# TUSCO TIMES

### OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TUSCO LONG RIDERS

"The Shooting Makes It Fun, the People Make It Special"

January 2021

Writer/Editor:Prairie Dawg

# Welcome to the 2021 Shooting Season

28 Cowboys and Cowgirls came to shoot with us today.

Nature treated us to a brisk, but not too cold day, which was favorable for shooting! A fine early January day, in which a cowboy or cowgirl could comfortably wear all his/her gear -- cool enough for even leather chaps!

Thank you for joining us, and we'll hopefully get another great day in February!

# **Top 20**

- 1. Boaz -- B Western
- 2. Cheyenne Culpepper -- GunFighter
- 3. Buckaroo Bubba -- GunFighter
- 4. Hooligan Howes -- GunFighter
- 5. Stone Creek Drifter -- FC GunFighter
- 6. Lucky 13 -- Silver Senior
- 7. John Barleycorn -- GunFighter
- 8. N.A. Custer -- Senior GunFighter
- 9. Swiss -- Classic Cowboy
- 10. Buckshot Charlie Bill -- 49er
- 11. Gray Squirrel -- 49er
- 12. Angie Oakley -- Lady GunFighter
- 13. Moosetracks -- Duelist
- 14. Sixgun Seamus -- Classic Cowboy
- 15. Bdoc -- Lady GunFighter
- 16. Thunder Creek Kid -- Classic Cowboy
- 17. Turkey Flat's Jack -- FC GunFighter
- 18. Wright Wiley -- Cowboy
- 19. Crazy Cryder -- Frontiersman
- 20. Muleskinner -- Senior GunFighter

# **Clean Shooters**

**Hooligan Howes** 

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Next Scheduled Shoot: February 6th





# NEWS & NOTES

# Six Stages

We shoot six stages at Tusco. A few people have told us that they drive a good distance to shoot at Tusco, and would like to shoot as much as possible. Obviously, we only have room for five shooting bays.

So, what we do is shoot the first stage twice. Consider it a warm up stage. Only five stages will be scored. You can take your best time on your first stage. If you don't want to shoot it twice, you do not have to. This provides more shooting for our shooters.

# New SASS Magazine

With the new release of the SASS

Quarterly Cowboy Chronicle, I once again would like to start collecting any unwanted issues of the magazine. We will use these for our promotional events, like our Tusco Long Riders' Day at Kames Sports. Please either black out or cut off your name and address, or I will do it before they are passed out. Thank you!

# Facebook Page

When you make a post about Tusco or share pictures on Facebook, include "#TuscoLongRiders". Let everyone see what we are all about.

# New Shooters Shoot for Free at Tusco

The Tusco Long Riders will be offering FREE SHOOTS to ALL FIRST TIME SHOOTERS AT TUSCO. This is ONLY for a shooter's first ever shoot at Tusco. \*\*This is only for monthly matches, from January - September. Our High Noon 3-day Shoot in October, and our Charity Shoot in November are excluded.

### Cowboy Swap Meet at Monthly Shoots

As a reminder, feel free to bring your old Cowboy Gear, Guns and Equipment to sell at our monthly shoots. It's a good opportunity to sell some of your unwanted stuff to your fellow shooters. Your items are your responsibility.

# **Pre-Paid Shoots**

Looking for that perfect Gift for your Cowboy Friends and Family? How about a Pre-paid Shoot to a Tusco Monthly Match. They cost \$10.00 each at a shoot or they can be mailed for \$10.50. Contact Buckaroo Bubba at pittfandwr@aol.com or 330-348-5637 if you would like to purchase them.

# Help Wanted at Tusco

If you are available to help set up target stands/props before our shoots, it would be greatly appreciated.

# Prairie Dawg's Old West Chronicles A Compendium of Useful Information

# Cowboy Clothes -- Chaps and Chinks

**Chaps** are sturdy coverings for the legs consisting of leggings and a belt. They are buckled on over trousers with the chaps' integrated belt, but unlike trousers, they have no seat, and are not joined at the crotch. They are designed to provide protection for the legs, and are usually made of leather. Their name is a shortened version of the Spanish word **chaparreras**.

**Chaparreras** were named after the chaparral (thick, thorny, low brush) from which they were designed to protect the legs while riding on horseback. Like much of Western horse culture, the origin of **chaparreras** was in the part of New Spain that later became Mexico, and has been assimilated into cowboy culture of the West. They are a protective garment to be used when riding a horse through brushy terrain. In the modern world, they are worn for both practical work purposes and for exhibition or show use.

