

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
February 2024

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Hello Rangers



Bienvenidos amigos. Unfortunately, in February, we had to cancel our Saturday match on account of rain. On Sunday, February 11, we had 27 shooters join us and it turned out to be a pretty nice day. Skyhawk Hans was our top cowboy and Panhandle Cowgirl our top cowgirl. Counting down, the Top Ten were, Dusty Driver, Shooting Iron Miller, Panhandle Cowgirl, Brazos Bo, Sheriff Robert Love, Four Aces, Alamo Andy, Shotgun Kid, Manchaca Kid and Skyhawk Hans.

We had 6 clean shooters. They were Colorado Horseshoe, Dusty Driver, Hoolihan, Newt Ritter, Shotgun Kid and Skyhawk Hans.

We have close to 140 cowboys and cowgirls signed up for Comancheria Days 2024, and hope to have 60 more join us, so if you have plans to join us for the fun, please get your applications in soon. We have made some changes to the Wild Bunch categories and some of the side matches, but you have to sign up to see what they are. Does that sound familiar? Just kidding. If you haven't ever shot a Comancheria Days match (or any annual

club match) because you "don't shoot big matches," you should sign up for this one. We will shoot the same or similar stages to those we shoot every month. The posses are approximately the same size and you can sign up to shoot with your friends. We will do our best to accommodate your requests. If you don't have any friends, you can meet new folks or pay someone to pretend to be your friend.

Come join the competition or shoot for your own satisfaction while having a great time with us.
Sheriff Robert Love
President Texican Rangers

The Taurus Deputy By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



There may not be a new Sherriff in town but there is a new Deputy.

When I first started Cowboy Action Shooting there seemed to be a lot more companies making single action revolvers. Companies that for many reasons didn't last. Companies like American Western Arms (AWA) with their Peacekeeper and Frontiers, United States Firearms (USFA) with their Rodeos and Custom revolvers, and Taurus with their Gaucho revolvers. All gone now except for the occasional used guns you see for sale.

Taurus had exciting news at the 2024 Shot Show. They were bringing back an affordable single action revolver. This new revolver is called – the Taurus Deputy. This single-action revolver seems a fitting tribute to the rugged appeal and classic looks of the Old West, reflecting the brand's commitment to bringing an economically viable choice to new Cowboy Action shooters.

The Taurus Deputy will be available in two calibers: .357 Magnum and the venerable .45 Long Colt. While embodying the long-standing tradition of cowboy guns, this model offers an entry-level choice with a competitive edge in a market brimming with high-end options.

Offering a choice of a 4.25 or a 5.5 barrel length, the Taurus Deputy features a polished black finish, enhancing its sleek profile while maintaining a strong ode to Western gun lore. A salute to the discerning customer who appreciates value for money without compromising on quality or performance, the Taurus Deputy comes with an attractive manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) of \$606.99. As a point of reference the Ruger Vaquero (MSRP) is just over \$900.00.

Unlike Colt clone revolvers, the Deputy features a transfer bar safety mechanism, making it safe to carry with a round under the hammer. This is the perfect choice for Western enthusiasts, backpackers, or any shooter that appreciates the look and feel, of a single action revolver.

The only detractor I have heard is that they only come in blue steel, so no color case hardening and no option for shiny guns in nickel or stainless steel yet. Also not a big fan of the model name Deputy in bold letters going down the barrel.

We need more new Cowboy Action shooters and the Taurus Deputy may make a good choice for beginner shooters. It costs so much to get started in our sport. Whomever buys one first please show it to me.

A Brief History of the Rodeo

By Chris La Tray



The modern gold-and-rhinestone, big-money televised sport of rodeo owes just about everything—its traditions, its attitudes, its fashions—to rough-and-tumble Mexican cowboys of the early 1800s. These ranch hands, known as vaqueros, perfected the roping and riding skills we see in today’s competitions. They also innovated rodeo fashion: leather boots, chaps, big hats and the rest. And it was in Mexico that the sport got its name, derived from the Spanish verb *rodear*: to encircle or round up.

