

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
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Hello Rangers



We had 37 shooters join us for some nice warm weather on Saturday May 14th. Nine shooters cleaned the match. Panhandle Cowgirl was our top lady and to all our amazement... the top man and overall shooter was Big Iron Patnode! The following Sunday we had 16 shooters with 8 cleaning the match. Ivory Venom was our top lady and Brazos Bo was our top man and overall winner. Thank you all for attending the match.

The TSRA state match is rapidly approaching (July 29-31). Please sign up as soon as possible so we can better prepare for all that attend. See y'all June 11 and 12th.

Alamo Andy
President, Texican Rangers

5 Things Not To Do on Memorial Day

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



The Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries. By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

Memorial Day (originally known as Decoration Day) is a federal holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning the military personnel who had died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

On Memorial Day, the flag of the United States is raised briskly to the top of the staff and then

solemnly lowered to the half-staff position, where it remains only until noon. It is then raised to full-staff for the remainder of the day.

There is a lot of confusion on what Memorial Day really is and means. Some people just see it as a holiday that marks the official start of summer. It is not. The following is a list of the things not to do on Memorial Day.

Don't wish anyone a "Happy Memorial Day." This is not Christmas – Memorial Day was not founded in joy with the promise of bringing glee each year. It was established as a way for the country to set aside time to honor the troops who had given their lives in service to America.

In 1868, Gen. John Logan declared the day for "the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion (Civil War), and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land."

Despite what the day has transitioned to in American culture, it was established to honor and remember America's fallen.

Don't thank the current troops. At least, don't thank them just because it's Memorial Day. They deserve respect and gratitude every day of the year, but this day is set aside specifically for America's fallen warriors from every war.

America's veterans are honored during November on Veteran's Day when we aim to remember and appreciate the sacrifices of all veterans. But, Memorial Day allows the country to focus on those service members who are no longer with us – an important distinction.

Don't disregard its importance. Though discounts abound for nearly everything from cars to furniture to pool supplies, that's not what the holiday is about. When we focus only on the backyard barbecues or discounts on refrigerators, we allow the true meaning to become lost. Particularly when the country has perpetually been at war for the last 16 years, this isn't something we can allow to happen.

Grill some amazing steaks, and find the perfect mattress on sale, just don't forget to raise a glass in honor of those servicemen and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Don't forget it exists. Even worse than allowing the day to become synonymous with deep discounts and potato salad, is letting it slip from the public's mind completely. When it becomes simply a highly-anticipated extra morning of sleeping in, instead of the day of reflection and appreciation it was meant to be, we disrespect our fallen troops.

Don't let politics keep you from rendering respect. Even if you don't agree with the idea of war, or the reasons America goes to war, or the policies of a particular president who was the Commander in Chief during a specific war, it doesn't matter. People have defended the people and interests of America for over 200 years, and your right to disagree with the reasons for war should be separate from your opinion of the troops themselves.

Claude Akins

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



You have seen him in countless westerns. He most often played a heavy, but most times it was a heavy with a heart of gold. His name is Claude Akins.

Broad-shouldered and beefy Claude Akins had wavy black hair, a deep booming voice and was equally adept at playing sneering, cowardly villains as he was at portraying hard-nosed cops. The son of a police officer, Akins never seemed short of work and appeared in nearly 100 films and 180+ TV episodes in a career spanning over 40 years.

He originally attended Northwestern University, and went on to serve with the US Army Signal

Corps in World War II in Burma and the Philippines. Upon returning, he reignited his interest in art and drama and first appeared in front of the camera in 1953 in *From Here to Eternity* (1953).

He quickly began notching up roles in such TV shows as *Dragnet* (1951), *My Friend Flicka* (1955), *Gunsmoke* (1955) and *Zane Grey Theatre* (1956). He also turned in several strong cinematic performances, such as gunfighter Joe Burdette in the landmark western *Rio Bravo* (1959), Mack in the excellent *The Defiant Ones* (1958), Sgt. Kolwicz in Merrill's *Marauders* (1962) and Earl Sylvester in the gripping *The Killers* (1964).

In the early 1970s Akins turned up in several supernatural TV films playing "no-nonsense" sheriffs in both *The Night Stalker* (1972) and *The Norliss Tapes* (1973), and was unrecognizable underneath his simian make-up as war-mongering Gen. Aldo in *Battle for the Planet of the Apes* (1973).

