Howdy Pards!

I’ve been handed the reins of the Silver Bullet, and as the new Editor-in-Chief, I thought it might be a good idea to introduce myself and maybe spin a quick yarn about how I came to be here. I’m a Mid Baby Boomer, and watched the black and white telly throughout the 50’s. Naturally, I watched shows like Howdy Doody with Buffalo Bob, Sky King, Davey Crockett, Roy Rogers and of course the Lone Ranger. How could a kid not be stirred by the trademark William Tell Overture? I’d return with them to the thrilling days of yesteryear and forget about where I was or that I had homework, just to spend it watching bad guys get theirs. My family travelled all over the country, but the Lone Ranger was on all the affiliates. When we lived out west for a while, I got real authentic gear and wore it almost constantly….except when I’d leave my hat somewhere. Went through a half dozen hats in 4-5 years. But I always got the white one. I never realized until I was way into adulthood that there were certain restraints on the TV show that pretty much made it what it was. LR never killed anyone, he only shot to wound or disarm. LR was never seen without his mask or a disguise. LR always tried to point out the good and bad, and kept an open mind. He always wore the white hat, and his best friend was an Indian, to boot. What more could a 9 year old ask for in a role model?

(Continued)
Fast forward a few decades and I found myself living in Colorado for quite a spell. Became somewhat friendly with a guy by the name of Joe Southern, who was a local newspaper reporter. One day we were talking and he mentioned that he was the editor of The Silver Bullet, a Lone Ranger fan newsletter. I remembered my early cowboy years and got a subscription. A few years later, I ran for County Sheriff, and I listed the Lone Ranger as one of the three most influential people in my Law Enforcement Philosophy. (The other two were Sheriff Andy Taylor and Telluride Sheriff Bill Masters...tells you something about me and my Law Enforcement concerns, that two of the three were fictitious.) In fact, while on the firing range with some deputies one night, I brought up the philosophy of never shooting to kill, only wound or disarm. They practically laughed me off the range. This was back in ’04, long before the record of police killings got nationwide attention.

I sometimes wonder what would have been, if I had won the election, and eliminated the shoot to kill training and mentality a decade before it got out of hand? And I would have attributed it to the Lone Ranger.

Now skip to just last year in December...and after discussions with the Principals, I agreed to take over the position of The Silver Bullet Editor. I’m a bit out of practice for editing, though I do have a couple published pieces. I have really appreciated the help of the past Editor and Publisher, and just hope I can continue to make this an interesting read. I’m
not a real Fanatic....I tend to be more realistic. To me, the world needs more role models like TLR. That’s why I enjoyed every thing about him. The different movies, books, magazines, even newspaper articles. Each one has its valid points that can serve anyone well in their daily philosophies. I keep Clayton’s Obit with the LR Creed posted on my wall. You can do no better than model yourself after the Lone Ranger. To quote from one other major influential TV show of the 50’s, We can all “...fight for truth, justice, and the American Way!”

Hi-yo Silver....Away!

Bo Shaffer
Editor-in-Chief
Bruce Scivalley tells how his life was affected by the Lone Ranger, and about how he met Clayton Moore.

WHEN I MET THE LONE RANGER

I was born the last day of 1961, four and a half years after the final episode of "The Lone Ranger" aired on television. By the time I was 4 or 5, the series was in syndication, and The Lone Ranger - along with Superman and Tarzan - was one of my favorites. I can still remember having a Lone Ranger hat and mask set, and a Lone Ranger cap pistol. A little later, I got a Captain Action doll for Christmas, along with a Lone Ranger red-shirt costume. In the early 70s, I bought the Lone Ranger and Tonto figures from Gabriel toys, and relished any opportunity to see one of the two Lone Ranger feature films on television (reruns of the series itself had long ended in north Alabama, supplanted by endless repeats of The Andy Griffith Show and The Beverly Hillbillies).

