



# 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  
May 2017

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### Words from the Judge



#### Hello the Camp:

I have been told I missed a great match in May, my apologies for not being there, however when you are 70 and your first grandbaby arrives nothing else seems important.

Congratulations to our clean match shooters and to our match winners.

Remember officer elections are coming in September, if you are interested contact a current board member for information.

I must remind our members that if you want to spend the club's money, you must get permission to do so. We have been having members walk up and ask to be reimbursed for items they thought the club needed. Please follow the rules, the board is not against spending money, only concern is not knowing what is being spent. Contact a board member in writing so we have a paper trail.

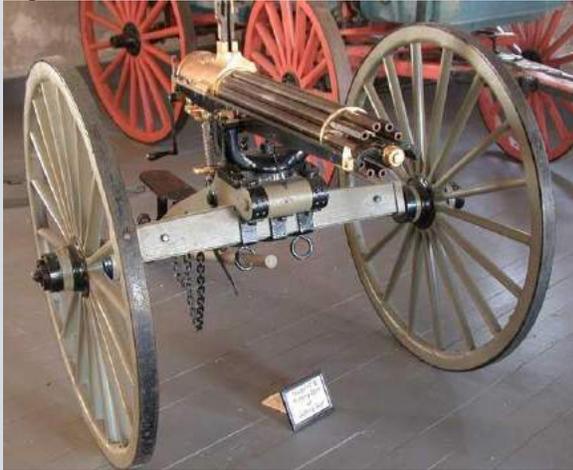
Thank you for the volunteers that came out to support the Hollywood Gun Shoot.

See you in June.

Judge GeePee

## Gatling Gun

### By Dutch Van Horn



The Gatling gun is one of the best-known early rapid-fire spring loaded, hand cranked weapons and a forerunner of the modern machine gun. Invented by Richard Gatling, it is known for its use by the Union forces during the American Civil War in the 1860s, which was the first time it was used in combat. Later, it was used again in numerous military conflicts, such as the Boshin War, the Anglo-Zulu War, and the assault on San Juan Hill during the Spanish American War. It was also used by militias and the National Guard in episodes of the great Railroad Strike of 1877.

The Gatling gun's operation centered on a cyclic multi-barrel design which facilitated cooling and synchronized the firing-reloading sequence. Each barrel fired a single shot when it reached a certain point in the cycle, after which it ejected the spent cartridge, loaded a new round, and, in the process, allowed the barrel to cool somewhat. This configuration allowed higher rates of fire to be achieved without the barrels overheating.



The Gatling gun was designed by the American inventor, Dr. Richard J. Gatling in 1861. Gatling was a southerner but at the time he was working in Indianapolis, Indiana. Gatling stated that he created it to reduce the size of armies and so reduce the number of deaths by combat and disease, and to show how futile war is.

Although the first Gatling gun was capable of firing continuously, it required a person to crank it; therefore, it was not a true automatic weapon. The Maxim gun, invented in 1883, was the first true fully automatic weapon, making use of the fired projectile's recoil force to reload the weapon. Nonetheless, the Gatling gun represented a huge leap in firearm technology.

The Gatling gun operated by a hand-crank mechanism, with six barrels revolving around a central shaft (although some models had as many as ten). Each barrel fires once per revolution at about the same position. The barrels, a carrier, and a lock cylinder were separate and all mounted on a solid plate revolving around a central shaft, mounted on an oblong fixed frame. Turning the crank rotated the shaft. The carrier was grooved and the lock cylinder was drilled with holes corresponding to the barrels.

The casing was partitioned, and through this opening the barrel shaft was journaled. In front of the casing was a cam with spiral surfaces. The cam imparted a reciprocating motion to the locks when the gun rotated. Also in the casing was a cocking ring with projections to cock and fire the gun. Each barrel had a single lock, working in the lock cylinder on a line with the barrel. The lock cylinder was encased and joined to the frame. Early models had a fibrous matting stuffed in among the barrels, which could be soaked with water to cool the barrels down. Later models eliminated the matting-filled barrels as being unnecessary.