Akins continued starring in films and TV right up until the time of his death from cancer in 1994. By all reports a very gregarious, likable and friendly person off screen, Akins was married for over 40 years to Theresa "Pie" Fairfield, and had three children, Claude Marion Jr., Michele & Wendy.

My favorite performance was in *Rio Bravo*, which is a 1959 American Western film directed and produced by Howard Hawks and starring John Wayne, Dean Martin, Ricky Nelson, Angie Dickinson, Walter Brennan, and Ward Bond. Written by Jules Furthman and Leigh Brackett, based on the short story "Rio Bravo" by B. H. McCampbell, the film stars Wayne as a Texan sheriff who arrests Joe Burdette, played by Claude Akins, who was the brother of a powerful local rancher for murder, and then has to hold Joe Burdette in jail until a U.S. Marshal can arrive. With the help of a "cripple," a drunk and a young gunfighter, they hold off the rancher's gang. *Rio Bravo* was filmed on location at Old Tucson Studios outside Tucson, Arizona, in Technicolor.

My favorite scene is where Joe Burdette, the spoiled younger brother of wealthy land baron Nathan Burdette, taunts town drunk Dude by tossing money into a spittoon. The sheriff, John T. Chance, stops Dude from reaching into the spittoon, prompting Dude to lash out and knock Chance unconscious. Joe starts to beat Dude for fun, shooting and killing an unarmed bystander who attempts to stop him. Chance recovers, follows Joe into Nathan's personal saloon, and, with help from a penitent Dude, overcomes Nathan's men and arrests Joe for murder.

In 2014, *Rio Bravo* was deemed "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" by the Library of Congress and selected for preservation in the National Film Registry.

Claude summed up his acting career by saying, "A guy who looks like Robert Redford will most often be cast as a hero. A guy like me or Ernie Borgnine plays a lot of heavies. If you're big, they think you're tough. And if you're tough, they think you're dumb. Hell, acting is acting, whether it's for the movies, TV or the stage, but I feel like an outsider in a business I have been a part of for 37 years and for some reason, Hollywood's mainstream has eluded me."

Confederate Bat Guano in the Civil War

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



The Texas Hill Country's abundant caves with their significant bat populations furnished an important resource for the Confederacy during the Civil War. Bat guano's high nitrate content provided a key ingredient for the production of gunpowder, and by 1863 a shortage of munitions and other goods precipitated by the Union blockade, prompted the South to seek alternative means of securing various supplies. The Nitre and Mining Bureau of the Confederacy authorized local industrialists to mine bat guano from area caves in order to extract saltpeter. The Thomas Anderson mill in northwest Travis County, for example, was designated the Travis Powder Company in 1863 and

obtained guano from area caves to extract saltpeter and mix it with sulfur and charcoal (produced by burning cedar trees) to manufacture gunpowder. A similar operation occurred near Concan in Uvalde County where a cave and its resident bat population fueled that region's saltpeter industry. Miners utilized mule-drawn railcars to transport the guano.

By summer 1863 the Nitre and Mining Bureau, Western District, Texas, authorized William Seekatz and Associates to operate a guano kiln in New Braunfels in South Central Texas. Capt. William Seekatz, one of the pioneers of New Braunfels, along with citizens Ed Braden, Ed Dreiss, Jack Marshall, and Joe Ney, constructed a limestone oven near the headwaters of the Comal River. On July 17, 1863, the *Neu-Braunfelser Zeitung* stated that the men were waiting for the Confederate government to supply kettles for operations to begin.

Guano was mined and hauled from Brehmer's Cave, some three miles west of the oven, as well as from a cave in the Cibolo area. From the guano, the kiln produced an output of 100 pounds of pure saltpeter daily. According to the *Neu-Braunfelser Zeitung* on April 29, 1864, 100 pounds of guano were needed to produce four pounds of saltpeter—requiring the shoveling of 2,500 pounds of bat guano a day to fill the quota of 100 pounds of saltpeter crystals. Regular production continued presumably until the end of the war.

There was just one drawback. The bat guano was as dangerous as handling mercury and would have the same effect of driving someone handling it in an unprotected manner, eventually mad. There was a reason someone was called a “mad hatter or bat shit crazy” in the late 1800s.

In 1938 Frank P. Seekatz, the son of William Seekatz, erected a granite marker to commemorate the operations that had begun seventy-five years earlier. The marker stands by the remnants of the guano kiln in present-day Landa Park.