These vaqueros were itinerant freelancers, owning only what they could carry on horseback and working on large ranches in the regions now known as Durango, Coahuila and Chihuahua—and well into what is now the United States. Among them you would largely find mestizo people (of mixed Native American and Spanish ancestry), Black people, Indigenous people and criollos (Spaniards born in North America). What they shared was the lifestyle and the sporting desire to determine who was best.

During downtime between drives or ranching gigs, vaqueros gathered to see who could ride the most fractious horse, or who was the surest hand with a rope. These informal gatherings evolved into competitions between different ranches that drew ever-larger crowds and increasingly took on a carnival atmosphere—the sounds of animals, the roars of the crowd, the odor of sweat and horseflesh. With no official rules, the entire enterprise was a free-for-all, establishing rodeo as the province of bold, individualistic outsiders. As Jerald Underwood, a historian of the American West, wrote in the 2001 book *Vaqueros, Cowboys, and Buckaroos*: “This space and the horse culture allowed men the opportunity to achieve the ‘Centaur Wish,’ to be one with the horse, to live the life of the gods.”

By the time the U.S. annexed Texas in 1845 and claimed a large chunk of Mexico along with it, the vaqueros were seeing their culture absorbed into the cowboy lifestyle of the American West. “It is a beautiful sight,” U.S. Army Capt. George W. Hughes, stationed in San Antonio in 1846, said after watching a vaquero perform. “He rides well and fearlessly, and throws the lasso with unerring aim...chasing down some refractory animal that he seldom fails to catch.” Freedmen also took up the sport, and in the decades after the Civil War, it's estimated that as many as one in four American cowboys was Black.



Perhaps the most prominent was Nat Love, born into slavery in Tennessee in 1854; freed at the end of the Civil War, Love moved west and grew into an impressive cattle-driver. His rodeo career began when he happened upon a competition in Deadwood, in what is now South Dakota, on July 4, 1876. Love entered the fray and took first place in six events, kicking off a 15-year career that made him a legend across the country.

The more organized competition that would become American rodeo, gained popularity at events such as Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show, which began in 1883 as a massive spectacle with hundreds of performers; in 1893, Buffalo Bill’s shows drew three million attendees outside Chicago during the World’s Columbian Exposition. Such shows established rodeo as an American fixture by romanticizing a West that was already rapidly changing. Despite the racism and misogyny of the era, competitions still reflected their multicultural roots with mestizo and Black competitors, while women continued to make their mark: Annie Oakley, the famed sharpshooter, was a regular with Buffalo Bill’s traveling extravaganza. And after a group of performers

walked out of a 1936 show at Boston Garden to protest insufficient pay, players organized the first cowboy union, the Cowboys' Turtle Association (so named because, though organizing was a slow process, the association finally "stuck their neck out"), to guarantee fair compensation. In 1945, the group renamed itself the Rodeo Cowboys Association, bringing the sport's true name into common usage.

By 1975, the organization had become the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, the world's largest, which today boasts more than 5,000 active competing members and several thousand more in noncompetitive roles. The group hosts hundreds of events throughout the year; each season culminates at the finals, where millions of dollars in prize money is up for grabs. In 2019, before the Covid-19 pandemic struck, riders' groups and national news outlets reported that bull riding had become the fastest-growing sport in the United States.

Good Guys wear White Hats By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



Did the good guys in the old west really wear white hats or is this just an old wives tale like having chicken soup when you have a cold?

Chicken soup really does fight colds. According to multiple studies, it's basically kryptonite for respiratory viruses, only easier to come by and vastly more delicious. Like so much on this list, scientists stop short of telling us exactly why or how, but there are a couple of theories. One is that it somehow slows your white blood cells, reducing the symptoms of your immune system. Another is that the compound carnosine soothes inflammation while strengthening the little hair follicles in your

nose that look gross but are actually preventing you from catching all the viruses. So . . . chalk another point up to grandmothers. You get it. There seems to be some truth behind this wives tale.

