



Texican Star

A publication of The Texican Rangers
"An Authentic Cowboy Action Shooting Club"
That Treasures & Respects the Cowboy Tradition

SASS AFFILIATED

August 2006

OFFICERS

President – Dusty Chambers
Rick Danley
Kerrville, TX 830-896-7856
Dustychambers@stx.rr.com

Vice President- Jonah Stark
Lionel Roach
Bluffton, TX 325-379-3012
ljr@281.com

Range Master – Woody Duit
Derek Smith
Schertz, TX 210-658-5816
dsmith@graebel.com

Treasurer - Gimpy James
James Cowen
Kerrville, TX
830-377-7272
Gimpy@wildblue.net

Secretary –
Doc Bartholum Schofield
David Wheat
Kerrville, TX 830-257-3648
docschofield@stx.rr.com

Texican Star
Editor – Lone Star Hoss
Hoss McGehee
Kerrville, TX
830-370-3555
Lonestarhoss@stx.rr.com
www.texicanrangers.com

July Weathering

Looks like hot July days are behind us with upcoming August yet to survive. I'll get water jugs out and let's all keep drinking. We need to stay hydrated during the match.

Please remember to drink.

Shindig plans are finished and the flyers will be out next match. The raffle gun will be out in August too, ready to find its winner in October. The club has a new 1887 12 gauge lever and it will have action work done by Two Shot Tex. \$5 tickets or 5 for \$20.

Thanks to Brownie Belle and friends for cooking last match, she made beans and rice with grilled smoked sausage, sure was good. Sweet Tooth brought man-sized brownies and Ima Gutshooter came along with cornbread. What a meal.

A reminder note, there is no side matches or practice after the Sunday matches. The range is closed unless we are doing something special, like testing a stage or target. So if you see someone shooting or working on a stage on Sunday after the match, it's for a specific reason. Thanks for your cooperation.

We have more knockdown shotgun targets coming. We will then have enough for all stages during a monthly match. The new ones will be on wooden skids like the ones at the Trail Walk, this setup is working very well and the cost is low. About a \$100 target and skid. I have put the ones at the Undertakers on skids last week. The skids keep the base from moving during impact, allowing the target to fall better, and also make them easier to move around the stage when changing scenarios.

How about the new Privy? Sure is nice and folks have been thankful, letting us know they appreciate them. Looks good on the range too.

We are planning two workdays before Shindig. If you can help please see Woody. We don't have the dates yet. We will try to plan the dates and get the word out next month.

The club treasury is doing fine. We just paid the annual insurance policy and bought or ordered targets this month. The Chuck Wagon is doing good this year, even covering the costs for ice tea and other supplies like plates, cups, dinnerware, charcoal, gas, napkins, cleaners, etc. We should roll into October with about 3k on hand, with present planning for continuing costs until then. We will use these funds to launch Comancheria Days 2007. The match costs much more than 3k, but some costs come during or at the match and other monies from the first quarter will kick in too. Plus pre registration funds.

This plan will get us funds to repair and add to the range next year.

Enough rambling, let's shoot.....

Dusty Chambers

July 8, 2006

Overall Winners:

1) Calvin N Hobbes 2) Barbary Coast 3) Picoso Kid 4) Travelin' Jones
5) Dutch Van Horn 6) Ivory Venom 7) Dusty Lone Star 8) Hopalong
9) Jonah Stark 10) Lone Star Hoss

Class Winners:

"B" Western – Handle Bar Bob
Classic Cowboy – Dragon Hill Dave
Elder Statesman – Double Dare Kid
Junior Boys – Bubba Shot
Ladies 49er – Ima Gutshooter
Ladies Modern – Barbary Coast
Ladies Traditional – Ivory Venom
Men's 49er – Travelin' Jones
Men's Duelist – Heinous Backhouse
Men's Frontiersman – L.W. Hannabas
Men's Frontier Cartridge – Pinata Kid
Men's Frontier Cartridge Duelist – Halfhitch
Men's Modern – Picoso Kid
Men's Senior – Hopalong
Men's Super Senior – Jonah Stark
Men's Traditional – Calvin N Hobbes
Men's Senior Duelist – Dangerous Don
Men's Gunfighter – Squaw Man
Ladies Gunfighter – Cat Caliber

Clean Match:

Barbary Coast, Calvin N Hobbes, Dirty Dog Dale

Only 1 Miss:

Sombrero Negro, Dutch Van Horn, Dusty Lone Star

Billy Dixon Long Range:

Men's Single Shot – Jonah Stark
Men's Lever Action – Jonah Stark
Ladies Single Shot – Ima Gutshooter

July 8 Speed Stage Winner:

Calvin N Hobbes

Trail Walk:

Dusty Chambers

July 28, 2006

Overall Winners:

1) Lassiter 2) Ivory Venom 3) Handlebar Bob 4) Jonah Stark 5) Kickshot
6) Silas Slaughter 7) Hopalong 8) Red Scott 9) Lonestar Hoss
10) Guatemala Kid

Class Winners:

