



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
November/December 2020

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Hello Texican Rangers



It's been an honor to serve the Texican Rangers as the Range Master for two years and the President for the last three years.

In my last note as President, I want to say thank you to everyone that have been part of the club for the past five years!

Thank you to all of the members who have attended any of the 14+ workdays per year.

Thank you for shooting any of the 18+ matches per year.

Thank you to all of the members who attended the workdays, worked the side matches, and shot the Comancheria Days Matches.

The Comancheria Days Match profits allow us to purchase targets, and update the stages and facilities.

Comancheria Days also funds the year-end Shindig Member Appreciation Match. The proceeds also pay for the Texican Rangers Annual Category awards.

Finally, in the past five years, shooters are engaging closer rifle and revolver

targets. Clean Matches have increase dramatically! I am most proud of these two items.

Mark your calendars, Comancheria Days will be on April 8-10, 2021.

Merry Christmas, and I look forward to seeing you at the January workday and match!

A.D.

Outgoing President, Texican Rangers

Words from the President Elect



Let me be the first to send the most joyous and blessed holiday wishes to all the Texas cowboys and cowgirls. My fervent prayer is that the New Year 2021 will be our much anticipated return to normal. In keeping with the holiday spirit let me express my gratitude at being afforded the honor of serving as your President for this year. I pledge to maintain the club reputation and functional vitality as it was so ably developed and promoted by our outgoing President A.D.

A few noteworthy items for our membership. After discussion with several members, we've decided to offer a twenty minute Cowboy Church immediately before our Sunday match shooter's meeting. It will be non-denominational and optional for all. Some cowboys have volunteered to lead these services on a rotational basis. If you feel called to lead a service please contact me.

Just for fun, we will be having monthly themes for our shoots. The January 9-10 matches will pay homage to "Destroying COVID-19". A few examples of the stages: "Flattening the Curve", "Lockdown – Knockdown", "Mostly Peaceful Gunfights" and "Social Distancing". You'll probably notice some oldy but goody targets return to the lineup and some different target arrays.

Comancheria Days April 8 -10 are just around the corner, so put your reservation in now. This year we are limiting participation to the first 180 registered shooters.

The Texican Rangers have been awarded the 2021 Texas State Wild Bunch Match competition. To encourage participation and develop statewide interest we will be conducting a Wild Bunch 101 course on the ninth of January at our range. It will consist of a short classroom period of instruction followed by an intense live fire training practice. Focus will be on safe 1911 handling, malfunction management, magazine changes, transitions, and competition tactics.

We will offer a monthly Wild Bunch side match on the second Sunday.

Please consider gifting yourself a 2021 Texican Ranger membership for Christmas.

For individual dues \$36 and family dues \$48 - The benefits have expanded to include:

- discounted monthly match fees (\$85 value),
- Shindig free shoot and meal (\$50 value),
- Club Awards (year of bragging rights),
- Sneak peek preview of the match stages sent to you on Wednesday prior to match (gamers edge).
- Last, and probably most importantly the prestigious membership in the second oldest CAS club in Texas (Priceless!)

Asup Sleeve

President Elect

A Pioneer Christmas

By Legends of America



By the mid-1800s the American Christmas tradition included much of the same customs and festivities as is does today, including tree decorating, gift-giving, Santa Claus, greeting cards, stockings by the fire, church activities and family-oriented days of feasting and fun.

But, for those in the Old West, far away from the more civilized life of the east, pioneers, cowboys, explorers, and mountain men, usually celebrated Christmas with homemade gifts and humble fare.

Christmas for many in the Old West was a difficult time. For those on the prairies, they were often barraged with terrible blizzards and savage

December winds. For mountain men, forced away from their mining activities long before Christmas, in fear of the blinding winter storms and freezing cold, the holidays were often meager. But, to these strong pioneers, Christmas would not be forgotten, be it ever so humble.

Determined to bring the spirit of Christmas alive on the American frontier, soldiers could be heard caroling at their remote outposts, the smell of venison roasting over an open hearth wafted upon the winds of the open prairie, and these hardy pioneers looked forward to the chance to forget their hard everyday lives to focus on the holiday.

Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote of the preparations for Christmas on the Kansas Prairie: “Ma was busy all day long, cooking good things for Christmas. She baked salt-rising bread and r’n’Injun bread, and Swedish crackers, and a huge pan of baked beans, with salt pork and molasses. She baked vinegar pies and dried-apple pies and filled a big jar with cookies, and she let Laura and Mary lick the cake spoon. “That very Christmas, Laura Ingalls was delighted to find a shiny new tin cup, a peppermint candy, a heart-shaped cake, and a brand new penny in her stocking. For in those days, these four small gifts in her stocking were a wealth of gifts to the young girl.

Though perhaps modest, these hardy pioneers made every attempt to decorate their homes for the holidays with whatever natural materials looked attractive at the bleakest time of year, such as evergreens, pinecones, holly, nuts, and berries.

For some, there might even be a Christmas tree, gaily decorated with bits of ribbon, yarn, berries, popcorn or paper strings, and homemade decorations. Some of these homemade decorations were often figures or dolls made of straw or yarn. Cookie dough ornaments and gingerbread men were also popular. In other places, wood was simply too scarce to “waste” on a tree, if one could be found at all. Other pioneer homes were simply too small to make room for a tree.

At the very least, almost every home would make the holiday a time of feasting — bringing out preserved fruits and vegetables, fresh game if possible, and for those that could afford it, maybe even beef or ham. Many women began to bake for the holiday weeks ahead of time, leaving the plum pudding to age in the pot until Christmas dinner.

Many of the homemade gifts, including corn husk dolls, sachets, carved wooden toys, pillows, footstools, and embroidered hankies, might have had the family members working on for months ahead of Christmas. Others knitted scarves, hats, mitts, and socks. If the family had had a good year, the children might find candies, small gifts, cookies and fruit in their stockings.

Christmas Eve would generally find most families singing carols around the Christmas tree or fireplace. On Christmas Day, most would attend church, return home for the traditional Christmas meal, and spend the day visiting with friends and neighbors.

Then, as it is today, Christmas would also find many a mountain man, explorer, or lone cowboy, spending a solitary evening without the benefit of festivities. The more things change; some things inevitably remain the same.

A Daring Train Robbery in 1912 (Not Everyone is Good at Christmas)

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



Two bandits pulled off a daredevil train stickup just south of Springfield Illinois on Christmas Eve 1912. The story goes like this: Two masked men, who had been riding on the blind baggage of the Alton ‘Hummer,’ train, climbed over the tender, covered the engineer and fireman with their guns and ordered them to stop.

They forced the fireman to uncouple the engine and National Express baggage car from the rest of the train, then the robbers

ran the engine ahead a short distance. One robber covered the engineer and fireman while the other made five unsuccessful attempts to blow the express safe – two with nitroglycerine and three with dynamite.

The robbers worked forty-five minutes in the baggage car, thus giving a switch engine, carrying police officers, ample time to reach the scene, when the would be train robbers fled, a running fight followed.

A sack of corporation bonds, and what are thought to be lottery tickets, as well as a number of small packages that were taken from the train by the bandits, were all thrown away as the posse was in close pursuit.

The Alton ‘Hummer’ was known by railroad officials as a ‘heavy money train.’ The baggage car was loaded with valuable Christmas packages for points between this city and Kansas City.”

The two robbers escaped through a nearby field as police and others – conveyed by the switch engine, automobiles and, in one case, a horse and buggy – arrived at the scene of the crime.

Authorities arrested local police character Elmer “Slats” Vigas and Jack Hartnett, a former saloon owner from Chicago, a few hours after the robbery. The two gunmen used white handkerchiefs as masks, but railroad employees claimed they could identify Vigas and Hartnett from their general physiques, their voices and Hartnett’s limp.

At their trial in February 1913, however, Vigas and Hartnett both produced alibi witnesses. After drawn-out deliberations – the jury found the men not guilty.

Vigas, however, was implicated in another spectacular mail robbery 10 years later. Six gunmen invaded the Third and Jefferson streets train station on April 1, 1923, and, in a blaze of gunfire, hijacked five bags of mail. Miraculously, only one man was slightly wounded during the gunplay, and the robbers made off with only a few hundred dollars’ worth of loot.

Police fingered Vigas as one of the stickup’s planners. This time, he was convicted and sentenced to 25 years in Leavenworth federal prison.



