



The Texas Star



Newsletter for the Texican Rangers

A Publication of the Texican Rangers
An Authentic Cowboy Action Shooting Club
That Treasures & Respects the Cowboy Tradition

SASS Affiliated
August 2018

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Hello Texican Rangers



For August, the weatherman predicted rain for both of our shooting days.

On Saturday morning I was sure that it would rain too. However, 43 shooters started out Saturday morning under semi dark skies and we were treated to a really nice shooting day.

Skyhawk Hans won the match with a very good score of 102 seconds and 14 shooters shot the match clean. (That's 32% clean)

Sunday the weatherman also predicted rain and he was right! Tombstone Mary, Colorado Horseshoe and I arrived at the range at 7:30 and it was raining. As soon as it was determined that the shoot would be cancelled an email was sent out. Fortunately, only 2 shooters showed up.

I'm looking forward to the Texican Rangers annual member appreciation match 'The Shindig' September 8th, 2018. There is no charge for the match and lunch for members. Guests shoot for \$20, which includes lunch. Lunch for other Guests is \$5.

We will also hold our annual meeting with election of officers for 2019.

Here is the list of candidates so far:

President – A.D. Texaz

Vice President – Open

Treasurer – General Burleson

Communications – Dutch Van Horn

Ranger Officer – Colorado Horseshoe

The match on Sunday September 9th will be the first match of the 2019 season. The second match of 2019 will be Saturday October 13th.

As always, remember our range is on a working ranch and the cattle are back. So please watch your step and continue to keep the gates, closed.

See you September 8th.

A.D. Texaz

Tombstone Mary, Secretary Regulator/Life #19524



Next month is Shindig our annual shoot, free to members and guests pay \$20.00 which includes lunch. If you bring a guest for lunch it will be \$5.00. We will be shooting 4 stages and 1 team event. When you sign up for the match you will be asked if you want to shoot the team event. Your name will be put in a pot and we will have a blind draw for teams. Please bring extra rifle, pistol and shotgun ammo for the team event. After the match and team event we will serve lunch, give out annual awards, prize drawing and home. Please try to sign up early it will be a busy morning.

Reminder: The Sunday match in September will start the annual awards for next year.

If you have questions, please email me at: Texicanrangers@yahoo.com.

Tombstone Mary



Comacheria Days 2018

By Texas Drifter

Returning this year to the Steiler Ranch
Brings back many memories from the past
Of old friends seldom seen
Others who have shot their last

Sometimes I run across a picture
Of someone who has gone away
It brings a thought of sadness
But gladness too, that all I can say

We can rejoice again this year
With old and new friends here to shoot
Lovely ladies dressed in their finest
Cowboys and others in suspenders and boots

Starting with a heartfelt pledge and prayer
From every dad, mother's daughter and son
We all thank you for inviting us back
A great club, the Rangers call Texican

Where to get a Good Pocket Watch in the Old West?

By General Burleson



If you were in the market for a watch in late 1800s, would you know where to get one? You would go to a store, right? Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station!

Sound a bit funny? Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found.

Why were the best watches found at the train station? The railroad company wasn't selling the watches, not at all. The telegraph operator was.

Most of the time the telegraph operator was in the railroad station because the telegraph lines

followed the railroad tracks from town to town.

It was usually the shortest distance and the right-of-way had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and it was the primary way they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station. And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact, they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years.

This was all arranged by "Richard", who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the

East. It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them. So, Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches.

The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them. So, Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch.

He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit. That started it all.

He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers.

It worked! It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long, people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches.

Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watchmaker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest is history as they say. The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods.

Richard and Alvah left the train station and moved their company to Chicago -- and it's still there.

Yes, it's a little-known fact that for a while in the 1880's, the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: Richard Sears and partner Alvah Roebuck!

Bet you didn't know that! Ok maybe you did; I didn't! Now that's History.

The Colt Peacemaker wasn't the first metallic cartridge revolver for the Army By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



**S&W American
1870 to 1874**

The Colt Peacemaker wasn't the first metallic cartridge revolver to be used by the U.S. Army.

The Smith and Wesson No. 3 revolver in .44 S&W centerfire was purchased on an experimental basis for trials in 1870. It was not "standard" or "general issue", but it was indeed the first official use of metallic cartridge in a U.S. military handgun. Later

when the .44 Russian came out this model and its round was known as the American.

It is interesting to note that Major George Schofield was one of the soldiers that tried out the S&W American revolver. He later would be the one that proposed the Army adapt an improved version of the revolver that would share his name.

There were some problems with the S&W American. It took two hands to break open the revolver for loading and unloading. Also, the .44 American round had lack luster accuracy. S&W quickly fixed this with the introductions of their .44 Russian round, but the Army was not issued any No. 3s in that caliber.



