

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 2022

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Hello Rangers



We had a great turnout for the Texican Ranger match hosted by Determination Ranch. Many thanks again to them for allowing us to use their range during this dry period. As I am writing this, it is raining outside...thank you Jesus!

Saturday the 13th we had 45 shooters with 15 cleaning the match. They were AD, Alamo Andy, Bessie James, Brazos Bo, Col. Callan, Henly, Hoolihan, Kickshot, Long Drink, Marshal Jamison, Marshall Brooks, Panhandle Cowgirl, Picoso Kid, Sheriff Robert Love, and T Bone Paul.

Our top cowgirl was Panhandle Cowgirl, and our top cowboy and overall was Brazos Bo.

Sunday the 14th we had 25 shooters with 9 cleaning the match. They were AD, Alamo Andy, Bessie James, Brazos Bo, Col. Callan, Dusty Leather, Fister Bo, Frank Longshot, and Marshall Brooks.

Our top cowgirl was Shooting Iron Miller, and top cowboy and overall was Alamo Andy. Thanks to all that came out and enjoyed a great couple of days shooting.

Next month we will be returning to the Stieler Ranch for our end-of-the-season awards shoot...Shindig!

Wednesday the 17th several Texican Rangers attended Yuma Jack's (aka John Thomas) funeral service at Fort Sam Houston. We had a chance to visit with his wife, children, and grandchildren. What a great family...no surprise...he was a great guy! Yuma Jack will be dearly missed. See ya'll next month.

Alamo Andy
President, Texican Rangers

Honored American Veterans Afield (HAVA) Event, Saturday, November 5th



Honored American Veterans Afield (HAVA) National Family Day for 2022 will be Saturday, November 5th. This will be the 12th annual event held at the San Antonio Police Training Academy. HAVA and the Veterans feel you can't have an event like this without SASS cowboys. I agree with them. These American military families will enjoy a day of shooting, air soft, laser games, food, great gifts, an impressive raffle table and good fellowship among others who are trying to re-build their lives after being wounded in service to our country. Many of these families have never shot a cowboy gun. There will also be demonstrations from some of the fastest shotgun, rifle and pistol shooters in various shooting sports today. It is truly great to see their smiling faces after a wounded warrior or their family has interacted with SASS cowboys. We need your help. So far, we only have about six volunteers to run our stage or help Dutch Van Horn with the gun history display. We need more. Beans Ahgin is doing the coordinating. You can work the full day, or you can work a half day, whatever fits your schedule. Give Beans a call at (210) 639-8450 and let him add you to the list of volunteers. You get to dress cowboy and wear your guns; you just can't have any real bullets. They feed you lunch, and you get to see and help a lot of people. Give Beans a call!

Yuma Jack's Passing



John Richard Thomas, "Yuma Jack," SASS # 11261, born 9 Feb 1944, passed away at his home 25 July, 2022 in San Antonio, TX. He was interred with military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in a service presided by Bisbee Jackson.

He was a biologist with a teaching degree in science, and a Masters in Oceanography. While in Florida he taught High School and College and enjoyed growing Palm trees. Like everything else he did he applied his entire focus and attention to detail and strived for perfection.

Yuma was a practicing student of several Martial Arts Disciplines. While he lived in Florida, he was a partner in a gun shop. He owned several sail boats and raced them with son, Whitney. They participated in some of the first races to Cuba.

Growing up in a Methodist Church he preached several sermons during his teenage years. When asked about his preaching, he was quick to say his Church Pastor had an attractive daughter. In High School, he was very active on the debate team.

He served in the Army Medical Corps in Vietnam; C Co.23 Med BN and received the Bronze Star. He received medical training at Fort Sam and was thrilled to return to San Antonio in 1999. He was awarded the NASA Astronauts personal achievement award, the Silver Snoopy, for professionalism, dedication, and outstanding support to the Space Transportation System Program (Space Shuttle) manned Flight Awareness. Jack Thomas was a staunch 2nd Amendment supporter, Constitutionalist and patriot.