A Posse of Train Robbers

By Bob Boze Bell



Burt Alvord was not the sharpest knife in the drawer, his IQ numbers would pretty much match his waist size. The hobbies included practical jokes, beer, poker, horses and guns. He worked for a time as a deputy for Cochise County Sheriff John Slaughter who claimed he didn't know the meaning of the word fear. Slaughter also said he checked Burt's school records and he didn't know the meaning of a lot of other words too.

During the late 1890s Burt was serving as constable of the town of Willcox during which he planned and staged a train robbery on the Southern Pacific. Burt's plan was use his job as a lawman to

screen his moonlighting as leader of a gang of train robbers. The plan included his drinking cronies, Billy Stiles, Matt Burts and Bill Downing. His alibi was cleverly planned. The four would be playing poker in the back room at Schwertner's Saloon when the robbery occurred.

On the night of the robbery the boys were sitting in the back room of the saloon playing poker. Every few minutes a porter would carry a round of drinks into the room and emerge with a tray of empty glasses and announce to the local imbibers that Burt and the boys were having a serious game of poker behind those closed doors and didn't want to be disturbed.

Meanwhile, Burt and his friends exited a side window, mounted their horses and vanished into the night. They robbed the train, stashed the loot and re-entered the back room of the saloon through the side window.

Meanwhile the engineer backed the train into Willcox and gave the alarm. Someone suggested they alert the town marshal, who was playing poker at Schwertner's Saloon.

Burt was noticeably shocked when told of the robbery. "Great Scott" he shouted pointing at his three fellow robbers, "I need volunteers for a posse, you, you, and you."

Announcing to all within earshot, Burt declared, "We've got to run down those nefarious scalawag's," and the posse rode off into the night.

Next morning they arrived back into town wearing weary faces and claiming they'd lost the trail. There were a few eyebrows raised and rumors floating around town. Some of those rumors pointed to the constable as the ringleader. Burt tried to defuse on the gossip by claiming everyone knew he was too dumb to pull off such a clever caper.

Burt was feeling pretty good about himself. For now it looked like he'd planned and executed the perfect crime. In all the annals of train robberies in the Old West it was the only time the robbers and the posse that chased them were one and the same.

The Burt Alvord Gang would attempt one more robbery, on February 15, 1900 at the train station in Fairbank. They didn't figure on the famous ex-Texas Ranger Jeff Milton riding shotgun in the Wells Fargo Express car. Milton peppered Bravo Juan Yoas in the seat of the pants with a load of buckshot and the other mortally wounded Three-Finger Jack Dunlap. Before he went on to his great reward, Jack fingered the rest of the gang and the boys all wound up behind bars.



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



Thank you to everyone who signed their waivers and paid their dues by mail. This helps speed up the January match check-in.

Everyone must sign a new 2021 waiver before they can shoot a match. If you did not mail your waiver, I will have a copy at the January match for you to sign.

Please remember that all guests on the range must sign a waiver.