The Lone Ranger was a character that always had a lot of appeal to me. He was a champion of justice who never used his guns to kill; instead, he would shoot his opponent's gun out of their hand, a feat that to me seemed especially cool considering that doing that took more marksmanship skill than just shooting someone dead, as other TV cowboys were apt to do. He was also a loyal friend to Tonto, despite the fact that Tonto was an Indian; in 1960s Alabama, this set an example of racial unity that I didn't always experience in my own community. And because he wore a mask to hide his identity, he was misunderstood, and what kid doesn't often feel misunderstood? For a young boy at that time, he was a marvelous role model.

I was still a Lone Ranger aficionado in high school, so that when I had a Western-themed party during my senior year and encouraged my friends to show up in costume, I was dressed as the Lone Ranger. A very skinny Lone Ranger, but the Lone Ranger nonetheless. This was during the time that a new Lone Ranger feature film was in the works, and Clayton Moore had been told by the rights holders that he could no longer wear his Lone Ranger mask in public appearances. Hiding his steely blue eyes behind sunglasses, Moore nonetheless continued to make appearances, including one on the TV show "That's Incredible!" where the public was encouraged to support him in his quest to win back the right to wear the mask.
In September of 1980, I graduated high school and left Alabama to attend the University of Southern California. About a month after my arrival in Los Angeles, I saw an ad in the L.A. Times for the upcoming ski convention, Ski Dazzle '80, at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The convention was to have a Western theme, and the Grand Marshall was none other than TV's Lone Ranger, Clayton Moore. Now, just over a month after arriving in L.A., I'd have a chance to meet my childhood idol.

On the Saturday of the convention, I walked from my dorm on the USC campus to the downtown Convention Center, and waited. I looked at all the displays of skis and ski apparel and ski equipment, whiling away the hours until Clayton Moore was to appear. Finally, the time arrived, and I was waiting, wearing the white cowboy hat I'd bought for my high school party. I remember a little bustle of activity, and then I saw Clayton Moore approaching, Although he was in sunglasses instead of a mask, he was still every inch The Lone Ranger. He waded into the small group of fans that had assembled seeming a little miffed - apparently, a conflicting presentation by one of the ski sponsors had bumped the show he'd planned to do, showing off his pistol-handling skills, so he was relegated to simply signing autographs. Still, he did this with good grace, posing for photos and chatting with fans. When one very young boy - about 3 or 4 years old - asked "Where's his mask?," Moore said, "The mask has gone bye-bye." Another fan produced a couple of copies of the old Dell Lone Ranger comic books, with photos of Moore and Jay Silverheels, his "Tonto," on the cover, and said how much it meant to him when he was growing up to see Moore and Jay Silverheels in the TV series. Moore responded that he didn't usually sign the comics, but since the fan had mentioned his good friend Jay, he'd do so (Jay Silverheels had died just a few months earlier). And I had a chance to tell him how I'd grown up watching The Lone Ranger, and showed him a couple of photos of myself and my friends from that high school party.
Seeing me in the Lone Ranger get-up, he said, "Did you win the prize?" and then signed the back of both photos. He then posed for a photo with me, resting his elbow on my shoulder.

Walking back to the dorm that evening was like walking on air. It isn't often that we get a chance to meet people who've had an influence on our lives - and he certainly had an influence on mine, instilling values of justice and fair play that I still carry with me - and thank them for it. And in years to come, when I produced documentaries for special edition DVDs and met actors and filmmakers involved with the James Bond films, old horror movies and other favorites, or when I saw A-list actors and actresses around town, none of them ever thrilled me as much as meeting my idol. And I know why meeting Clayton Moore meant so much more to me; he said it himself once in an interview: "I often meet adults in their 30s, 40s or 50s who, as soon as they recognize me, suddenly become six years old again." The grin on my face in that photo of myself with Clayton Moore - that's the grin of my inner 6-year-old.
2015 ROUNDUP

The 2015 Indiana TLRFC Round-up was held on June 7th, 2015, at the Panera Bread located in Avon, IN. Hosted by Randy Johnson #208, the Indiana State Director and was attended by both TLRFC members and non members. Our key speaker and presenter was Garry Cherricks #1, the President of TLRFC. Garry shared plans and sought input on the future of TLRFC. Midway during the event, Garry was coxed by the attendees to don his complete Lone Ranger outfit and rigging.