Yuma was a Life Member & Patron of the Single Action Shooting Society. He enjoyed the many friendships that he developed throughout. Yuma Jack was a great source of detail on guns, knives, calibers, ammunition and clothes. If there were a COWBOY section in GQ, Yuma Jack would have been the consummate model. Because of his expertise in costuming, he became a judge for Costume Contests at many events. Yuma Jack served as President of the Texican Rangers for 2 years. He competed in several National Championships at Winter Range and World Championships at End of Trail. Yuma loved the smoke of cap and ball shooting and was a serious competitor. He gladly shared his expertise with other shooters and brought several to "the dark side." He also loved good fellowship over a cold Shiner Bock or a top shelf margarita (made with Don Julio, Grand Marnier with an extra shot) and a medium rare steak.

He is survived by his wife Barbara, two children, step-son, and six grandchildren. He was loved by all and will be greatly missed.

The Nock Gun

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



The Nock gun was brought to modern attention in the 1960 film *The Alamo* in which one is used by actor Richard Widmark, playing Jim Bowie. The gun used in the film is now in the National Firearms Museum. Nock guns can be seen in realistic period movies including *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*, and fantasy movies such as *Jonah Hex* and *Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter*. I even remember seeing one in an episode of *Have Gun, Will Travel*.

The Nock Gun was a seven-barreled flintlock firearm produced briefly for the British Royal Navy during the Napoleonic Wars, and a rare example of a handheld volley gun. The first three examples were rifled, but all others were smoothbore: around

608 were made, with 500 being for the Royal Navy. Civilian variants were also made for fowl hunting. It was invented by the firm of Henry Nock, for the purpose of arming snipers in the rigging of ships: the weapon essentially uses the undesirable "chain-fire" phenomenon of black-powder revolvers by design, with the flash from the number 1 barrel being allowed to propagate into the others to set them off at more or less the same time. Nock believed that it would allow British sailors to fire devastating volleys onto the decks of enemy ships during close-quarter engagements, but manufacture was discontinued after only a small number were produced.

The weapon proved to be impractical for a number of reasons, chief among them being the recoil: the force of seven half-inch barrels, firing simultaneously, was enough to dislocate or break the shoulder bone of a man using it and made the weapon nearly impossible to aim. Orders were later given to load the gun with only a half-charge, which bought the recoil under control but made the weapon useless for its intended purpose and little more than a giant shotgun. In the heat of battle it was also not unknown for sailors to forget which barrels had powder in them, making it very easy to accidentally double-load the gun, a problem compounded by one or more barrels frequently failing to fire.

Additionally, for someone firing from high in the rigging of a ship, the gun greatly increased the risks of being knocked down and plunging to the deck, or accidentally setting fire to the sails (one of the reasons why Nelson refused to allow his captains to post snipers of any kind in their rigging during the Battle of Trafalgar).

This is not the only "Nock Gun," simply the most well-known: Nock was a prolific gun maker who was well-known for his double-barrel shotguns and dueling pistols, and is thought to have done work for Elisha Collier. He also invented a very similar-looking musket to the classic Nock gun, this one a pepperbox rifle with six barrels that were manually rotated. Nock's company continued after his death in 1804, run by his son-in-law James Wilkinson, eventually becoming Wilkinson Sword.

The only practical way to shoot a Nock gun would be sitting on a hill and propping the weapon up against the bank behind you. Safer for your shoulder that way.

As with most antique weapons, Nock guns seen in live-action productions are quite likely to be modern replicas or non-functional props.

History of the Mexican Sugar Loaf

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



Although the signature high-crowned Mexican sombrero may rarely be worn today, it remains a powerful symbol of Mexico's struggle a century ago for liberty, equality and freedom.

The reason for the hat's popularity had less to do with style than function. Hatmaker Dave Johnson, of D Bar J Hatmakers, claims the super-tall crowns "acted as a cooling tower. The shorter the crown, the hotter the head." Obviously, in the searing deserts of the Southwest and northern Mexico, every advantage to stay cool was exploited. Johnson also maintains J.B. Stetson made many of the Sugarloaf Stetsons and did a thriving business in Mexico as the hat style took over the range.

"Vaqueros love to customize their hats," Johnson told us from his shop in Las Vegas, Nevada, "and in

the old days they often had Mamacita or their querida (think girlfriend tattoo) sew on elaborate stitching."