What, if any, is the truth about wearing white hats? We all know that early western TV shows or movies would depict the good guy wearing a white hat and the bad guy a black one. In traditional cowboy lore, white hats are associated with the good guys, symbolizing honesty and righteousness, while black hats are linked to the villains, representing mystery or rebellion.

In the first season of the hit TV show *Westworld*, a key character chooses to wear a white hat when he enters the western-themed park. Compared to his black-hatted companion, he starts out a gentleman: he doesn't want to drink or sleep with a prostitute or randomly shoot the park's robotic "hosts." But (spoiler alert) over the course of his journey, his white hat becomes dirtied and dark, until, at a transformative moment, he switches it for a black hat. That is pretty heavy symbolism.

Movies both reflect cultural trends and influence them. The hats worn by cowboys in countless Western movies and television shows were and are often symbolic of the characters wearing them.

Tom Mix in his signature high-domed white hat helped institute the notion that good guys wear white hats. If the movie hero's hat wasn't white, it was usually distinguished by its size or crease or some combination of color, size and shape.

The arrival of Technicolor and more complex characters made the color less important, but the hat continues to play a significant supporting role in establishing a character's personality and making him—or her—stand out from the rest of the cast. Sometimes the hat makes the cowboy; other times the cowboy makes the hat. Either way, a movie hat can influence styles and trends for years, if not decades.

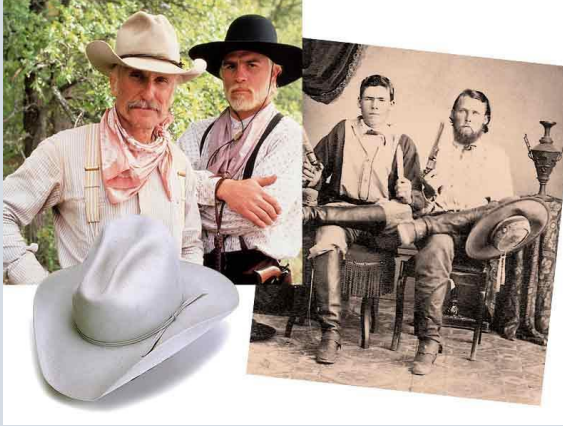
Many early movie cowboys were actually rodeo or even working cowboys who arrived with their own personal style, including the hats they wore. As movies became bigger business, costume designers began dictating what the characters wore on screen. Whether a given hat style was historically accurate depended on the designer's fealty to realism or subservience to fashion. The pristine, meticulously blocked and creased hats worn by matinee idols like Roy Rogers and Gene Autry stand in stark contrast to the sweat-stained, beat-up versions worn by Kevin Costner in *Open Range* or Jim Beaver in HBO's *Deadwood* miniseries.

Leading actors can override the notions of studio wardrobe departments. In many of his movies, John Wayne wore a grey or silverbelly hat with a front-pinched, diamond-creased crown—said to be his personal favorite style. John Wayne and many other western super stars tried to wear a different style hat in each movie.

For the most part, the hats worn by actors are simply part of the costumes donned for a production. “They just wore whatever they were given to wear,” says Randy King, whose family founded and operated King’s Western Wear in Van Nuys, and then Studio City, California.

“Some actors, though, are real hands-on about their hats,” he adds. “Tom Selleck wanted 100-percent control of the hats we made for him. He’d wear a hat seven or eight months before shooting began to get into character.”

One of those hats was the big, forward-sloping center crease hat he wore in *Quigley Down Under*.



Uber realistic Old West hat styles have become more prominent in Westerns since the 1980s. Robert Duvall overrode the period-authentic, flat-topped, Spanish-flavored hat originally sketched for the character Augustus “Gus” McCrae in the CBS miniseries *Lonesome Dove*. Instead, he opted for a tan center-gully style that was based on the hat worn by an unidentified Texas Ranger in a circa-1890s photo.

Likewise, the derby worn by Paul Newman in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* was based on the derby worn by the real Butch Cassidy in a photo of him and his cronies.