If you are in the mood to see bats, the Congress Avenue Bridge in Austin is your best bet. Starting in late March and continuing through early fall, North America's largest urban bat population calls Austin home. The bats begin to wake up and start their night flight around sunset. The first few bats begin to trickle out from under the bridge then. After the sun sets, the show really begins, and hundreds to thousands of bats pour out and cascade East over Lady Bird Lake.

The best time to witness the bats is around sunset, but the nightly show can take place anywhere from 7:30 to 9:45 p.m. It can take as long as 45 minutes for all of the bats to exit the bridge for the night. Plan to arrive early in order to find parking and get your spot.

Merwin & Hulbert Revolvers

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



Have you ever wondered what Kurt Russell was carrying in the movie "Tombstone" when he told Ike Clanton "You die first, you get me, your friends might get me in a rush but not before I turn your head in to a canoe." Well, he was carrying a Merwin & Hulbert revolver. It was a unique revolver but it was a gun before its time.

Merwin, Hulbert & Co. was one of the top four quality revolver manufacturers from 1876 to 1891, along with their famous counterparts, Colt, Smith & Wesson, and Remington. Though Merwin, Hulbert pistols were never manufactured in the large numbers of the other major manufacturers, the outstanding quality of their fit and finish made them desirable firearms in their day, and today as well.

Merwin, Hulbert, & Co. or Merwin Hulbert was an American firearms designer and marketer based in New York City who produced revolvers. Their firearms were manufactured by a subsidiary company, Hopkins & Allen of Norwich, Connecticut. Merwin Hulbert's designs had influenced other gun makers of the time, such as Meriden Firearms Co, Harrington & Richardson, Forehand & Wadsworth, and Iver Johnson.

During the late 19th century, Merwin Hulbert revolvers were used by police departments of many cities in the eastern United States. Joseph Merwin was involved with marketing revolvers as early as 1856 and first formed an arms company known as Merwin & Bray. This company was folded by 1874. In 1876 Merwin formed a partnership with William and Milan Hulbert, who owned 50% interest in Hopkins & Allen. After Merwin's death in 1888, the company became known as "Hulbert Brothers & Company." Hulbert Brothers declared bankruptcy in 1894 and in 1896 it was liquidated. Hopkins & Allen continued to manufacture Merwin Hulbert marked guns until 1916 when it went bankrupt and was bought the following year by Marlin Firearms.



Merwin Hulbert manufactured both single action and double action revolvers. Merwin Hulbert's innovation was a rotating barrel design which allowed the user to rotate the barrel 90 degrees in order to pull the barrel and cylinder forward to remove the fired cartridge cases. All six ejected at once, then you twisted back and loaded the gun one chamber at a time just like a Colt or Remington revolver of its time.

The rotating barrel design also enabled the company to make interchangeable barrels that could be quickly changed for the same gun.



The Merwin Hulbert revolvers were considered to be the strongest made revolvers during the time period in which they were made, but they had a problem. They didn't function well with black powder, too many moving parts, and were known to jam after a few shots were fired.

Their earlier models were open top like this Merwin & Hulbert SA First Model Frontier Army .44MH caliber with early "humpback" hammer and shortened barrel.



Merwin, Hulbert & Co. made several models of revolvers. The large frame revolvers, models one through four, were chambered for the proprietary .44 Merwin Hulbert, .44 Russian and .44-40 WCF (Winchester Center Fire) cartridges. The square butt versions were known as the "Frontier Army" model. The crested butt (also known as the "birds head" or "skull crusher" butt) versions, models two through four, were known as the "Pocket Army" model. Several single and double action medium and small frame pocket revolvers were chambered in .38MH (also fired .38 S&W) and .32MH (also fired .32 S&W) calibers. A seven shot .22 Short Rim fire caliber Derringer, which was identical to the Smith & Wesson Model One-Number Three derringer, was marketed by Merwin, Hulbert for a short time.



This is a Merwin Hulbert & Co. Pocket Revolver - .44 Russian caliber. Notice the fold down hammer. This is so there is less chance it would catch on your clothing if you were carrying it concealed.

Now for the surprise, the Merwin & Hulbert revolvers didn't shoot black powder well and the company went bankrupt. It went bankrupt about the time smokeless powder became available. Smokeless powder eliminated the jamming problem. Firing a Merwin & Hulbert with smokeless powder was flawless. So with smokeless powder the ugly duckling became a swan. When the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents in 1934 were finally able to carry firearms (yes, then went 26 years without being able to carry guns), their new agents were looking for big bore snub nosed revolver for concealment and power. Merwin & Hulberts were a perfect match for them and they paid top dollar to buy used revolvers.