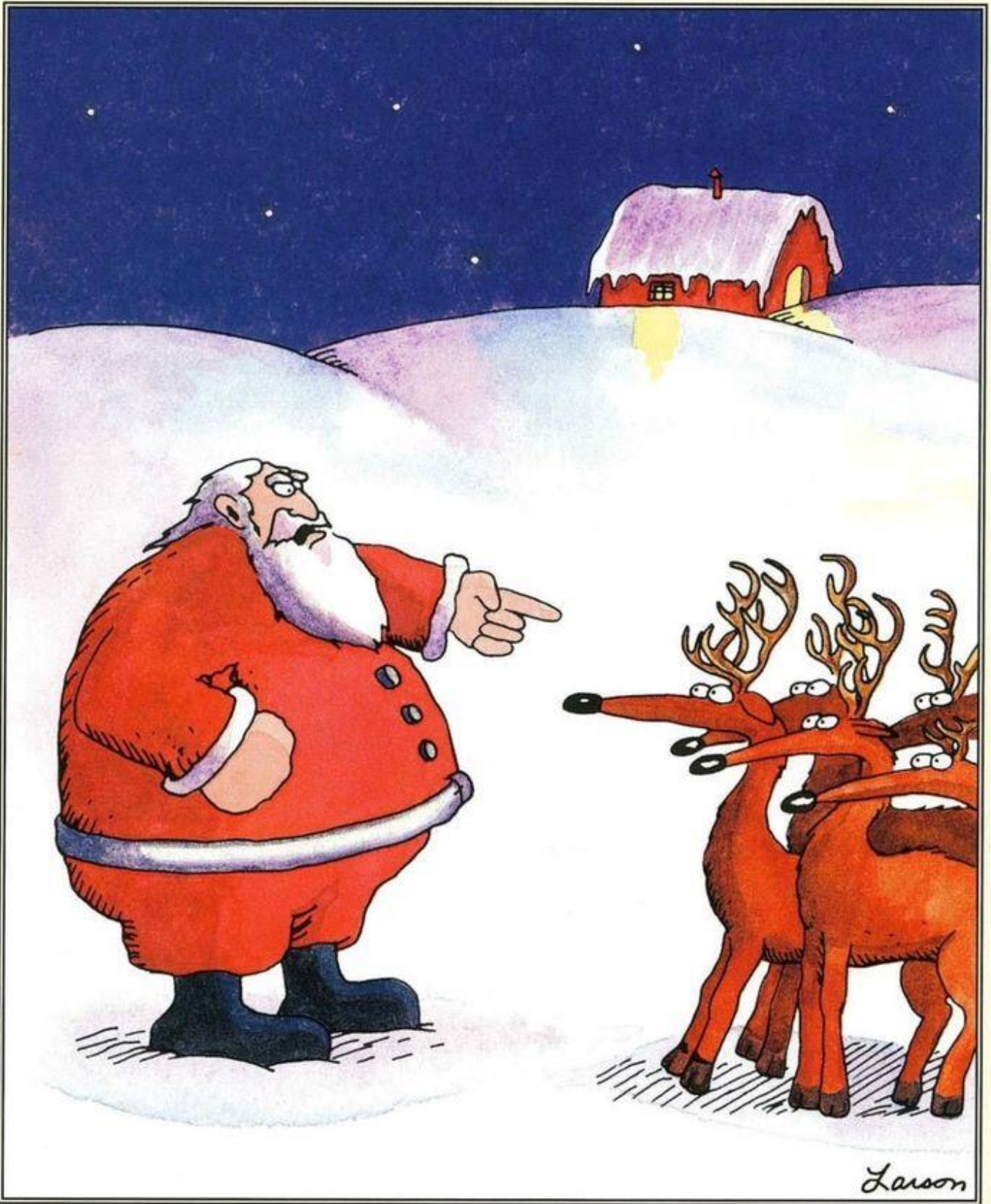
If I can help answer any questions, please don't hesitate to email me at:

Texicanrangers@yahoo.com

Tombstone Mary, Secretary



12/22/80



“And I’ve only one thing to say about all these complaints I’ve been hearing about ... *Venison!*”

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 03.07.19

Caliber	Weight	Config.	Price/500	Price/1000
.38	100	RNFP	34	68
	105	FP	35	70
	125	RNFP	38	76
	125	FP	38	76
	130	RNFP	39	78
	158	RNFP	42	83
	158	FP	42	83
	158	SWC	42	83
.380	100	RNFP	35	69
.38-55	245	RNFP	64	127
.41	215	SWC	54	108
.44	180	RNFP	45	89
	240	SWC	57	114
.44-40	200	RNFP	49	98
.45 COLT	160	RNFP	49	98
	180	RNFP	45	89
	200	RNFP	49	98
	250	RNFP	58	116
9MM	124	RN	38	76
	125	CN	38	76
40 S&W	180	FP	45	89
.45ACP	200	SWC	49	98
	200	RN	49	98
	230	RN	56	111
45-70	405	FPT	120	240