According to Pat Garrett, Billy the Kid preferred a similar sombrero. The Kid and many other New Mexico cowboys bought Sugarloaf Sombreros shipped up from Chihuahua. Other Old West characters who wore the practical headgear included Judge Roy Bean and Wayne Brazel (who allegedly killed Pat Garrett).

Texans put a crease in the tall crowns to give it a north of the border style, and this eventually evolved into the so-called Tom Mix style hats of the 1920s.

Was Jack the Ripper in Texas?

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



Little is known about Jack the Ripper beyond his handiwork. The first official murder took place on Friday, August 31, 1888, in Buck's Row of London, but was this really his first kill?

Jack the Ripper killer targeted prostitutes. No one was ever prosecuted for these particularly gruesome crimes. Did you know a similar set of killings happened during the same era, right here in Texas?

Three years before Jack the Ripper became world-famous as a serial killer, an equally violent menace prowled the streets of Austin.

Dubbed the Servant Girl Annihilator, the vicious axe murderer killed eight people and seriously injured eight others.

The serial killer was never caught, and there was some speculation that he may have moved to London, where he later became Jack the Ripper. Whether they were the same person or not, what they do have in common is a spree of unsolved murders.

The murders in Austin took place across a 12 month time period from December 1884–1885. In all, seven women (five Black, two white) and one Black man were killed. The pattern was similar for all— all were sleeping in their beds when struck in the head with an axe, some so hard that it nearly split the head in two. All of the women were raped, and most were brutally mutilated and had their organs punctured. Once dead, the victims were ‘staged,’ with six of them having a sharp object inserted into their ears.

These last two murders on Christmas Eve sparked the most significant concern as they were the two white victims. The first seven had all been Black servants (hence the Servant Girl Annihilator moniker), so the mainly white population believed they were safe, but this all changed on December 24, 1885.

According to one report, when word spread of the double Christmas Eve massacre, men raced from their homes “bordering on frenzy.” Lines formed at gun shops in Austin, and supplies of new weapons soon ran out.

A meeting was held on Christmas Day where more than five hundred city and business leaders, lawyers, doctors, and clergymen met to devise a plan to stop the killings.

Suggestions ranged from lighting the entire city at night with bright lamps, to setting off fire alarms when an attack occurred so the entire (and fully armed) city could immediately hunt the killer. Some wanted sentinels posted around the city borders to prevent people from coming in and out.

As it turned out, none of these actions were necessary as the murder spree abruptly stopped. Or did they stop because of these proposed actions?

Over the course of 1885, over 400 men were arrested for the murders, and all were released. A \$3000 reward was offered. Soon, Austin became flooded with private investigators, detectives, and police from other cities, all determined to find the killer and win the reward.

The first man arrested was Walter Spence, the boyfriend of the first victim. He was acquitted at trial. Many of the 400 men previously let go (all of whom were Black) were brought in for questioning, along with a mentally ill Mexican American man and two white brothers found with blood on their clothes in a town north of Austin.

In early 1886, much to the city’s surprise, two white men were arrested. First was 23-year-old Jimmy Phillips, who was arrested for the murder of his wife, followed a few weeks later by 50-year-old Moses Hancock, who was arrested for the murder of his wife. The fact that it was highly improbable that two men would murder their wives and use the same MO (modus operandi) as a serial killer that targeted Black servants didn't escape a disbelieving public. Nonetheless, the Austin police chief wanted a killer to blame.

Phillips was found guilty at trial and sentenced to seven years in jail. He appealed and was released after six months in prison. The jury at Hancock’s trial was hung, and he was also released.

There were further suspects, but no other arrests were ever made.

The Austin American-Statesman reported that a Malaysian cook “running on ocean vessels” was a suspect in the Jack the Ripper murders. The report noted that “a Malaysian cook,” (called Maurice), had been employed at the Pearl Street Hotel on Sixth Street in Austin in 1885.” Most of the murders had taken place in close proximity to this hotel. “A strong presumption that the Malaysian was the murderer of the Austin women was created by the fact that most all of the victims resided in the immediate neighborhood of the Pearl Street Hotel,” the article claimed.

