



The
Mine Branch
Epitaph

Newsletter of the
Gunpowder Creek
Regulators, Inc.



September 2003



COWBOY ACTION
 SHOOTING CLUB
 Lenoir, NC



Captain Parker Day

When we decided to hold a special benefit match for our good friend Parker Shotgun, I never dreamed we would host the largest turnout ever for the Gunpowder Creek Regulators. We had seventy-five registered shooters, even though three of us were unable to shoot, and I think everyone had a good time. Those seventy-five cowgirls and cowboys proved to me that the cowboy way is alive and well. When we counted the proceeds for this match we were amazed. At first, I was worried that we would only raise around eight or nine hundred dollars. Was I ever wrong! The generosity of our shooters allowed us to present Parker and his wife Anna (aka The Captain's Lady) a jar full of money totaling more than \$4300! Thanks to everyone who attended. Special thanks to everyone who bought raffle tickets. And an even more special thanks to those who donated items making the raffle possible.

Raffle items and other donations were received from the following;

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Razor Ron | Crazy Zora | Deputy Gene | Tornado Alli | Dutch Henry |
| Right Handy | Mabry Industries | Mrs. Ripshin | Lorenzo Kid | Watsonatta |
| Sixgun Shookster | Fannie Kikenshoot | Roy Rugers | Jackson Leather | Carolina Bells |
| Barrel Head | Brushy Mt. Jack | Ole Hoot | Carolina Glove | Rabbi |
| Big Jake | Bull's Head Bill | Little Jubie | Gunpowder Creek | Iredell Regulators |
| Bostic Vigilantes | Mild Bill | Gunslinger | Old North State Posse | Jackson Leather |
| Walnut Grove Rangers | | Carolina Rough Riders | | Traveler Woods |

I'm sorry if I left anyone out, but I'm still a little overwhelmed by the number of donations and the generosity of our family and friends. Every now and then a person gets a chance to be a part of something that leaves them feeling really good inside. This, for me, was one of those opportunities. I'm very proud of our cowboy family and the way we came together to help out a friend in need. This will go down on my list of all time favorite shoots as one of the best. It may not have been a state or regional match, but it sure was special. ~HT

From the Gov.

Thank you to everyone who came to the marathon shoot at Mine Branch. The large turnout reflected the Cowboy Way in no uncertain terms. The support for a friend in need was unbelievable. With Horsetrader in the lead, the Regulators and friends of the Regulators made certain the day was not one to forget. In beautiful weather, seventy-five shooters came to Gunpowder Creek to shoot, talk to friends and renew friendships.

I've already mentioned 'marathon shoot' and that was exactly what it was. With eight stages, a raffle or two, lunch from the Chuck Wagon Gang.....time stretched on and on. HT went to the attic and pulled out some old stages from our past, dusted them off, put in new target placements and the fun was on. Like always, he came through with some good ones.

The real story was about Captain Parker, and what a story to tell. My friend has not had the best of luck lately but it has not kept him from being the cowboy I got to know several years ago when Cowboy Shooting started at Mine Branch. The Captain came to us with years of experience from shooting somewhere north of the Mason Dixon. Always there to help with set-up on Friday and back on Saturday for the shoot. He was there for us when we needed him, I'm glad we can be here for him now.

Some old friends came to shoot with the Captain and they rode quite a long distance to help make this a great day for my friend.

Thanks Slim 4 Eyes and Sherry for being here.

Once again, thanks to everyone for coming.~Ripshin

From the Captain

This is for everyone who attended or donated to Parker Shotgun Day, especially Miss Hannah, Horsetrader, and Ripshin...

"THANK YOU!"

Your thoughtfulness means much more than words can say.

Captain Parker & His Lady

We've had shooters visit Mine Branch from all over the country. Signatures on the Browning House door represent such places as Texas, Louisiana, Ohio, even Sweden. But our two visitors from New Hampshire will stick in my memory for quite a long time. Slim 4 Eyes (Captain Parker's best friend) and Eulalia Bourne not only drove a very long distance to be here, they left home knowing Hurricane Izzy was heading their way and their homes might not be there when they returned. Their being at our September match shows just how much a best friend will do for his Pard when he needs him. Slim, it was an honor to meet you. Thank you for being a part of our benefit for Jack.~Horsetrader

Happy Anniversary

The following members are celebrating anniversaries as Regulators in September...

Ross Rutherford ~ Three Years	Marshal Ben ~ Three Years	Blue Eyed Stranger ~ Two Years
Ranger Lone Wolf ~ Two Years	Big Jake ~ One Year	Sly ~ One Year
Angel Girl ~ One Year	Tumbleweed ~ One Year	Little Jake ~ One Year
Diamondback Dennis ~ One Year	Carolina Gem ~ One Year	Silvercreek Kid ~ One Year
Lil' Bit ~ One Year	Sonoma Kid ~ One Year	Jake Slade ~ One Year
Tin Star Tony ~ One Year	Traveler ~ One Year	Barrel Head ~ One Year
Catawba Kate ~ One Year	Thanks Everyone for being a part of our family!	

Welcome To Our New Members

We are happy to welcome our newest members who joined our club in September;

Bruce "Cockroach" Whitehouse

Bruce "Baby Bull" Hawkins

and

Anna "The Captain's Lady" Pastor (Mrs. Pahkah)

We're glad to have you!

Bridge Repair

Thanks to the Three Diamond Bridge Construction Company, aka Pocko, Jorge, and Red Wolf, for fixing our bridge over Solomon Creek. Recent rains had washed out the supports and these stout hearted fellows moved her upstream a piece and shored her up a bit. We appreciate the hard work and wish we could have been there to help. (As far as you know.)

Mine Branch Golf Was FUN!

On September 13th we held the first of what I hope to be many long range matches at Mine Branch. We had sixteen shooters sign up and test their skills with the long guns and it turned out to be a little harder than some of us thought. Here are the results of the match;

Walking Bear ~ 3 over	Injun Ear ~ 5 over	Useless Doug ~ 1 under	Steady Eddie ~ 2 under
Feather Blu Slim ~ 1 under	8 Bits ~ Even	Ripshin ~ 6 under	Trapdoor ~ 6 over
Trapper ~ 5 over	Jorge ~ 2 under	Col. Clay ~ 11 over	Raison Cain ~ 3 under
Cuz'n Crump ~ 7 over	Hiem ~ 7 over	Pocko ~ 2 over	HT ~ 6 over

Unfortunately, since this match was based on the game of golf, the LOWER your score, the better. After the smoke had cleared, RIPSHIN had won the rifle caliber category with his 6-under and RAISON CAIN took second place with his 3-under. EL HOMBRE JORGE won the pistol caliber category with his 2-under and POCKO took second place with his 2-over.

Walking Bear will run a long range match on October 11th starting at 10 a.m. for, in his words, bragging rights only. No trophies or dancing girls.

We are planning a more COWBOY oriented long range match for November 8th so there's going to be plenty of chances for you to break out the long guns and come play before cold weather finally sets in.

Annual Meeting

Our club's annual meeting, scheduled for September, was postponed do to the marathon match. We will hold our annual meeting at the conclusion of our October match with the election of club officers at the top of the agenda. Please make plans to attend our match and participate in this important meeting.

NEXT MATCH ~ OCTOBER 18th ~ 10 a.m.