Shooting Iron Miller, Secretary Regulator/Life



Since we have several shoots under our belts that will count for this year's annual awards, you might be wondering just how many shoots you've participated in since last September. It's easy to lose track of them so I'm including the information below. Remember, you must be a member of the Texican Rangers, and you need to have at least 5 shoots in the same category to be eligible to win an award during Shindig. We will include your best 5 scores.

So far we have the following:

A.D.	Senior	7
Abilene	Frontier Cartridge	1
	Silver Senior	5
Alamo Andy	Cowboy	9
Asup Sleeve	Elder Statesman	3
Bama Sue	Cattle Baroness	1
	La Patrona	2
Barrel Stream Jax	Buckaroo Boy	2
Bessie James	Cowgirl	1
	Forty Niner Lady	2
Big Iron Patnode	B Western	3
Big John Mesquite	Senior	1
Bisbee Jackson	Cattle Baron	5
Brazos Belle	Senior Lady	2
Brazos Bo	Forty Niner	5
Captain Buffalo	Silver Senior	1
Captain George Baylor	Frontier Cartridge Senior	1
Circuit Judge	Silver Senior	1
Col. Callan	Cody Dixon Single Shot	6
Colorado Horseshoe	Silver Senior	10
Crazy Clyde	Cattle Baron	1
	El Patron	2
Crooked Bullet	Silver Senior	2
Crooked Creek Sam	Duelist Senior	2
	Forty Niner	1
Culebra Blaze	Gunfighter	4
Diggin Graves	Cowboy	2
Dirty Dog Dale	Senior	2
	Silver Senior	2
	Wrangler	6
Doc Holloman	Silver Senior	5
Doc O'Bay	Duelist	1
	Duelist Senior	1
Douoble OOT	El Patron	3
Dusty Leather	Cattle Baron	7
Dutch Van Horn	Silver Senior	3

Engin Wrangler	Elder Statesman	1
Four Aces	B Western	1
Frank Longshot	Cattle Baron	7
	El Patron	1
Hawkeye	Duelist Silver Senior	3
Hoolihan	Duelist Senior	1
	Duelist Silver Senior	3
Hopalong Herbert	Frontier Cartridge Senior	4
Joshua Smith	Wrangler	2
Kettleman	Gunfighter Senior	2
L.W. Hannabass	Frontiersman	1
Lady Graves	B Western Lady	1
Little Bit Sassy	Silver Senior Lady	4
Lucky Nickel	Cattle Baron	1
	Sharpshooter	1
Major Samuel Clayton	Cattle Baron	3
Marshal Jamison	Senior	4
Marshall Brooks	Silver Senior	4
Minnesota Clay	Cattle Baron	1
Newt Ritter	Duelist Elder Statesman	1
Newt Ritter	Duelist Senior	8
Panhandle Cowgirl	Wrangler Lady	8
Plumb Roostered	Frontiersman	3
	Rim Fire	1
Rusty Bang Stick	Silver Senior	2
Sauk Valley Sam	Cody Dixon Single Shot	1
	Elder Statesman	1
Scooter	Cattle Baron	3
Sheriff Robert Love	Elder Statesman	6
Shootin Steel	Senior	3
Shooting Iron Miller	Forty Niner Lady	7
Skinny	Frontier Cartridge	3
Skyhawk Hans	Cattle Baron	6
South Texas Willie	Senior	1
T Bone Paul	Silver Senior	4
Texas Tony	Elder Statesman	1
	Frontiersman	1
Thunder Mountain	Cattle Baron	2
Tombstone Mary	Senior Lady	5
Uncle Nick Wilson	Elder Statesman	4
Whiskey Kid	Frontier Cartridge	6
	Frontier Cartridge GF	1
	Wrangler	1
Yuma Jack	Frontier Cartridge Duelist	1
	Frontiersman	5

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at texicanrangers@yahoo.com.

I look forward to seeing you at the next shoot, June 11 and 12, 2022. In the meantime, stay cool. It's gearing up to be quite a warm summer.