The chaps themselves derive from "zahones", used in southern Spain by hunters and vaqueros to protect the trousers from scratches produced by brushing with plants or branches. They were most likely adopted in Spanish America along with the cowboy culture, and from there they passed into the American Wild West. The earliest form of protective leather garment used by mounted riders, who herded cattle in Spain and Mexico, were called armas, meaning "weapons". They were essentially two large pieces of cowhide that were used as a protective apron of sorts. They attached to the horn of the rider's stock saddle, and were spread across both the horse's chest and the rider's legs. From this early and rather cumbersome design came modifications that placed the garment entirely on the rider, and then style variations adapted as vaqueros, and later cowboys, moved north from Mexico into the Pacific coast and northern Rockies regions of the United States and Canada. There is also evidence that certain design features may derive from the mountain men, who copied them from the leggings worn by Native Americans. Different styles developed to fit local climate, terrain and hazards. Designs were also modified for purely stylistic and decorative purposes. The time of actual appearance of the garment on American cowboys is uncertain, but by the late 1870s, most Texas cowboys wore them as the cattle industry moved north. By 1884, The Dictionary of American Regional **English** notes use of the word in Wyoming, spelled "schaps".

There are several types of chaps. Originally, the most common type of chaps were batwings. Batwing chaps are cut wide with a flare at the bottom. Generally made of smooth leather, they have only two or three fasteners, located on the top of the leg, behind the knee and one around the mid-calf area, allowing great freedom of movement for the lower leg. This is helpful when riding very actively, and makes it easier to mount the horse. The batwing design also provides more air circulation, and is thus somewhat cooler for hotweather wear. Old time cowboys are usually pictured in batwing chaps.



John Wayne wearing Batwing Chaps

Today, batwing chaps are often seen on rodeo contestants, particularly those who ride bucking stock.
They are also seen on working ranches, particularly in Texas.
Although by definition, the chaps that rodeo contestants wear are considered batwing chaps, contestants do not refer to them as batwings.

They are simply called rodeo chaps. There are a few differences in design between working ranch batwing chaps and rodeo chaps.

Rodeo chaps are usually more colorful and decorated, whereas ranch cowboys need toughness over style. Rodeo chaps have long flowing fringe which can be the same or a different color as the main body.

Ranch chaps may be customized with a brand or initials and some floral tooling, but never have fringe.

Chinks are half-length chaps that stop two to four inches below the knee, with very long fringe at the bottom and along the sides.

They are usually fringed along the outside edge and bottom, making their apparent length appear about 4 inches longer.

The leg shape is cut somewhere between batwings and shotguns, and each leg usually has only two fasteners, high on the thigh. They are cooler to wear and hence a design that is suitable for very warm climates.

They are occasionally called "half-chaps". The original term from which the word "chinks" derived may have been **chincaderos** or **chigaderos**, and may have originally referred to armitas. Chinks are most often seen on cowboys in the Southwestern and Pacific states, most notably on those who follow the California vaquero or "buckaroo" tradition.





Shotgun chaps, sometimes called "stovepipes", were so named because the legs are straight and narrow.

They were the earliest design used by Texas cowboys, in wide use by the late 1870s. Each leg is cut from a single piece of leather. Their fit is snug, wrapping completely around the leg, and they have full-length zippers running along the outside of the leg from the thigh to just above the ankle.

The edge of each legging is usually fringed and the bottom is sometimes cut with an arch or flare that allows a smooth fit over the arch of a boot.

Shotguns do not flap around the way the batwing design can, and they are also better at trapping body heat, an advantage in windy, snowy or cold conditions, though unpleasant in very hot or humid weather.

Shotgun chaps are more common on ranches in the northwest, Rocky Mountains and northern plains states, as well as Canada.

Woolies are a variation on shotgun chaps, made with a fleece or with hair-on cowhide, often angora, lined with canvas on the inside. They are the warmest chaps, associated with the northern plains and Rocky Mountains. They appeared on the Great Plains somewhere around 1887.

Another practical purpose of leather chaps is that they stick to a leather saddle or a bareback horse better than fabric pants do, and may help the rider stay in a saddle!

Images to the left:

Top -- Chinks

Middle -- Steve McQueen on the set of the film Tom Horn, wearing his shotgun chaps.

Bottom: A pair of cowboys wearing woolies

# **Contact Information**

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# Supporting Clubs

### **Big Irons**

Middletown, Ohio www.bigirons.com

### **Blackhand Raiders**

Nashpost, Ohio www.blackhandraiders.com/home.html

### **Brown Township Regulators**

Malvern, Ohio www.browntownshipregulators.com

### **Firelands Peacemakers**

Rochester, Ohio www.firelandspeacemakers.com

### **Greene County Cowboys**

Xenia, Ohio www.gcfng.com/gccowboys/index.html

### Henderson Wild Justice League

Williamstown, WV http://hendersonwilds.com/

### Logan's Ferry Regulators

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania www.logansferrysportsmens.com

### Miami Valley Cowboys

Piqua, Ohio www.miamivalleycowboys.org/

### **Ohio Valley Vigilantes**

Mount Vernon, Ohio www.ohiovv.com/

### Sandusky County Regulators

Gibsonburg, Ohio http://scsclub.org/events/cowboy-action/

### **Scioto Territory Desperados**

Chillicothe, Ohio www.sciotodesperados.com

### **Shenango River Rats**

Masury, Ohio www.brookfieldconservation.com/Cowboy.html

### Wild West Point

West Point, Ohio www.affox.com/casscores/westpoint.html

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