiries regarding junior shooters. In addition to signing a liability release required by the Shortsville Rod & Gun Club and their lawyers, here are the established rules for junior shooters:

- must be at least 12 years of age to shoot shotgun and rifle
- must be at least 14 years of age to shoot pistol
- must be accompanied by a parent or guardian throughout the shoot
- would have their gun leather and guns checked by the Safety Officer after Saturday setup or by appointment
- would complete a dry run of a scenario using live ammo
- would walk though the scenarios with their sponsor the morning of the shoot
- would be appointed the Safety Officer as their mentor
- would rotate through jobs, including the loading and unloading tables, throughout the match
- would observe at least 2 stages before shooting their first timed stage

Rules for the parent/guardian are:

- Follow the junior shooter through the stage from the loading to the unloading table, positioned at the back of the shooting mat, to observe the shooter, without hindering the workings of the posse
- Carry the pistol for the junior shooter to the loading table and observe their loading procedure
- Observe the junior shooter's unloading procedure, take possession of any pistol and ensure that the guns are properly put away
- If the parent/guardian is shooting their first Cowboy Action Shoot, the junior shooter will not be able to shoot until the next official shoot

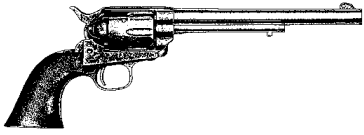
This year, the **VILE BUNCH** decided not to send a survey, but we would like your opinions on a couple of topics. Although we no longer provide copies of the scenarios to most shooters (except members who do not have computers), should we follow the same procedure for the 3 Day Shoot? Also, it is becoming more expensive to print the 3 Day Posse Pictures. Should we continue to subsidize the printing costs, add a fee to the 3 Day registration for a photo, have electronic members access the photos online, or a combination of electronic/registration fee option? We would welcome your input on these topics, especially at the annual meeting in 2009.

I hope to see a lot of folks ready to pulverize pumpkins and socialize at our last 2008 shoot's pot luck lunch.

See you out on the range!

**L.P.L.**

## 2008 SHOOTING SCHEDULE



**October 26**

Registration: 8:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.  
Safety meeting: 9:15 A.M.  
Commence shooting 9:30 A.M.

### Get Yer Guns... and Ammo

Needed for October shoot:  
15 Pistol / 30 for 2-gun shooters  
25 Pistol Caliber Rifle for main stages  
14 Shotgun, One Small Pumpkin!  
Long Range (Optional): **Turkey Shoot!** Up to 40  
rounds of Pistol-Cal Rifle Ammo Only  
\*\* There are **no reloads** for October \*\*



### Safety Officer's Report Nawlin's Kid

Howdy Pard,

This past month's shoot was a close get together. There was a lot of fine shootin' under the pavilion, but the pards with the holy black did cause some disruption in disguising targets. There were some whispers that those shooters were seeding the clouds and caused the liquid sunshine. Maybe there should be an investigation to determine if this gave them folks an advantage!

All kidding aside, shooting in close quarters went very smoothly. Good job shooters in making it a very safe day!

#### Safety Tip of the Month:

Make sure your shootin' glasses are clean so you have no excuses for missing the pumpkin!

See you down the trail!

**Nawlin's Kid**



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## Foreman's Report Raunchy Rick

Well, it looks like we made the right call to shoot from the pavilion when we set up for the September shoot. Thanks to this planning, the rainy weather didn't slow us down none. There was a lesson to be learned however. Because the long range is so popular, we will set-up two identical long ranges the next time we shoot from the pavilion. Having two identical long ranges should help things move more quickly and prevent any bottle necks as well. Despite the changes made to the stages so we could shoot in the pavilion, everyone was able to shoot without any problems. Tear-down went fast. Thanks to all you folks who pitched in.

September's set-up was completed by the following folks: **Nawlins Kid, Loco Poco Lobo, Sandy Steel, Jeremiah Grimm, Elk Creek Ken, Fuller Beans, South Dakota Slim** and yours truly, **Raunchy Rick**. Don't forget when you help with the set-up, you get a \$5 off coupon for your shooting fees. Thanks again to all for your help and co-operation.

The October shoot will be three stages plus long range. It will also be a "dish to pass" shoot to celebrate our last shoot for this season. To help us better co-ordinate our "dish to pass" meal, please give me a call to let me know what you intend to bring. This way we have better variety for our meal instead of all desserts like we had happen one year. To add to the shootin' fun, we are going to have a turkey shoot like we did last year. And it wouldn't be an October shoot without having a pumpkin toss, so don't forget to bring a small pumpkin next month. Should be a great shoot and fun for all!