A man named George Dodge was interviewed by Scotland Yard in August 1888 in relation to the killings that had occurred in the Whitechapel community in London. Dodge told detectives that he had met a Malaysian cook named Maurice. The man carried a knife and said to George, “he had been robbed by a woman of bad character, and that unless he found the woman and recovered his money, he would murder and mutilate every Whitechapel woman he met.”

There are a few similarities between the two unsolved cases. Firstly, the murders in Austin and London were primarily of lower-class women, and the victims had severe body mutilations. When Maurice left Austin in December 1885, the murders in Austin stopped. He told friends he was moving to London to work. After Maurice left London, the Whitechapel killings ended.

The mystery remains unsolved — and we may never know who the Servant Girl Annihilator was. Or who Jack the Ripper was. Or if indeed it was the same man.

Shooting Iron Miller, Secretary Regulator/Life



It will be great to be back at Stieler Ranch, just in time for Shindig! We will be able to get together to celebrate the past year, enjoy lunch together and hand out awards and shooter prizes. We really enjoyed our time at Republic Ranch in August, working alongside the Tejas Caballeros.

Remember that for Shindig, all members shoot and have lunch for free. What a deal! Buzzie's Bar-B-Q will be there with some fine cooking, and we will have desserts available. Any non-member shooter or guest is welcome, but we ask that he/she pay \$20 to shoot and \$12 for lunch.

I know we've had some rain recently, and that's been a true blessing. However, we'd like to call your attention to a couple of things regarding shooting on the range in September. Out of an abundance of caution, we ask that no one use Black Powder. You may, however, use Black Powder substitute, Triple 7 or American Pioneer Powder (APP). So, you may shoot Cody Dixon, Frontiersman or Black Powder Cartridge, but with substitute only.

We will also shoot Sunday, August 28. This will count towards your minimum 5 shoots for 2023 to qualify for an award.

Save the Date: Be sure to mark your calendars for April 27 – 29, 2023 – we will be hosting Comancheria Days and we'd like you to join us. As soon as I have the application posted, I will let you know.

Shooting Iron Miller
Secretary

SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR TEXICAN RANGERS' OFFICERS

According to our By-Laws here are the requirements for seeking a nomination:

I. Nomination Process:

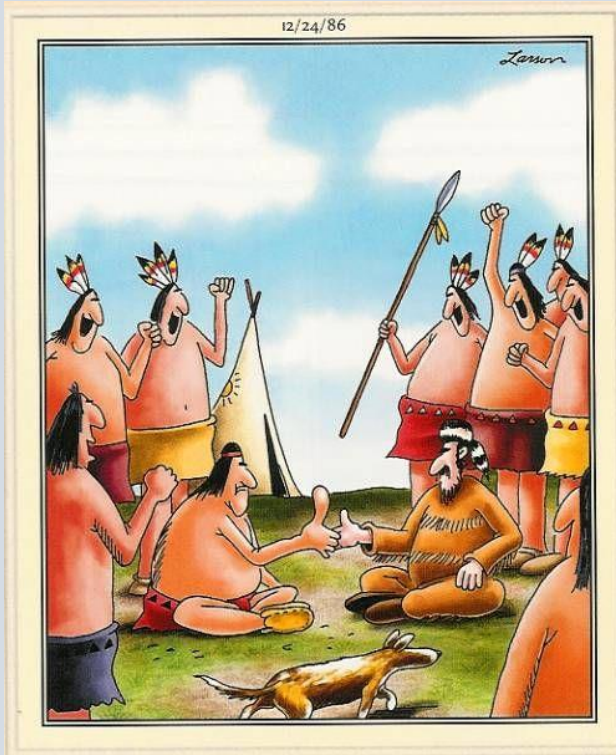
- a. *Members in good standing may self-nominate or nominate other members as candidates for offices.*
- b. *Nominees must meet the requirements for the intended office.*
- c. *Nominations must be submitted to the Executive Committee by the last day of June.*
- d. *Candidates shall be announced in the July and August newsletters and announced at Shooter's Meetings.*
- e. *A candidate withdrawal must be submitted to the Executive Committee within two (2) weeks of the first announcement.*
- f. *Candidates are encouraged to write an article for the July and/or August newsletter stating their qualifications and goals.*