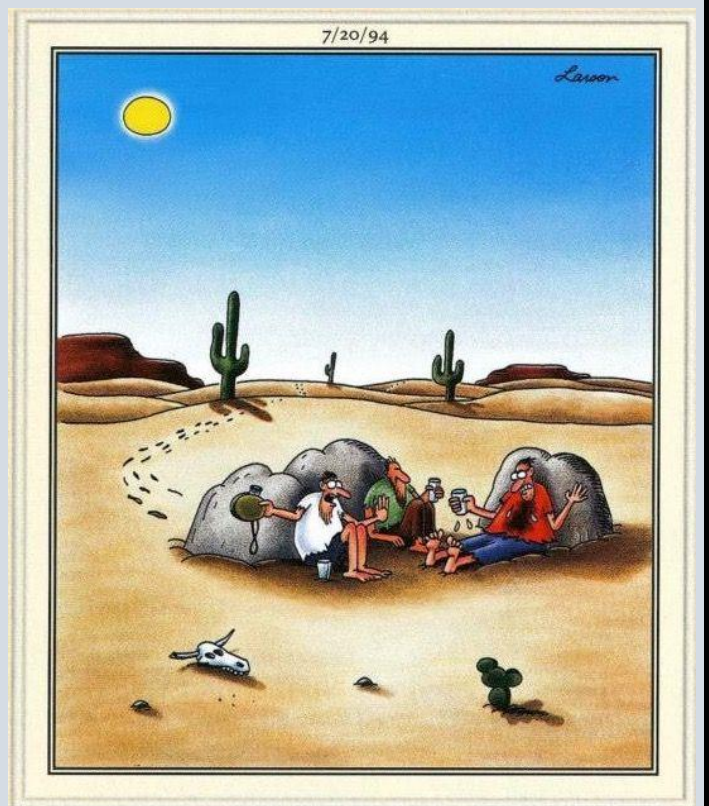
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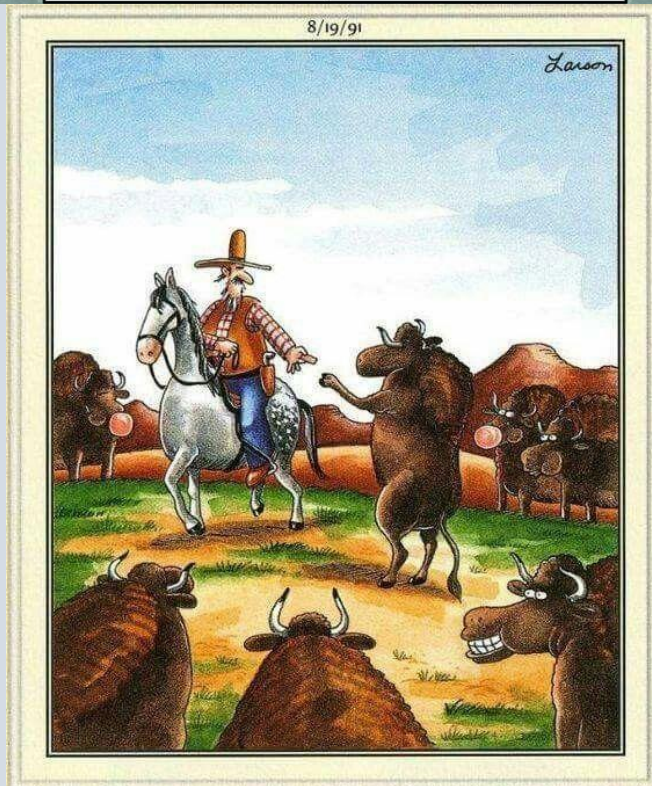
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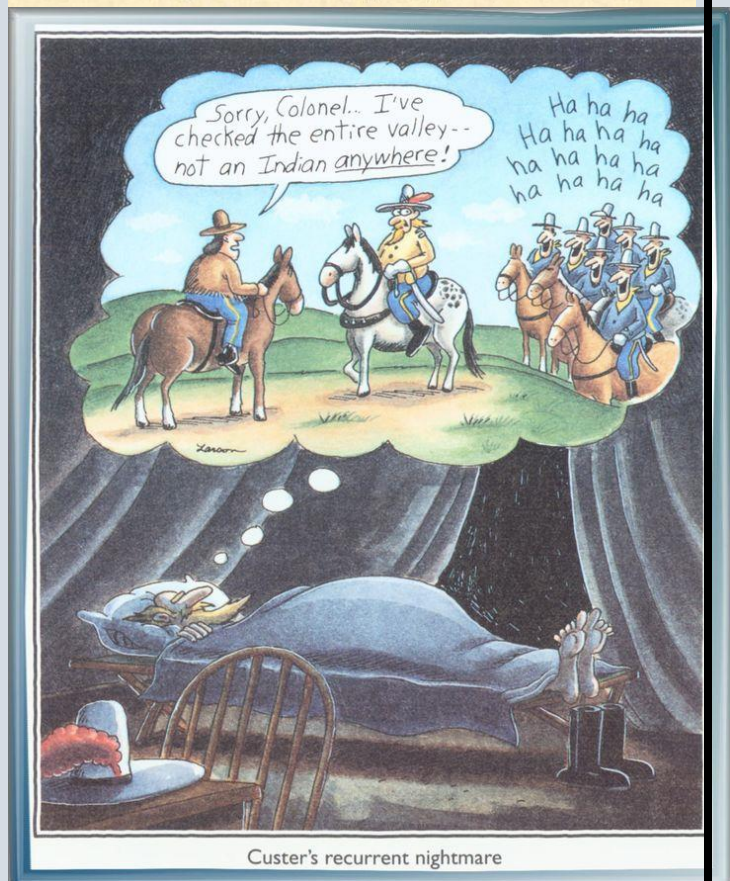
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"Sorry, Virgil—that's all you get. ... I don't know how you got hold of a dribble glass in the first place, but it's just your bad luck."