Clint Eastwood’s flared top short stovepipe in *Pale Rider* was said to be inspired by a hat style worn by at least some of the Mormon “Avenging Angels,” also known as Danites. In an old photo, Danite leader John D. Lee scowls at the camera from under a version of that hat—not unlike Eastwood’s menacing squint as a mysterious avenging angel.



But wait, was there any truth to good guys wearing white hats? No, the truth of this wives tale is the opposite. Outlaws that specialized in attacking from ambush were known to wear dark hats and dark clothing to camouflage their location. So the old saying shouldn’t be Good Guys wore white hats, it should be Bushwhackers wore dark hats.

Shooting Iron Miller, Secretary Regulator/Life



I’ll start off with a quick reminder to be sure and get your application in for Comancheria Days 2024 if you haven’t already. All forms can be found on our website – Events - Comancheria Days (texicanrangers.org)

You can find our Schedule of Events on the website as well, along with Who’s Coming and the Main Match and Wild Bunch round counts. Our Side Match awards will be given out Friday evening during the Margarita Party. We are delighted to have Hawkshaw Fred, Squawty Bawdy and Anne D. Vine as hosts! So please plan to join us. I’ll be

asking for an RSVP in a future email to all our shooters.

If you would like to attend an RO class/Refresher or WBRO class, please be sure to send me an email so I can provide an accurate count to our instructors prior to the week of Comancheria Days.

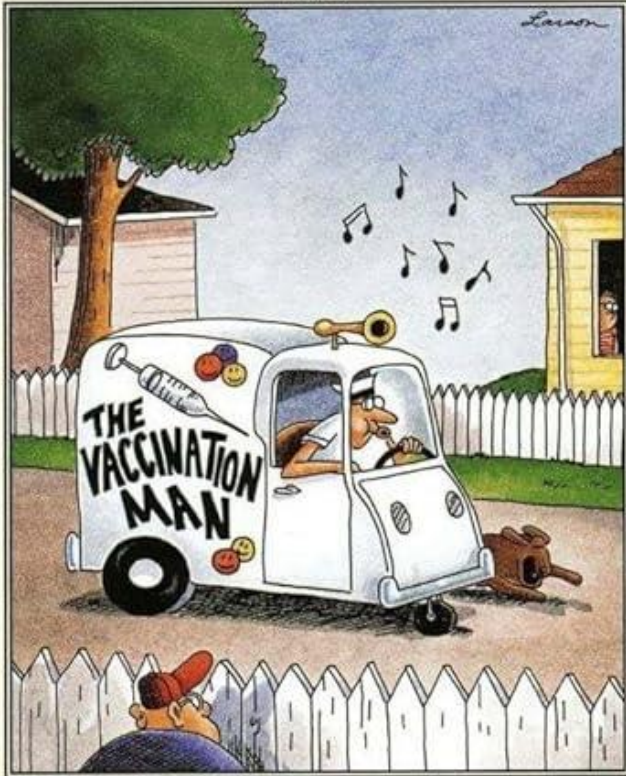
On a separate note, I'd like to know how many of you would like to stay for lunch at our March Saturday match? Dirty Dog Dale has offered to make chili and cornbread for anyone who'd like to stay and enjoy a good meal and good company. We would ask for a small donation of \$5.00. If you are interested, please email me if you haven't already.

Until next time, take care and be safe as you travel in March.