John Phipps, from Linden, IN, is one of the best Tonto look-a-likes, and he attended in full costume. John also shared insights into Tonto and he spoke about his time at Gordie Peer's when Gordie taught John how to throw knives and crack the whip. John also gave us all a sneak peak at the then newly released book, Tonto: by historian Zig Misiak, as had been presented to John by Zig. After the event, John gave a whip cracking demo for everyone at Panera Bread.
Daniel O’Neill #25 from Illinois, while unable to attend, donated various memorabilia [see below] that were given away as prizes for Lone Ranger trivia questions as quizzed by The Lone Ranger, a.k.a. Garry Cherrick and Tonto, a.k.a. John Phipps.

Colby Murray, a 13 year-old, did surprising well answering many questions before the more “mature” attendees.

Colby Murray #443, from Indianapolis, IN, won a door prize of Hallmark Lone Ranger Lunchbox ornament for wearing his Lone Ranger Fan Club T-shirt.

John Axe #513 from Decatur, IL, won a door prize of a Lone Ranger complete 221 TV Episode DVD set for bringing his LRFC Identification card.

Randy brought in and displayed some of his 700 piece Lone Ranger memorabilia collection.

Next Issue will feature a couple of Randy’s top pieces in our soon to be regular Featurette...“The Collectors”

Be watchin’ fer that!
SOME OF THE DOOR PRIZES AT THE 2015 INDIANA ROUNDUP....
Over the years, there have been many renditions of the Lone Ranger. I have collected some, some are in other collections. Today, I wanted to show a couple pieces I acquired.

First, is the set of two silver bullets, from TLRFC. One was given upon joining....one, all silver, was offered recently. Nice pieces, and the solid silver one has monetary value as well as being a memento.

Then there’s the Little Golden Book version.....

And, an interesting Card series collection (not mine, unfortunately)

And, on an historical note....this is the Zane Gray Book that the LR was supposedly based on. Again, sure wish I had one.

Next issue we’ll look at Little Big Books and the Grosset and Dunlap series done by Fran Striker.
Back in the mid 60’s, Clayton and his wife did a Christmas fan magazine for their friends and fans. It was hand drawn and mimeographed.....

It was called **Lazy Trails**. Here’s a copy of the listings for Staff and Reps. You also might recognize a few names on the Honorary Member list...

Next Issue, look for some letters from Clayton “on the road” and a maybe the rarest of the rare...a picture of clayton without the mask!

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**Lazy Trails**

**Staff**

- **President:** Clayton Moore
- **Vice-President:** Mary Ethel Davison
- **Secretary-Treasurer:** Mary Albright

**Honorary Members**

- Manfred Pietsch
- Ray Larrick
- Steve Rooster
- Phil Hill
- Don Martin
- John Zilmar
- Roy Filbert

**Back Cover**

More information from the Rare Collection.
Yoto’s Words of Wisdom:
"Talent doesn’t mean a thing, if you let fear be some terrorist that takes you hostage."

TLRFC State Directors

If you are interested in becoming a State Director, send email to info@thelonerangerfanclub.org

S. California - "Sean" Cunningham #692
seancunningham2003@yahoo.com

Colorado - Bo Shaffer #243  bo@icinstitute.us

Delaware - Doug Briggs #110  drbriggs@gmail.com

Indiana - Randy Johnson #208  rjohns65@sbcglobal.net

Ohio - John Contini #656  tonicontini1905@gmail.com

N. Carolina - Matthew McNally #572  mcnallypsych9@yahoo.com

Western Pennsylvania - William Sipe #219  whsipe@lhtot.com

West Virginia - Roy Vanater #426  royvanater@suddenlink.net

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We recommend and endorse Nutramax as a daily supplement for better health for you and your pets.

Helps reduce joint pain and stop the enzymes in the joints that breakdown cartilage.

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Adios from……..

The Lone Ranger Fan Club  The Lone Ranger TV

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Hi-Yo Silver Awaay!!!