We will have the following Officer positions for election this year:

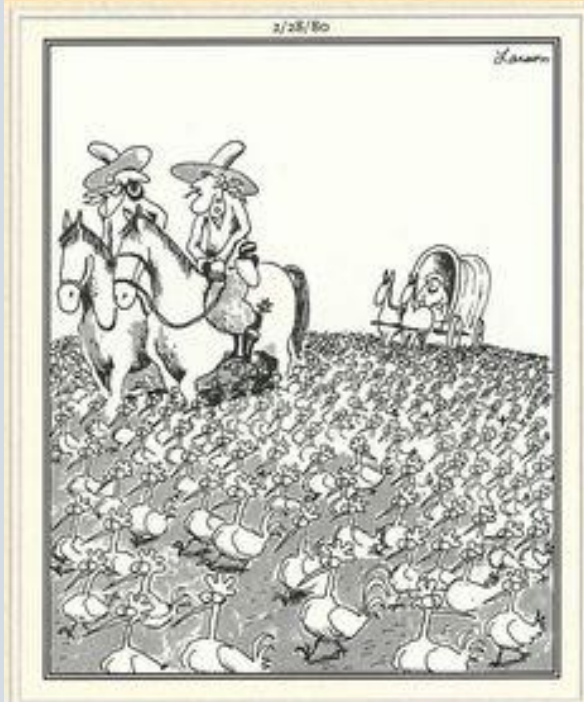
President
Vice President

Treasurer
Range Master

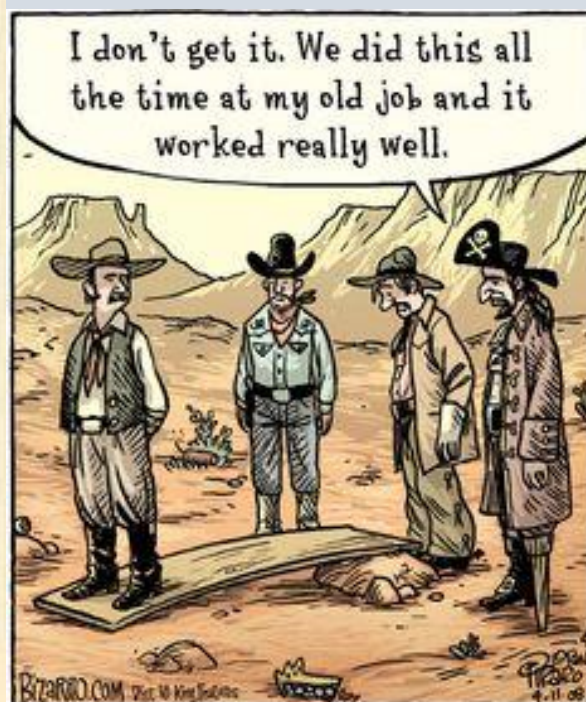
If you are interested in serving as an Officer of the Texican Rangers, please let a member of the Executive Committee know. All interested candidates must notify a member of the Executive Committee no later than September 5, 2022.