Shooting Iron Miller

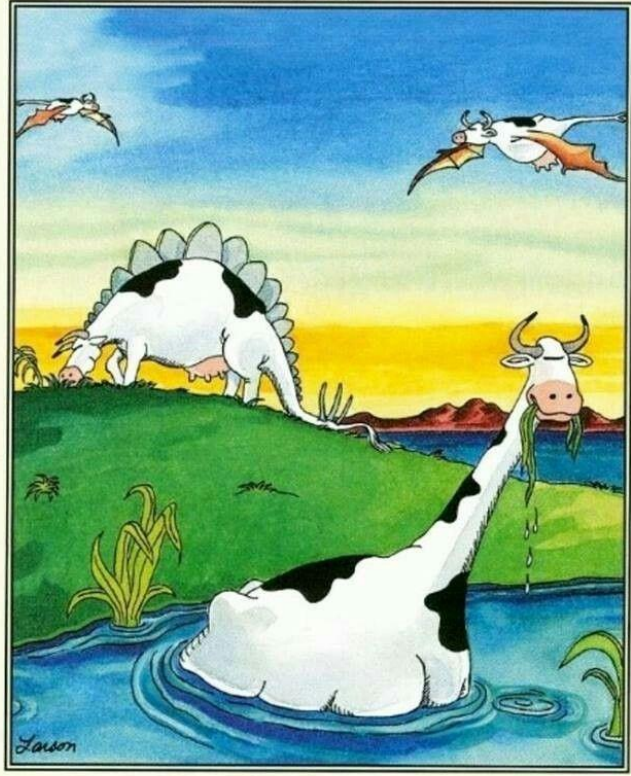
Secretary

10/17/87



Slowly he would cruise the neighborhood, waiting for that occasional careless child who confused him with another vendor.

2/16/83



Sixty-five million years ago, when cows ruled the Earth

BOOYAH BULLETS

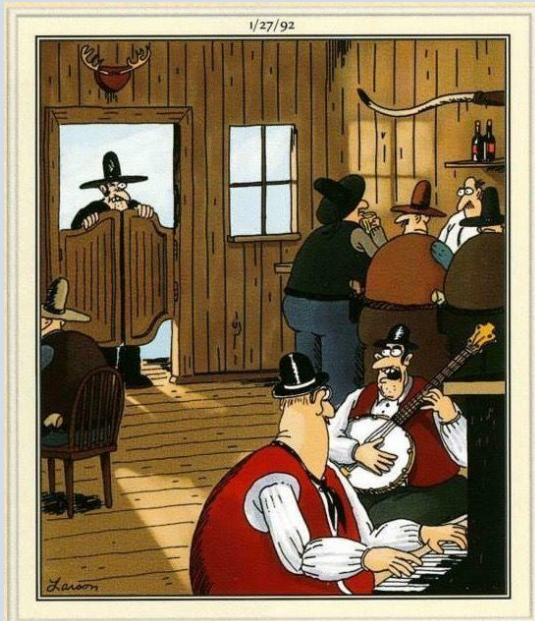
email your order: booyahbullets@gmail.com or text it to us @ 512.927.6743

Dodge City Mike 512.801.8424

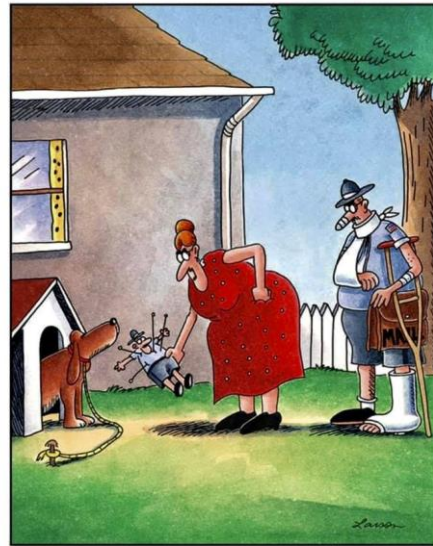
Price List effective 03.01.21

Caliber	Weight	Config.	Price/500	Price/1000
.38	100	RNFP	42	83
	105	FP	43	85
	125	RNFP	47	94
	125	FP	47	94
	130	RNFP	49	97
	158	RNFP	54	106
	158	FP	54	106
	158	SWC	54	106
.380	100	RNFP	42	83
.38-55	245	RNFP	82	162
.41	215	SWC	70	139
.44	180	RNFP	58	115
	240	SWC	75	149
.44-40	200	RNFP	64	127
.45 COLT	160	RNFP	61	121
	180	RNFP	58	115
	200	RNFP	64	127
	250	RNFP	76	152
9MM	124	RN	47	94
	125	CN	47	94
40 S&W	180	FP	58	115
.45ACP	200	SWC	64	127
	200	RN	64	127