The Colt Peacemaker was not the first Colt that used metallic cartridge to be used by the U.S. Army. In 1872 1200 of the Colt 1860 Richards Conversion revolvers in .44 Colt were purchased to be tested for possible use by the Army. The basis for these .44 conversions was the Model 1860 Army .44. The method used what was called the Richards Conversion, after the Colt engineer who developed it. Colt's Richards

conversions' most significant parts were all leftovers from Model 1860s with one important exception; the cylinders were newly manufactured. A breech plate was fitted at the rear of the cylinder, atop which was machined a rear sight. For those who might think Ruger's frame-mounted firing pin was a 20th century brainstorm, think again. Mr. Richards used it on his conversions in 1871.

Because conversions needed no rammer beneath the barrel but did need an ejector rod on it to punch out fired cartridge cases, Richards Conversions' ejector rod housings were made to fill the barrel's rammer recess. For some reason the last one inch or so of the ejector rod was left exposed.



The Colt Open Top and the new Single Action 1873 revolvers were submitted for testing by the Army in 1873. The Colt Open Top would fall behind the 1873 in the tests and would not be chosen for military adoption. However, the biggest rival to the Colt 1873 in this test was the Smith and

Wesson Model 3. All three revolvers were chambered in .44 rimfire for purposes of the test. The tests found the Model 3 to be harder to clean, less accurate than the Colt 1873, and that it was more likely to clog than the Colt 1873.

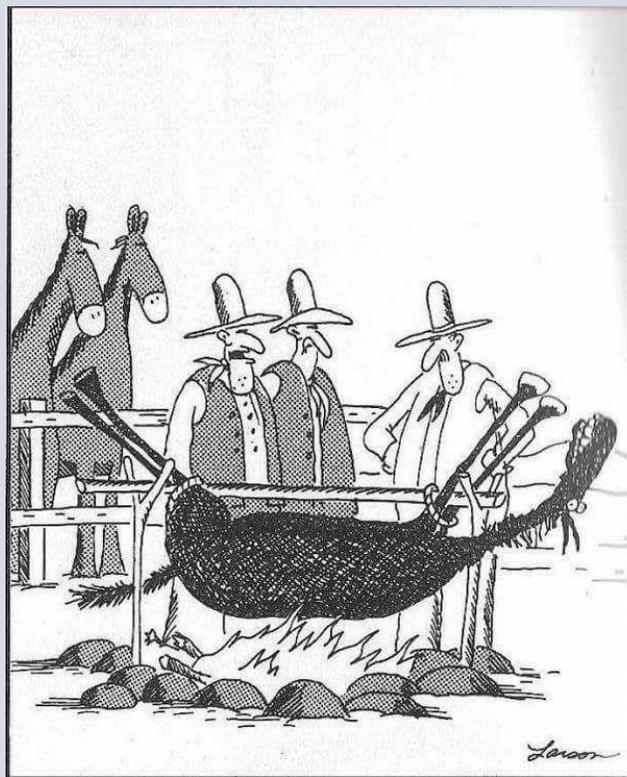
The one area the S&W Model 3 did have an advantage in was in its ability to empty its spent cartridges quicker than either Colts.

The Colt was adopted by the Army as their sidearm chambered in the centerfire .45 Colt caliber, but Smith and Wesson would still attempt to get their revolver adopted. Major George Schofield worked with S&W to make improvements to Smith and Wesson's Model 3 revolver. The new revolver was in .45 Schofield a shorter caliber than the .45 Colt. Most importantly it had an improved extractor that ejected all 6 empty casings at once which could be operated with one hand. 3,000 Schofield revolvers were ordered by the Ordnance Department, but the revolvers were still found to be less reliable than the Colt 1873 Single Action. Also, many in the Ordnance Department and in the Army felt that the ability to quickly extract empty cartridges was not needed (the same ones who thought repeating rifles were necessary). The Army sold their Schofield revolvers for surplus in 1880. It is interesting to note that the then Colonel Schofield committed suicide in 1882.

Over 37,000 Colt Single Action 1873s would be purchased by the Army from 1873 until its replacement in 1892. The revolvers were famously used by Custer's 7th Cavalry during the Battle of Little Big Horn.

Parting Shots

1. Don't you hate it when someone answers their own questions? I do.
2. I just asked my husband if he remembers what today is... Scaring men is easy.
3. Why did the blonde stare at a frozen orange juice can for 2 hours? Because it said "concentrate"!
4. I asked my North Korean friend how it was there, he said he couldn't complain.
5. Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.
6. Women spend more time wondering what men are thinking than men spend thinking.
7. Behind every angry woman is a man who has absolutely no idea what he did wrong.
8. A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman's birthday but never remembers her age.
9. She wanted a cat. But I didn't want a cat. So, we compromised and got a cat.
10. I grew a beard thinking it would say "Distinguished Gentleman." Instead, turns out it says, "Senior Discount, Please!"
11. At what age is it appropriate to tell my dog that he's adopted?
12. My email password has been hacked. That's why I have had to rename the dog three times.



