

## Eastern Platte Muzzleloaders

More Wind From the High Plains... APRIL 2008

Thought For Today: Very few things happen at the right time, and the rest do not happen at all. The conscientious historian will correct these defects.  
HERODOTUS

♪ Felix the cat! ♪  
♪ The wonderful, wonderful cat! ♪  
♪ Somethin', somethin'  
♪ Somethin', somethin' ♪

Hi, Members!  
You caught me tripping down memory lane and I think a few of ye old brain cells fatally tripped. I'm surprised I remember the cats name...

My first order of business this month is to inform interested parties everywhere that I've seen green trying to push its way through the dog poo in my yard. I thought I might pass out. Dog poo! In my yard? The downside of "seeing green" is that Life demands to be spring cleaned. I promised myself to get right

on it, so I dusted a cute little moose in my front room. One room down!

The meeting of April 8 was attended by 10 members without too much business to discuss. EPM has 27 members current on their dues as of this writing, and hopefully more rushing to "get current." Sean will be inquiring of everyone (even trees) at the range," Is you is, or is you ain't an EPM member?" Keep membership cards handy at all times. The EPM police are everywhere.

Officers must feel for folks, maybe it's the income tax thing, and have decided to extend a period of grace concerning dues for 1 month. If for any reason a member might wish to rejoin, but find themselves financially strapped (because you needed gas in the car...) please speak with Treasurer Jim Klinger or any officer about the problem. In the past, members in good standing have been allowed to rejoin on the "payment plan" and no one was the worse for it. We value our member and family participation and don't want to lose anyone because the family entertainment fund had to buy groceries.

Range Officer Rick McCollum repaired the 50 yard line bridge with new walk boards and replaced



handrails that were rotting. He also placed a "burn barrel" range side to dispose of used targets. We haven't had one for quite some time and a few of our resident pyros missed it. I know the bridge work will be appreciated by all as even sparrows feared to land on the ancient wood. Your Ed was known to beg parachutes for the crossing. (I was offered a used mountain man handkerchief.) We thank you much, Ranger Rick!

Members tossed around ideas for the merit badge incentive program proposed by Eloise VanVoorhis. Anyone having suggestions or ideas on the how, who, what, and where can call either President Sean (650-7770) or Eloise (292-7749). Members can also put in their 2 bits while visiting the range.

Planning and events for the Spring Shoot caused further discussion. Fred Rieser volunteered his services for the treasure hunt planned for the camp creatures known as "kids." (Ha!) Fred's idea is to list several items the kids will have to find in the woods while also seeking their "gold." This is pure genius.





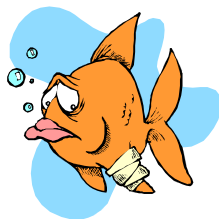
We're bound to lose a few "not quite" geniuses in the woods and for the "adults" it's Miller time! This Editor recommended a search for items that can only be found, in say, Kansas or Missouri. Some of our members may have a parenting break 'til the Fall Shoot. (Or maybe 2020 when the treasure hunters crawl out of the woods and demand to go to college.) Anyhootie-pa-tootie--- (Fred rambles on a lot...) The idea behind Fred's Fortune and Ed's Gold is for camp rats to retrieve the hidden "gold" and search for Fred's "items" then turn them into the nearest sober adult for a "prize."

Due to circumstances of health beyond her control, Carol Bucholz will not be able to demonstrate the beadwork or prepare the fry bread feast she had planned. I'm sure we're all willing to forgive and hope Carol isn't in a fret over the unwanted development. I, for one, would rather witness her healthy, strong, learnin' and sassin' those kids. Sean and Cal will just have to concentrate on shooting and making faces at the other kids. Be well, Carol, and

come share in the day if you're feeling better.

The April 19<sup>th</sup> work party is the weekend before the Spring Shoot and most likely will entirely involve sprucing up the range for the event. The Spring and Fall shoots are a lot of work and any help would be greatly appreciated. The wages are far less than you received in Kindergarten, but you'll have the satisfaction of the beaming faces of guests when they visit your weekend "home." No one enjoys cluttered woods. One of you satisfied workers call and give me the scoop on this work detail so's I can write all about it in the newsletter...