The herd moved in around him, but Zach had known better than to approach these animals without his trusty buffalo gum.



Parting Shots

1. On the other hand, you have different fingers.
2. Is it possible to mistake schizophrenia for telepathy, I hear you ask.
3. When I was a kid we had a quicksand box. I was an only child... eventually.
4. There are two secrets to success in life. First of all, don't tell all you know...
5. My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. Well we'll see about that...
6. Conjunctivitis.org, now that's a site for sore eyes...
7. Crime in multi-story car parks is wrong on so many different levels...
8. My wife told me to stop impersonating a flamingo. I had to put my foot down.
9. I went to buy some camo pants but couldn't find any.
10. I failed math so many times at school, I can't even count.
11. It takes a lot of balls to golf the way I do.
12. I told him to be himself; that was pretty mean, I guess.
13. I know they say that money talks, but all mine says is 'Goodbye.'
14. Most people are shocked when they find out how bad I am as an electrician.
15. The last thing I want to do is hurt you; but it's still on the list.
16. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
17. People who take care of chickens are literally chicken tenders.
18. I just got kicked out of a secret cooking society because I spilled the beans.
19. Two Wi-Fi engineers got married. The reception was fantastic.
20. In the future all military members will be gay. They won't fight well but you should see the parades.
21. I buy all my guns from a guy called T-Rex. He's a small arms dealer.
22. I threw a boomerang a couple years ago; I now live in constant fear.
23. Have you heard about the new restaurant called 'Karma?' There's no menu—you just get what you deserve.
24. A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kick boxing.
25. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

HERE'S HOW BAD INFLATION IS:

26. My neighbor got a pre-declined credit card in the mail.
27. CEOs are now playing miniature golf.
28. Exxon-Mobil laid off 25 Congressmen.
29. I saw a Mormon with only one wife.
30. McDonald's is selling the 1/4 ounce.
31. Angelina Jolie adopted a child from America.
32. Parents in Beverly Hills fired their nannies and learned their children's names.
33. A truckload of Americans was caught sneaking into Mexico.
34. A picture is now only worth 200 words.
35. When Bill and Hillary travel together, they now have to share a room.
36. The Treasure Island casino in Las Vegas is now managed by Somali pirates.
37. Called to get Blue Book Value on my car. They asked if gas tank was full or empty.
38. And, finally...I was so depressed last night thinking about the economy, wars, jobs, my savings Social Security, retirement funds, etc., I called the Suicide Hotline. I got a call center in Afghanistan, and when I told them I was suicidal, they got all excited, then asked if I could drive a truck.

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



May Birthdays

Bluebonnet Nel	5/01
Marshall Willy	5/04
Texas Tony	5/08
Shootin' Steel	5/08
Bessie James	5/10
Snake Shot	5/13
Whiskey Kid	5/16
Frontier Faith	5/17
Sierra Cheyenne	5/29
Lucky Nickel	5/30



June Birthdays

Rusty Bang Stick	6/04
La Sombra	6/06
T.H. Boland	6/08
Thunder Mountain	6/09
Circuit Judge	6/13
Skinny	6/21
Doc Holloman	6/25
Colorado Horseshoe	6/27



Key Links

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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
August 14	Monthly Match
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