“Well, old Roy here said he was hungry enough to eat one, and then I thought, well, shoot, so am I, and one thing sort of led to another... I guess it was some kind of hysteria.”

Texican Rangers Regulators

Tombstone Mary	2003
A.D. Texaz	2004
Dusty Lone Star	2008
Handlebar Bob	2010
Dusty Chambers	2010
Sheriff Robert Love	2012
Grouchy Spike	2013
Agarita Annie	2016
Joe Darter	2016
Nueces Slim	2016
Skinny	2016
Dirty Dog Dale	2017
Dutch Van Horn	2017
Shooting Iron Miller	2017

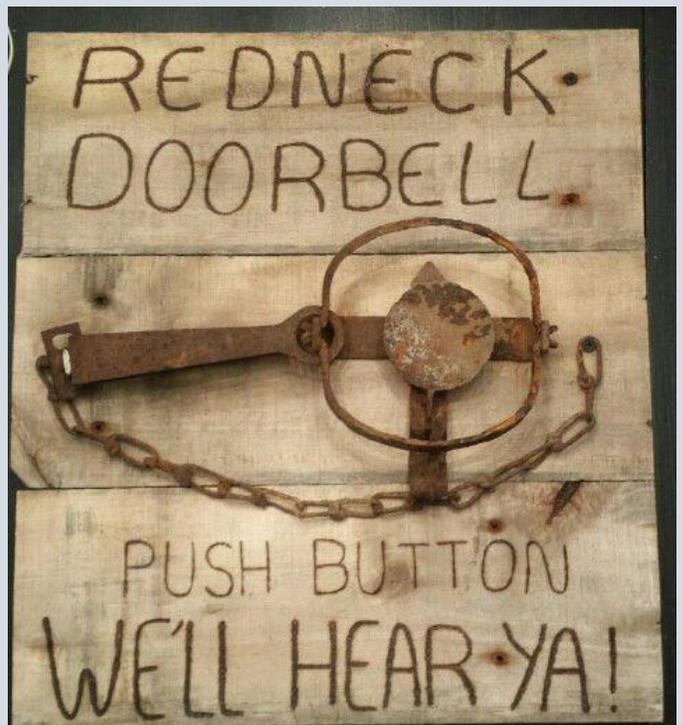


August Birthdays:

Crooked Creek Sam	8/7
Moose McCoy	8/9
Shootin Star	8/12
Joe Darter	8/22
Texas McD	8/24
Scooter	8/27

September Birthdays:

Wildcat Bob	9/3
Abilene	9/4
Trapdoor Charlie	9/6
Uncle Nick Wilson	9/7
A.D. Texaz	9/15
T Bone Paul	9/16
L.W. Hannabass	9/21
John Selman	9/28
Capt. Buffalo	9/29



Key Links

www.sassnet.com
www.texicanrangers.org
www.greenmountainregulators.org
www.pccss.org
www.stxpistoleros.com
www.tejascaballeros.org
www.darbyroughregulators.com
www.trpistoleros.com
www.texasjacks.com
www.cimarron-firearms.com
www.tsra.com
www.wildwestmercantile.com

TEXICAN RANGERS

2018

January 13	Monthly Match
January 14	Monthly Match
February 10	Monthly Match
February 11	Monthly Match
March 10	Monthly Match
March 11	Monthly Match
April 12 – 15	Comancheria Days
May 12	Monthly Match
May 13	Monthly Match
June 9	Monthly Match
June 10	Monthly Match
June 30	Wild Bunch, BAMB, Long Range
July 14	Monthly Match
July 15	Monthly Match
August 11	Monthly Match
August 12	Monthly Match
September 8	Shindig
September 9	Monthly Match
September 29	Wild Bunch, BAMB Long Range
October 13	Monthly Match
November/December	Range Closed

CENTRAL TEXAS MONTHLY CLUB SHOOTING SCHEDULES

1st Saturday	Plum Creek (Lockhart)
1st Saturday	South Texas Pistoleros (San Antonio)
2nd Saturday	Texas Riviera Pistoleros (George West)
2nd Saturday	Darby Rough Regulators (West Point)
2nd Sunday	Rio Grande Valley Vaqueros (Pharr)
2nd Weekend	Texican Rangers (Comfort)
3rd Saturday	Tejas Caballeros (TX Republic Ranch)
4th Saturday (Cowboy) and 4th Sunday (Long Range)	Green Mountain Regulators (Marble Falls)