We were all very pleased to see Marshall Hohman and Ron Greenlee at the meeting. Both of these members have had recent health issues that decide whether or not they are attending meetings and events. There is an awful lot of bad health plaguing EPM lately. Our Treasurer, Jim Klinger, just had knee surgery and didn't treasure the experience, I'm sure. Carol Bucholz, Wade Farr, and Bob Gewinner aren't too pleased with predicaments of health either and I'm surprised I can remember all this. I am



not at liberty to state specifics because I do not have the right and it's "Nunna 'Yo business," but some of these health matters have been serious. If you believe in anything higher than yourself, (and you should after the EPM Ten Commandments) add these fellow members in your prayers. If you have no faith in higher being, please invest in a few good thoughts for them.

Our He-Men mountain men may not like it, but I'm going to do it anyway---remind everyone to shoot safely this year. (What the hell? Every year!) Members have always been proud of EPM's safety record and wouldn't want any circumstance to change that. There may be shooting every which-a-way in the city, but once out in the country people ought to have the decency to shoot straight and pay attention. It's for member's own safety I remind safety. You want to avoid that gleam in the eye of Ranger Rick...

On April 5<sup>th</sup> the mountain man nation lost one of its champions. Charlton Heston passed away at age 84. Most of you know Mr. Heston was an ardent NRA supporter and became the



organizations President in 1998. (I stole that from the World Herald.) I believe he also had something to do with your Ten Commandments. May he rest peacefully in the garden of fellow sportsmen (By that we mean other gun-toting varmints.) and not suffer the embarrassment of an EPM member trying to pry the rifle from his cold, dead hands. I know how you guys like to collect things...

Before I pack my rhetoric and smart-alecky remarks to hit the trail of further Spring cleaning (Someone has to throw the milk carton away!) I would like to announce my 1<sup>st</sup> year anniversary. No, I didn't ditch the soft spoken, sensitive, deer slaughterin', chronically peeved hunter to elope with Brad Pitt 1 year ago. (He could be one of my kids, but cuter.) I began writing this newsletter and for those of you requiring therapy, I'd send the bill to EPM, specifically Cal. Sure, they encourage you to do things 'til the woods are littered with nuts even the squirrels don't want. I promise to continue this good work and then report all about it, pledge to always make things up truthfully, and report to inform about the reporting I forgot to inform. ♪ I'm so

glad we had this time together... ♪  
Tomorrow I'm taking back all these promises---  
'Til Next Month,



**PAT**



**SPRING SHOOT**

**SATURDAY**

Morning... Shoot  
Treasure Hunt  
Crocheting  
Flint & Steel  
Demonstration?

Afternoon... EPM chili feed for lunch  
Wood Walk  
Shoot  
Hawk, Knife, and Archery

EVENING... Potluck Dinner  
Raffle Drawings  
Candle Shoot?

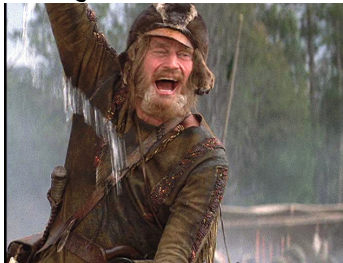
**SUNDAY---**

Morning... Camp Breakfast  
Shoot

Afternoon... Shoot  
Competition  
Prizes

Members of course realize our schedule is not written in granite. Most of the time we just "wing it" because there's no predicting how long certain events will take. Demonstrations and games are "winged" too and left up to the instigators of them to decide when they "wanna."

**Thought For Tomorrow:**



The world is a tough place.  
You're never going to get out of it alive.  
**CHARLTON HESTON**



## FUN HISTORY FACT

Way back longer times ago, but waysome after the Romans ruled on a prairie called "Germany," (Now known as "Deutschland.") (Go figure...) lived an industrious family surnamed "Klinger." This was the short version of the name. The long version in remote village time was "Klingerschmidt bist duschonheimlich maneuver." It is a little known historically historic fact that the Germans rid themselves of Roman rule by just speaking and repeatedly venturing the country's name to (Hail!) Caesar. The legions finally packed their jammies and barley and departed for home when they discovered the German word for "Rome" was 26 letters long and actually meant "France." It was the last pizza roll.