Cartridges, held in a hopper, dropped individually into the grooves of the carrier. The lock was simultaneously forced by the cam to move forward and load the cartridge, and when the cam was at its highest point, the cocking ring freed the lock and fired the cartridge. After the cartridge was fired the continuing action of the cam drew back the lock bringing with it the spent cartridge which then dropped to the ground.

The Gatling gun was first used in combat during the American Civil War. Twelve of the guns were purchased personally by Union commanders and used in the trenches during the siege of Petersburg, Virginia. Eight other Gatling guns were fitted on gunboats. The gun was not accepted by the US Army until 1866, when a sales representative demonstrated it in combat.



The Army considered it an artillery piece and planned to use it in long range situations. The problem was the multiple barrels don't all fire in the same place. The multiple barrels scatter the shots making long range accuracy difficult. This is the reason when General Armstrong Custer was offered Gatling guns to take with the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry just before the Battle of the Little Bighorn that he turned them down.

Just imagine how things might have gone differently if Custer had seen how devastating the Gatling gun could be at close range.

## Happy Memorial Day



Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

## Eleanor Dumont (Madame Moustache) By Dutch Van Horn



Madame Moustache was the pseudonym of Eleanor Dumont, a notorious gambler of the American Western Frontier, especially during the California Gold Rush. Her nickname was due to the appearance of a line of dark hair on her upper lip.

She was thought to have been born in France and moved to America as a young woman. She was an accomplished card dealer and made a living from dealing twenty-one and other casino games. Moving from place to place, she was reported to work in Bodie, California; Deadwood, South Dakota; Fort Benton, Montana; Pioche, Nevada; Tombstone, Arizona; and San Francisco, California, among other places.

In Nevada City, California, she opened a gambling parlor on Broad Street named "Vingt-et-un" which is French for twenty-one. Only well-kept men were allowed in, and no women save herself. All the men admired her for her beauty and charm, but she kept them all at a nice distance away.

She was a very private lady, so she flirted, but only to keep the boys coming. Men came from all around to see the woman dealer - this was rare then - and considered it a privilege. The parlor found much success, so she decided to go into business with Dave Tobin, an experienced gambler. They opened Dumont's Place, which was very successful until the gold started to dry up in Nevada City. She left Tobin and Nevada City for brighter things.

There was a brief period in Carson City where she bought a ranch and some animals. It was there that she fell in love with Jack McKnight, who conned her out of all her money.

She moved around from city to city, gambling and building up her money again. Her age started to increase, and with that a lot of the beauty that once entranced miners, faded. This is when the famous mustache began to grow. She still drew crowds, though, and had a long-standing reputation for dealing fair.

She also added prostitution to her repertoire during these later years - she became a "Madame" of a brothel in the 1860s. To promote her business, she would parade her girls around the town in carriages, showing off their beauty in broad daylight, much to the gasping of the 'proper' women.

Her last stop was Bodie, California. One night while gambling, she misjudged a play and suddenly owed a lot of money. That night she wandered outside of town and was found dead on September 8, 1879, of an overdose of morphine. It was apparently a suicide.

**Tombstone Mary, Secretary  
Regulator/Life #19524**



Scoring is a very important part of the game we play. You are responsible for looking at the time after you shoot and making sure that the correct time, misses and penalties are put down correctly on the scoresheet.

At Comancheria Days 2017 one of our club members had another shooters score written down next to his name. He then shot and they discovered the mistake and put his correct score down but did not take the miss off from the other shooter. This Cowboy did not know this happened until his name was not called for a clean match. The scoresheet was shown to this shooter and he knew right away what had happened.