	2018	
Feb 9-11	Jail Break	Oakwood Outlaws
Feb 19-25	Winter Range	Phoenix
Mar 22-25	Trailhead	THSS
April 12-15	Comancheria Days	Texican Ranger (Comfort)
April 19-21	SASS Southwest Regional Land Run	Oklahoma
June 14-24	End of Trail	Founders Ranch, NM
Oct 19-20	SASS Texas State Black Powder	
	Championship	Groesbeck, TX
Oct 19-21	SASS Texas State Wild Bunch	
	Championship	Cleburne, TX
Nov 2-4	Battle of Plum Creek	Plum Creek

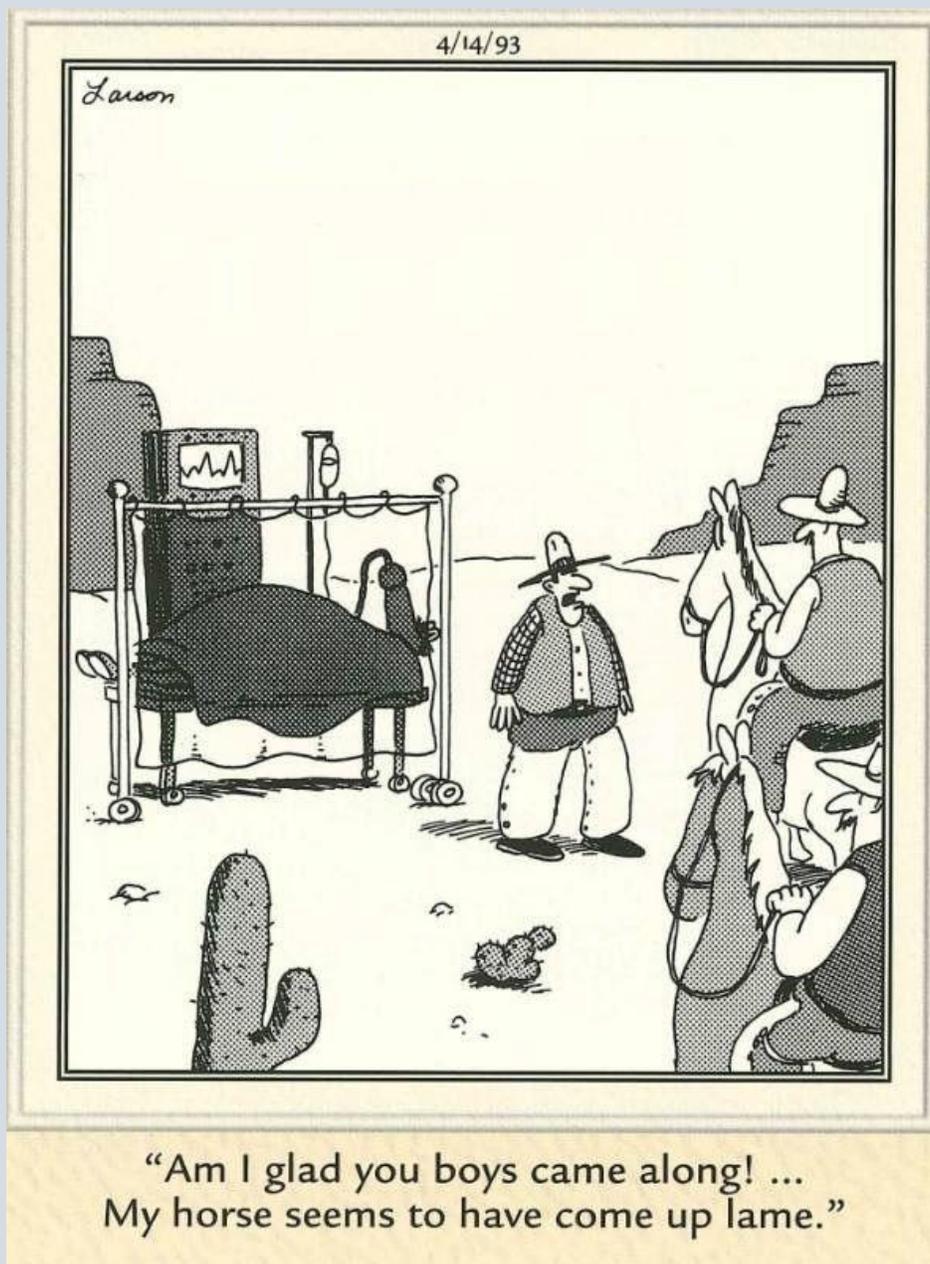


Photo Album
(Sorry, no pictures this month)