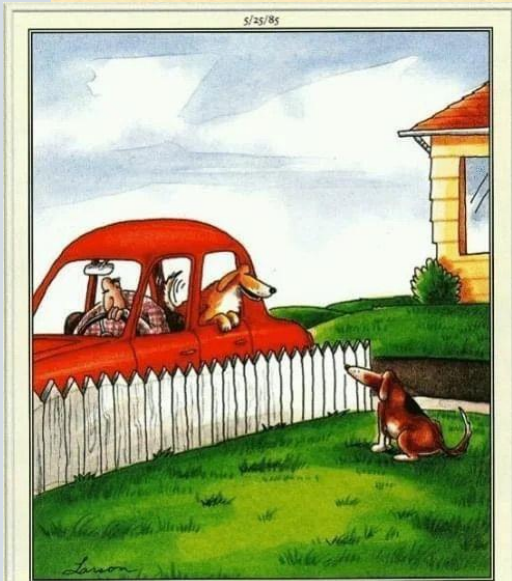
	230	RN	73	144
45-70	405	FPT	75 (250)	300 (1K)
			150 (500)	



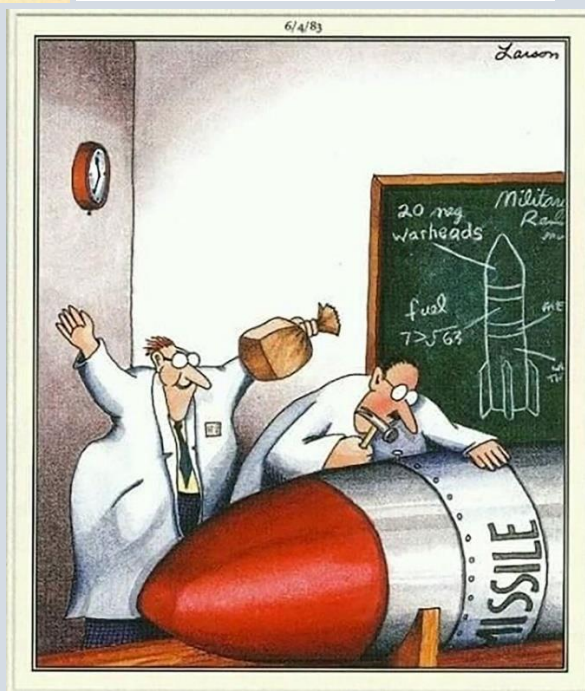
"Bad guy comin' in, Arnie! ... Minor key!"



"So! Mr. Carlisle was right! ... I put you on a short leash so you can't harass him anymore, and look what you resort to!"



"Ha ha ha, Biff. Guess what? After we go to the drugstore and the post office, I'm going to the vet's to get tutored."