Knowing the rules is also a very important part of the game we play. At the last Cowboy match a shooter put a cocked revolver back in his holster. The posse did not know the correct call and started looking for someone to make a ruling. If this happens in the future please look in your clip board for the enlarged Pocket RO guide that stated that this was a stage DQ. If you still can't figure out the correct penalty AD Texaz is the Range Officer and he is the person you should be asking for a ruling. The posse found the correct answer and then forgot to correct the scoresheet and gave the shooter a Minor Safety. It is our policy to never change the scores after you have moved on to the next stage but since the event was explained to me I knew the situation and I changed the Minor Safety to a Stage DQ.

Remember that you must shoot 5 times in one category to qualify for an annual award.  
Tombstone Mary

### **Famous Quotes**

“A best friend is like a four leaf clover, hard to find, lucky to have.”  
Anonymous

“Friends come and go, like the waves of the ocean, but the true ones stay like an ocotpus attached to your face.”  
Anonymous

“Give a man a fish and he will have food for one day. Teach him to catch fish and he will spend all day at the lake drinking beer.”  
Anonymous

“Silence is golden, unless you have kids then silence is plain suspicious.”  
Anonymous

“In the morning I can't eat, I'm thinking of you. In the evening I can't eat, I'm thinking of you. In the night I can't sleep...I'm so hungry!”  
Anonymous

“Common sense is like deodorant, thoes who need it the most never use it.”  
Anonymous

“When I die, I want to go peacefully like my grandfather did, in his sleep – not screaming, like the passengers in his car.”  
Anonymous

“I told my wife that a husband is like a fine wine; he gets better with age. The next day, she locked me in the cellar.”  
Anonymous



**Home on the Range**  
**By A.D. Texaz, Rangemaster**



Howdy Rangers:

The April match was well attended with 56 shooters. After a great lunch by Gumbo Annie, it was great to see so many take advantage of the range being open for practice, BAMM and Long Range.

For June, there will be new target placement and new sweeps. I am about ½ done writing the June stages and they are coming together well.

The June set-up day is very important. We were not able to mow and weed eat for the May match because of rain. Also, resetting the targets will be a

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little more extensive, so if possible put the date, June 6th on your calendar and plan a few hours of range beautification.

I hope you all will enjoy the new scenarios and sweeps for June.

See you down the line!

AD

Weird Pictures of the late 1800s  
(No, I didn't take them)