That's it for now. See you soon!

**R. R.**



## OLD WEST FEATURE STORY

### Temple Lea Houston

Temple Lea Houston, the youngest child of Sam Houston, was born August 12, 1860. He was the first child to be born in the Texas governor's mansion.

Sam died when Temple was 3, and Temple's mother, Margaret Lea Houston, died 4 years later. Temple then lived with his Lea kin. Over the next 6 years he attended various schools, getting kicked out of most of them because of his "rebellious temperament."

At 13, Temple went to live with the Cherokees in the Nations. He apparently had a number of half-brothers and half-sisters in the tribe.

In 1873 he signed on a trail drive going to Dakota Territory. To return home, he hired on as a clerk on a steamboat going to New Orleans. Through an old friend of his father, he got an appointment as a page in the U. S. Senate. In Washington, he studied law and sharpened his oratory skills.

In 1878 he returned to Texas and attended Baylor Military Academy. He left after a year, and at 19, was admitted to the Texas Bar. He set up his practice in Brazoria County. He was elected County Prosecutor and prior to his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, he was appointed the first district attorney for the new district court that was established to cover about 1,400 square miles.

Temple was not hard to spot. He was 6'2" tall, had gray eyes, and wore his black hair down to his shoulders. He liked white hats and long black frock coats. He carried 2 ivory-handled colts and knew how to use them. (Supposedly he bested Bat Masterson in a pistol match.) During his career he sent a couple men or more to their graves.

One of the young ladies that was attracted to Temple was Laura Cross of Columbia. They were married on Valentine's Day in 1883.

In 1884 he was elected to the legislature. He was elected to a second term in 1886. Because of his oratory skills, he was selected in 1888 to give the dedication address for the new state capitol building.

In 1893 he moved to Woodward, Oklahoma. He also moved across the courtroom, from the prosecution table to the defense table. He defended a cowboy named Red Tom who was accused of murdering an unarmed Indian. Tom killed him simply because he wanted to shoot an Indian. He even told witnesses that if they found a dead Indian with a bullet in his head, it was his. The case was open and shut. Houston, realizing that there was no evidence that he could present of Tom's innocence, launched into a long speech that brought back memories of the Indian wars. Most of the jurors had, not that long ago, lived in fear of Indian attacks. It took the jury 5 minutes to acquit Red Tom.

Temple defended a cowboy who was accused of stealing a horse and murdering its owner, a noted gunman. The cowboy claimed that it was self-defense, that the gunman drew first. But he had no witnesses. The prosecution claimed that the cowboy drew first, and that it was murder. Houston argued that the gunman was so good that the cowboy had to draw first. To demonstrate the gunman's speed, Temple pulled out a revolver and opened fire at the jury. The jurors, and everyone else in the courtroom, ran for cover. (The gun had been loaded with blanks.) Because the jury had mixed with the spectators, Houston argued for a mistrial; the jurors had not been sequestered. Houston got his mistrial, and the cowboy was acquitted in a later trial.

Temple was persuaded by a judge to defend a horse thief. Houston promised to give him the best advice that he could. He asked the judge to provide a private office where he could confer with his client. After a little while, a court officer looked in the office. Houston was alone sitting in a chair and the

office window was open. Houston smiled and said, "I gave him the best advice I could."

In 1899 Temple was in court waiting for a case that he was involved in to come up. A soiled dove named Minnie Stacey was charged with "plying her trade and operating a brothel." She had no lawyer, so Temple volunteered to defend her. He conferred with her for about 10 minutes. The prosecution then presented its case. Minnie was a known prostitute. It was another open and shut case. Houston spoke, off the cuff, for a half hour. He presented no evidence. But by the end of his speech, there was not a dry eye in the house. The newspaper called the speech "the most spellbinding, heart-rending tearjerker ever to come from the mouth of man." The court stenographer was inundated by requests for copies. That speech is still studied by law students today. It is considered to be one of the finest examples of extemporaneous speeches in the English language. A framed copy hangs in the Library of Congress. And Minnie? She was acquitted.

Houston suffered a stroke in 1904 and another in 1905. He died on August 15, 1905.

A newspaper described him as a mixture of nettles and flowers and said that the Southwest "probably will never see his counterpart."



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