Parting Shots Funny Signs

1. Remember what the valet who parked your car looks like, because we do not have Valet Parking.
2. We always get each other ironic gifts, but my brother killed it this year. He send a present with four AA batteries and a note that said, "Gift not."
3. How do you milk sheep? Bring out a new iPhone and charge \$1000 for it.
4. The best way to get rid of unwanted junk during the holidays...Just put it in an Amazon box and leave it on the porch.
5. A married man's honest confession: "I always read my wife's horoscope to see what kind of day I am going to have..."
6. Did you hear about the guy that went to the auto parts store asking for a longer dipstick? He said his no longer reached his oil.
7. Did you hear about the retiree that when he got bored, he would drive to the local mall, find a great parking spot and sit there in his car with the reverse lights on just for fun? You meet new people that way.
8. If you are sitting in a public area and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"
9. When you ask me what I am going today, and I say nothing. It does not mean I am free. It means I am doing nothing.
10. At the job interview when the interviewer says, "So, tell me about yourself." Apparently just saying, "I'd rather not...I kinda want this job is not the correct answer.
11. Always remember, when you lose a sock in the dryer, it always comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.
12. I believe sixty is the new forty. I also believer 9:00 is the new midnight.
13. Please remember, when I say "The other day," I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.
14. I don't mean to interrupt people. I just randomly remember things and get really excited.
15. I had my patience tested. I'm negative.
16. If you answer the phone with, "Hello, you're on the air! Most telemarketers will quickly hang up..."
17. That moment when you walk into a spider web and suddenly turn into a karate master?
18. When I ask for directions, please don't use words like "East".
19. The older I get, the earlier it gets late.
20. I remember being able to get up without making sound effects... Good times.
21. My luck is like a bald guy who just won a comb.
22. I run like the winded.
23. Don't bother walking a mile in my shoes, that wold be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head, that'll freak you right out.
24. Sometimes someone unexpected comes into your life outta nowhere, makes your heart race and changes you forever...We call these people cops.
25. When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.
26. When you do squats, are your knees supposed to soud like a goat chewing on an aluminum can stuffed with celery?
27. Cop, "Please step out of the car." Me, "I'm too drunk, you get in."

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



February

Doc O'Bay	2/1
Fister Bo	2/2
Newt Ritter	2/3
Shooting Iron Miller	2/7
Major Samuel Clayton	2/11
Colonel Callan	2/21

March

Texas Pearl	3/10
Tombstone Mary	3/17
Marshall Brooks	3/22
Maverick McCoy	3/29
Hopalong Herbert	3/31

April

Bama Sue	4/2
Handlebar Bob	4/6
Henly	4/8
Engin Wrangler	4/17
Frank Longshot	4/17
Madam Ella Moon	4/18
Wild Bill McMasters	4/28
Brass Case	4/28



Key Links

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

TEXICAN RANGERS

2024

January

- 09 – Workday: Range set up
- 13 – Monthly Saturday match
- 14 – Monthly Sunday match

February

- 06 – Workday: Range set up
- 10 – Monthly Saturday match
- 11 – Monthly Sunday match
- 20 – Workday
- 27 – Workday

March

- 05 – Workday: Range set up
- 09 – Monthly Saturday match
- 10 – Monthly Sunday match
- 12 – Workday
- 19 – Workday
- 26 – Workday: Range set-up
- 30 – Comancheria Days Posse 0 Shoot

April

- 02 – Workday
- 06 – Comancheria Days Posse 0 Shoot
(Bad Weather Make-up Day)
- 08 – Workday
- 09 - Workday
- 10 – Workday: Side match set up/ROI & WBRO
- 11 – Comancheria Days Side Matches
- 12 – Comancheria Days Main Match Day 1
& Side Matches
- 13 – Comancheria Days Main Match Day 2
- 14 – No Events Campers Leave
- 16– Outhouse pump-out and trash pickup

May

- 07 – Workday: Range set up
- 11 – Monthly Saturday match
- 12 – Monthly Sunday match

June

- 4 – Workday: Range set up
- 08 – Monthly Saturday match
- 09 – Monthly Sunday match
- 25 – Workday: Range set-up
- 29 – WILD BUNCH/BAMM

July

- 09 – Workday: Range set up
- 13 – Monthly Saturday match
- 14 – Monthly Sunday match

August

- 06– Workday: Range set up
- 10 – Monthly Saturday match
- 11 – Monthly Sunday match
- 27 – Workday: Range set-up
- 31– WILD BUNCH/BAMM

September

- 10 – Workday: Range set up
- 14 – Shindig
- 15 – Monthly Sunday match

October

- 08 – Workday: Partial Range tear-down
- 12 – Monthly Saturday match & final
tear down
- 15 – Outhouse pump-out and closure

November/December -Range Closed

CENTRAL TEXAS MONTHLY CLUB SHOOTING SCHEDULES

1st Saturday	Plum Creek (Lockhart)
1st Saturday	South Texas Pistoleros (San Antonio)
1st Saturday	Tejas Caballeros Wild Bunch (TX Republic Ranch)
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)