Generations of Klinger's cared about none of these particulars because the hills were alive with the sound of music. In the generated generation of Klinger's in the 1930's lived a handsome, liederhosened young hunk named "Jim." (German for "James.") Jim had married a most beautiful fraulein from a village one hill over. He secured her affections exclaiming the romantic, "Ich bin ein Berliner!" over and over again. The fraulein's name was "Nancy." (German for "Nancy.") Jim and his Nancy were your average young-and-in-love-sauerkraut-avoidin' couple. Then---



An Austrian named (Heil!) Adolf

Hitler invaded the hills alive with the sound of music. Herr Hitler, (Uncle Adi to the Germans.) to say the least, was a crude dude. He ungraciously demanded supreme and absolute power, looked funny, and had a tendency to kill in the millions. (And by way of hindsight, never did find a personality, or had too many, depending on what's for lunch at the national "Nuts in History" convention...)



Well--- the first thing you know, Jim smells dictatorship here. The kinfolk said, "Jim, move away from here! California is the place you wanna be!" So they loaded up the truck and put it on a boat, because trucks don't do water, and they moved to Beverly Hills, that is. Alive! With the sound of...music. Swimmin' fools. Movie stars. Whereby, history leaving a lot out, Jim ended up an important character--- conveniently named "Klinger"--- during the Korean War (Not yet invented!) (Or TV!) on a TV series called "**MASH.**"



As facts have shown, Jim was a man ahead of his time. That's how he knew fame, fortune, and characters become boring. One day he said, "Nancy, mein liebchen, (I'd have divorced him for that crack...) on the great plains of Nebraska there are endless fields of corn, and, mein Gott! I'm in the mood for some!" So they loaded up the truck a second time, Jim yelled, "Mach schnell, you liederhosen!" and they were off to feast in fields of Nebraska corn. The Korean War was over.



The Klinger's were so corn-fed happy, they vowed to never load the truck again or even visit Iowa. Jim became ein diner member of an exclusively kaput black powder club called EPM. Eventually, he would decide to truly Treasure it. There he mastered the fundamentals and schnitzel of weaponry no sane man would choose in the year known as "modern." In the great void of history known as "happenstance," (Yeah, in 1641!) Jim was lucky enough over the years to happenstance upon savvy members of the Klinger tribe who departed Germany on the eve of World War I. They knew a habit when they saw one. All distinguished themselves as great American's during WWII who had to sink the Bismarck when the mighty Hood went down.



This bona fide history fact was brought to you by a great show of cowardly authorship. Our Treasurer, Jim Klinger, (Great Crockett! That's the name of the guy in the bona fide!) is recuperating from knee surgery and I have no fear of his ability to chase me down. And with much vexation and perturbation (Doesn't that make you go blind?) should he be irritated. I fear I've represented him as much older than time would allow and caused him to be married before he was born. (Maybe) Jim's a smart man and probably figured this out, mach schnell. (I once asked him, "What is the square root of the pomegranate

stashed in the saddle of the horse Cal rode in on?" ---and he knew! )



Get spunktivial soon, Jim. Keep your powder dry, your heart Nancy's, and your knees out of Germany.

**PAT**



April 19..... Work Party  
 April 26-27..... Spring Shoot  
 May 13..... NEXT MEETING!!



April 19-20..... Kearney Gun Show  
 Fairgrounds  
 \$3.00 Admission  
 Info: 308-446-2351  
 May 3-4..... Rock Creek Spring Shoot  
 Info: Jerry 402-477-6409  
 402-464-0382  
 May 3-4..... Pioneer Longrifles  
 Ham/Bacon Shoot  
 Indian Cave  
 Info: Cheryl McDowell  
 402-245-3288  
 May 23-26..... Red, White, & Blue  
 Memorial Day Shoot  
 Cairo, NE  
 Info: Don Strinz  
 402-761-3244  
 May 24-26..... Pioneer Longrifles  
 Memorial Day Shoot  
 Indian Cave  
 Info: Cheryl McDowell  
 402-245-3288