Parting Shots

1. When you stop believing in Santa Claus is when you start getting clothes for Christmas.
2. What do you get when you cross an archer with a gift-wrapper? Ribbon hood.
3. What goes Ho, Ho, Swoosh, Ho, Ho, Swoosh? Santa Claus caught in a revolving door.
4. What do you call Santa's helpers? Subordinate Clauses.
5. What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite
6. What do monkeys sing at Christmas? Jungle Bells, Jungle bells. !
7. Why are Christmas trees like bad knitters? They both drop their needles!
8. What did the bald man say when he got a comb for Christmas? Thanks, I'll never part with it!
9. Why is a burning candle like being thirsty? Because a little water ends both of them!
10. What do you get if you cross an apple with a Christmas tree? A pineapple!
11. What do you give a train driver for Christmas? Platform shoes!
12. What did the big candle say to the little candle? I'm going out tonight!
13. If athletes get athletes foot, what do astronauts get? Missile toe!
14. What's the best thing to give your parents for Christmas? A list of everything you want!
15. A Christmas thought: STRESSED is just DESSERTS spelled backward.
16. What kind of pine has the sharpest needles? A porcupine!
17. Where did the mistletoe go to become rich and famous? Holly-wood.
18. What's red and white and red, red and white, and red and white? Santa Claus rolling down a hill!
19. What did Adam say on the day before Christmas? It's Christmas, Eve
20. What do vampires put on their turkey at Christmas? Grave-y!
21. What do you call a letter sent up the chimney on Christmas Eve? Black mail!
22. Mum, Can I have a dog for Christmas? No you can have turkey like everyone else.
23. What did the Eskimos sing when they got their Christmas dinner? "Whale meat again, don't know where, don't know when "!
24. Who is never hungry at Christmas? The turkey - he's always stuffed!
25. What did the guest sing at Eskimo's Christmas party? Freeze a jolly good fellow...
26. Whose Christmas parties are full of screams? Dracula's.
27. What happened when Santa's cat swallowed a ball of yarn? She had mittens.
28. Why is Santa a good race car driver? Because he's always in the pole position.
29. How does Santa Claus take photos? With his North Pole-roid.
30. Why didn't the skeleton go to the Christmas Party? He had no body to go with!
31. Why did the little boy push his bed into the fireplace? He wanted to sleep like a log.
32. Why was Santa's little helper depressed? Because he had low elf esteem.
33. What was wrong with the boy's brand new toy electric train set he received for Christmas? Forty feet of track - all straight!
34. Father to three-year old: "No a reindeer is not a horse with TV antenna".
35. Christmas is in my heart twelve months a year and thanks to credit cards, it's on my Visa card statement twelve months a year also.
36. Knock Knock, Who's there? Donut Donut who? Donut open till Christmas!
37. What did one Christmas light say to the other Christmas light? You light me up!
38. A man went to a butcher's and saw that the turkeys were 90p a pound. He said to the butcher, 'Do you raise them yourself?' 'Of course I do,' the butcher replied. 'They were only 50p a pound this morning!'

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



December Birthdays

Asup Sleeve	12/1
Krazy Kat	12/2
Dutch Van Horn	12/3
Half-Hitch Holley	12/14
General Burleson	12/14
Minnesota Clay	12/9
Sauk Valley Sam	12/15
Badlands Bruce	12/25

January Birthdays

Tombstone Terry	1/3
Blacky Vela	1/7
Panhandle Cowgirl	1/11
Hawkeye	1/12
Skyhawk Hans	1/12
Brazos Bo	1/19
Big John Mesquite	1/23
Dawgtooth Dave	1/31



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

2021

January 9	Monthly Match
January 10	Monthly Match
February 13	Monthly Match
February 14	Monthly Match
March 13	Monthly Match
March 14	Monthly Match
April 8 – 10	Comancheria Days
May 8	Monthly Match
May 9	Monthly Match
May 29	Wild Bunch/BAMM
June 12	Monthly Match
June 13	Monthly Match
July 10	Monthly Match
July 11	Monthly Match
July 31	Wild Bunch/BAMM
August 14	Monthly Match
August 15	Monthly Match
August 29-31	TSRA TX State Championship
September 3-5	TX State Wild Bunch Championship
September 11	Monthly Match (Shindig)
September 12	Monthly Match
October 9	Monthly Match & Final 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)

2021

Canceled
Mar 25-28
April 8-10
April 21-24
June 17-27

Sep 3-5
Sep 22-25
Oct 23-24

Winter Range
SASS Texas State Championship
Comancheria Days
SASS Southwest Regional Land Run
End of Trail
SASS Texas State Wild Bunch
Championship
Comin' At Cha
SASS Texas State Black Powder
Championship

2020 Photo Album