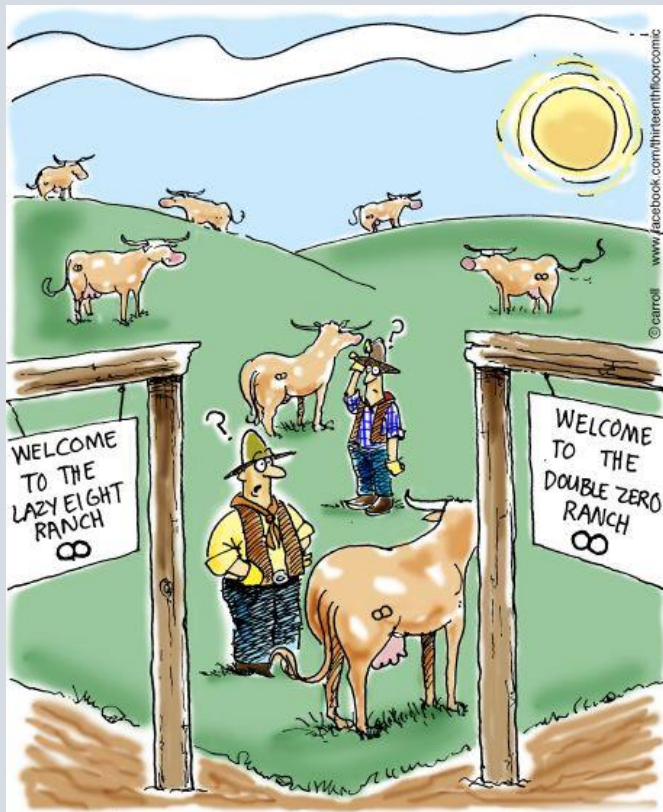


To win the tribe's respect, Jed first had to defeat their best thumb-wrestler.

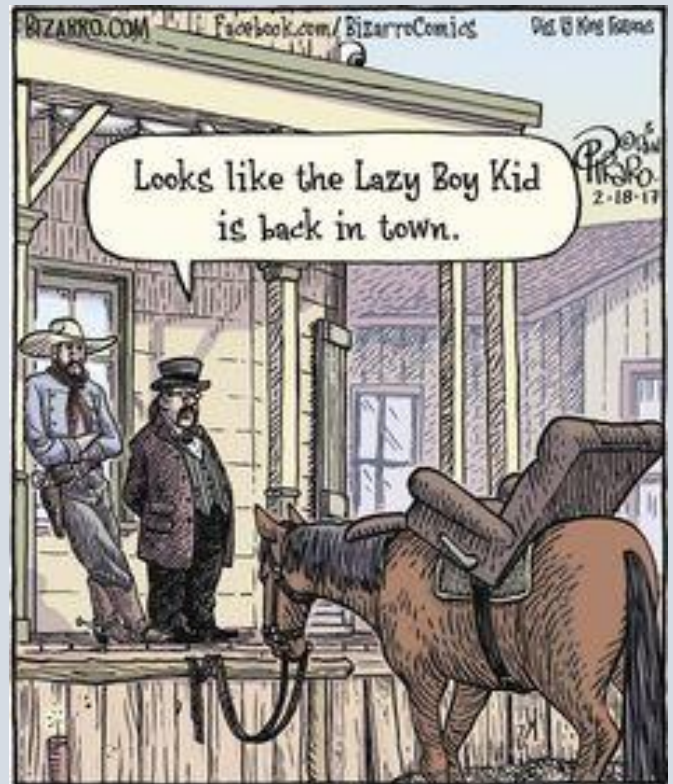


"And I tell ya ... the next trail drive I sign onto, I'm readin' the fine print!"

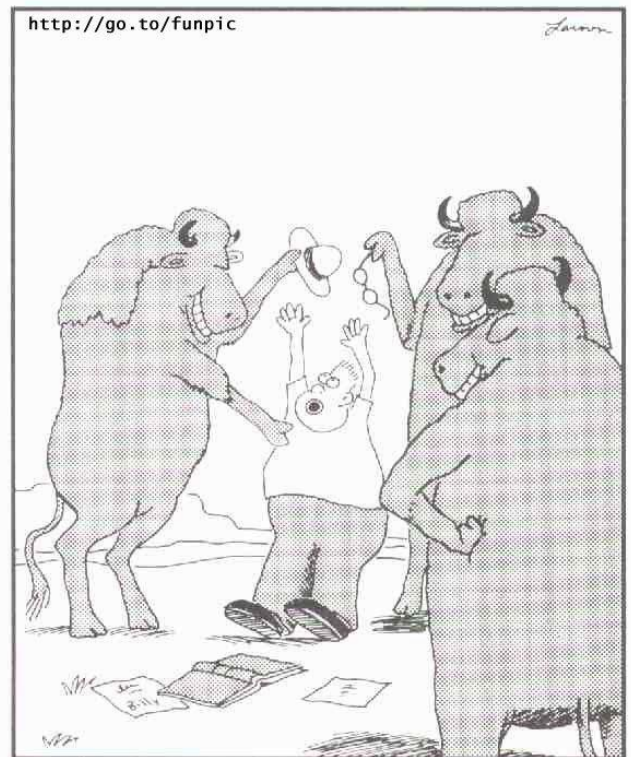




Hey?!... Wait just a second here!