Ok, this one is just scary



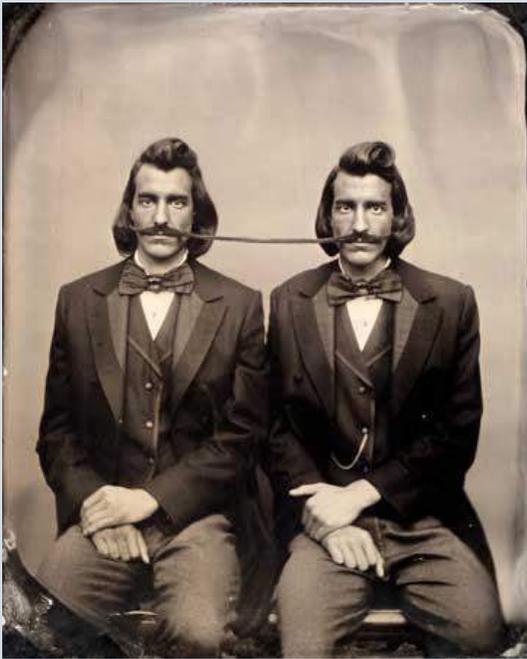
The happy couple



Mountain Man trapper



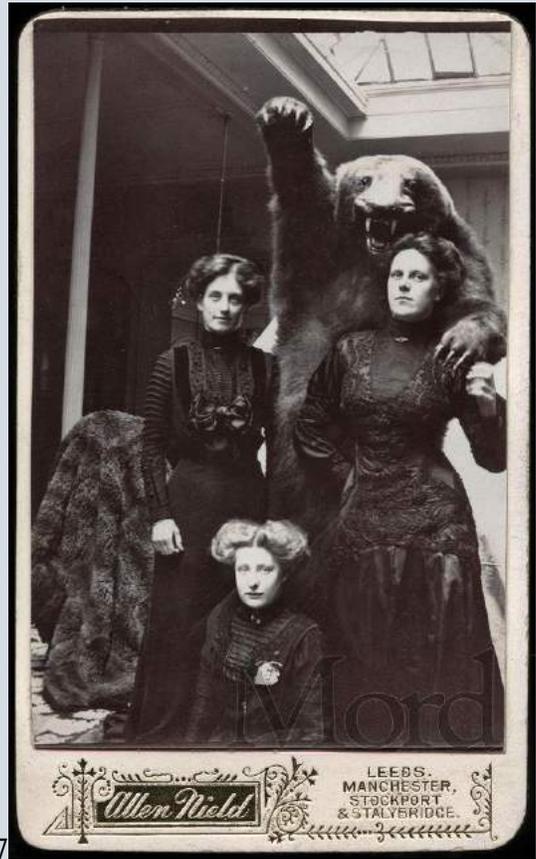
A gentleman and his pet



Twins (ok, this one is just strange)



A small donkey is an asset



Early photobomb



Scalped as a child

## 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



### May Birthdays

Bluebonnet Nell	5/01
Marshall Willy	5/04
Texas Sarge	5/05
Texas Tony	5/08
Whiskey Kid	5/16
Frontier Faith	05/17
Faye Starr	5/18
Mia Jameson	5/26
Sierra Cheyenne	05/29
Lucky Nickel	05/30



**Our Friendly Staff is here to help!**

### Key Links

[www.sassnet.com](http://www.sassnet.com)  
[www.texicanrangers.org](http://www.texicanrangers.org)  
[www.greenmountainregulators.org](http://www.greenmountainregulators.org)  
[www.pccss.org](http://www.pccss.org)  
[www.stxpistoleros.com](http://www.stxpistoleros.com)  
[www.tejascaballeros.org](http://www.tejascaballeros.org)  
[www.darbyroughregulators.com](http://www.darbyroughregulators.com)  
[www.trpistoleros.com](http://www.trpistoleros.com)  
[www.texasjacks.com](http://www.texasjacks.com)  
[www.cimarron-firearms.com](http://www.cimarron-firearms.com)  
[www.tsra.com](http://www.tsra.com)  
[www.wildwestmercantile.com](http://www.wildwestmercantile.com)

### TEXICAN RANGERS 2017

January 14-15	Monthly Match
February 11-12	Monthly Match
March 11-12	Monthly Match
April 6-9	COMANCHERIA DAYS
April 29	Wild Bunch, BAMM, Long Range
May 13-14	Monthly Match
June 10-11	Monthly Match
July 8-9	Monthly Match
July 29	Wild Bunch, BAMM, Long Range
August 12-13	Monthly Match
September 9	SHINDIG 2017
September 10	Monthly Match
September 30	Wild Bunch, BAMM, Long Range
October 14	Final Match of 2017
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)

**2017**

<b>Feb 10-12</b>	<b>Jail Break</b>	<b>Oakwood Outlaws</b>
<b>Feb 20-26</b>	<b>Winter Range</b>	<b>Phoenix</b>
<b>Mar 10-12</b>	<b>Bayou Blast</b>	<b>Lake Charles, LA</b>
<b>Mar</b>	<b>Trailhead</b>	<b>THSS</b>
<b>April 6-9</b>	<b>Comancheria Days</b>	<b>Texican Ranger (Comfort)</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Battle of Plum Creek</b>	<b>Plum Creek</b>
<b>June 15-25</b>	<b>End of Trail</b>	<b>Founders Ranch, NM</b>
<b>Oct 12-14</b>	<b>SASS Southwest Regional Red Dirt</b>	<b>Oklahoma</b>

**Photo Gallery**