<http://go.to/funpic>



An impressionable moment in the childhood of Buffalo Bill



Post Comments and Share

Parting Shots

1. Did you hear they arrested the devil? Yeah, they got him on possession.
2. What did one DNA say to the other DNA? "Do these genes make me look fat?"
3. My IQ test results came back. They were negative.
4. What do you get when you cross a polar bear with a seal? A polar bear.
5. Why can't you trust an atom? Because they make up literally everything.
6. Why was six afraid of seven? Because seven eight nine.
7. What do you call a hippie's wife? Mississippi.
8. What's the difference between an outlaw and an in-law? Outlaws are wanted.
9. Scientists have recently discovered a food that greatly reduces sex drive. It's called wedding cake.
10. Before you marry a person, you should first make them use a computer with a slow Internet connection to see who they really are.
11. I never knew what happiness was until I got married—and then it was too late.
12. Some men say they don't wear their wedding band because it cuts off circulation. Well, that's the point, isn't it?
13. Advice to husbands: Try praising your wife now and then, even if it does startle her at first.
14. Did you hear about the shepherd who drove his sheep through town? He was given a ticket for making a ewe turn.
15. What happens to an illegally parked frog? It gets toad away.
16. How does the man in the moon get his hair cut? Eclipse it.
17. What do you call a blonde with half a brain? Gifted.
18. Why are so many blonde jokes one-liners? So brunettes can remember them.
19. Our child has a great deal of willpower—and even more won't power.
20. Among the things that are so simple even a child can operate them are parents.
21. Why aren't dogs good dancers? Because they have two left feet.
22. What's a dog's favorite homework assignment? A lab report.
23. Why did Beethoven get rid of his chickens? All they said was, "Bach, Bach, Bach..."
24. Of course I wouldn't say anything about her unless I could say something good. And, oh boy, is this good...
25. When he talks, it isn't a conversation. It's a filibuster.
26. She leaves me with the feeling that when we bury the hatchet she'll mark the exact spot.
27. You can't believe everything you hear—but you can repeat it.
28. There's a lot to be said in his favor, but it's not nearly as interesting.
29. They've been treating me like one of the family, and I've put up with it for as long as I can.
30. Why did the parents not like their son's biology teacher? He had skeletons in his closet.
31. Their first daughter was born with a silver spoon in her mouth. Now they're hoping for triplets so they can have a whole set.
32. I spent a lot of time, money, and effort childproofing my house ... but the kids still get in.
33. Small son sitting on Daddy's lap: "I'm still confused. Was I born in a nest or a hive?"
34. A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean your mother.
35. My mother was so surprised when I told her I was born again. She said she didn't feel a thing!

Texican Rangers Regulators

Tombstone Mary	2003
A.D.	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
Beans Ahgin	2022



August Birthdays

Crooked Creek Sam	8/7
Texas McD	8/24
Scooter	8/27

September Birthdays

Abilene	9/4
Uncle Nick Wilson	9/7
A.D.	9/15
T Bone Paul	9/16



Key Links

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

TEXICAN RANGERS

2022

January 8	Monthly Match
January 9	Monthly Match
February 12	Monthly Match
February 13	Monthly Match
March 12	Monthly Match
March 13	Monthly Match
April 7-9	Comancheria Days
April 30	Wild Bunch/BAMM
May 14	Monthly Match
May 15	Monthly Match
June 11	Monthly Match
June 12	Monthly Match
July 9	Monthly Match
July 10	Monthly Match
July 29-31	TSRA 2022 CAS State Championship
August 13	Monthly Match – at Tejas Caballeros
August 14	Monthly Match – at Tejas Caballeros
September 10	Shindig
September 11	Monthly Match
October 8	Monthly Match/Tear Down
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 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)

Feb 28 – Mar 6, 2022

March 17 - 20, 2022

March 23 – 26, 2022

April 7 - 9, 2022

October 8 – 16, 2022

November 4 – 6, 2022

2022

EOT (SASS World Championship)

SASS Texas State Championship Trailhead

SASS Southwest Regional

Comancheria Days

SASS National Championship – Land Run

**SASS Texas State Wild Bunch
Championship**

Photo Album