**Ladies 49er – Ima Gutshooter*
**Ladies Traditional – Ivory Venom*
**Ladies Gunfighter – Cat Caliber*
**Junior Boys – Bubba Shot*
**"B" Western – Handlebar Bob*
**Men's 49er – Lassiter*
**Men's Duelist – Captain Kirk*
**Men's Gunfighter – Sweet Tooth*
**Men's Modern – Guatemala Kid*
**Men's Senior – Hopalong*
**Buckaroo – White Stag*
**Men's Super Senior – Jonah Stark*
**Men's Traditional – Silas Slaughter*
**Men's Senior Duelist – Dan McDuffy*
**Men's Frontier Cartridge Duelist – Texas Gil*
**Elder Statesman – Handsome Tom*
**Cody Dixon Lever – Two Shot Tex*
**Cody Dixon Single Shot – Dusty Chambers*

Clean Match:

Handsome Tom, Ivory Venom,

July 23 Speed Stage Winner:

Lassiter

Long Range Sight Adjustment

By Jonah Stark

Quite often I hear someone on the long range asking how do I adjust this sight, or I think I need a different front sight but I don't know what to buy.

Since changing to the buffalo targets, we have had even more confusion, so lets address that issue first. The 24"x 24" targets we had before allowed for quite a bit of error in sight settings. Several shooters were determined to use one sight setting on all targets and just hold differently at each range. I know, because I was one of them with my .38-55. I can tell you now, either you are an exceptionally good shot with velocities running about 1800 fps, or you are just fooling yourself when shooting at the new buffalo shaped targets. To successfully engage the buffaloes will require you to hold center of mass at each range. To do so requires a sight adjustment for each range and this is what I will discuss in this article.

The open barrel mounted sight, while marginally usable, will not be discussed. Instead, we will look at the tang mounted vernier or the Lyman or Marble type tang sights. All of these sights have markings that will allow you to return the sight to a previous setting while on the firing line and maintaining safe muzzle direction. We will assume that you have had the sight correctly installed and that it is perpendicular to the tang.

Which direction do I move the sight is a common question. The rear sight ALWAYS moves in the same direction you want the bullet to move on the target. Move bullet impact to the left, move the rear sight to the left, etc. The front sight ALWAYS moves in the opposite direction you want the bullet to move. Move bullet impact to the left, move the front sight to the right. Same rules apply to moving the bullet impact up or down.

The size of the aperture in the rear sight should be large enough that the sight picture is not fuzzy. For the vernier, the Hadley adjustable aperture is nice to have because it allows you to change the aperture size to meet the current lighting conditions. For the other tang sights, just pick a size that gives a clear sight picture. Do not try to center the front sight in the aperture. Your eye will do that automatically if you just look through the aperture and not at it.

On the heavier recoiling guns such as the .45-70, be careful that you don't crawl the stock and allow the tang sight to hit you in the eye during recoil. If necessary, install a spacer on the butt to keep your eye away from the recoil.

Once you have established your sight setting, don't try to chase the bullet impact at each shot. If you have established the correct settings and are holding the gun the same each shot, your elevation will be correct. Unless you are very good at doping the wind, I suggest that once you have set the windage on your sight that you never try to adjust for wind. Instead, hold slightly into the wind as necessary to hit the buffalo.

You must know or have a good idea of the velocity of your bullet, it's ballistic coefficient, the trajectory, the sight radius and what the value of each click or line on your sight in relation to how far the sight moves. Where do you get these values? Without a chronograph, use the velocity shown in your reloading manual. It won't be exact, but will get you in the ballpark. Same for ballistic coefficient. The ballistic coefficient will only be used if you have a ballistic program for your computer. These are available for free on the internet. Some bullet manufactures give you this information. If not, look in a Lee catalog or on their web site and use the ballistic coefficient shown for the bullet as near to the shape of yours that you can find. Most of the sight manufactures list how much one click or one turn or one line on their sight represents. For instance, one full turn on the Lyman moves the sight .040". ½ turn = .020", ¾ turn = .030", etc.

Two formulas are required to calculate sight changes. They are:

Change impact = (range in inches)(sight change in thousandths)/(sight radius)

Example: Range in inches = 150 yards times 36" per yard. Sight change = .040" per turn. Sight radius = 30.5".

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Change in impact} &= \frac{150 \times 36 \times .040}{30.5} \\ &= 7.08''\end{aligned}$$

Sight change = (change in impact)(sight radius)/(range in inches)

Example: You hit 7" low at 150 yards. How much sight adjustment is required to move the 7"? Change in impact = 7". Sight radius is 30.5". Range in inches = 150 yards times 36" per yard.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Sight change} &= \frac{7 \times 30.5}{150 \times 36} \\ &= .0395'' \text{ that's close enough to } .040''\end{aligned}$$

Knowing the drop in the bullet at each of the ranges involved which from trajectory tables or the ballistic program, plug in the appropriate values and get an approximate sight setting without firing at all three of the longer ranges. Simply zero your rifle at 100 yards and then adjust the sight up for the drop at the other ranges.

'Til next time, shoot straight and keep your head down.

Cowboy Tradin' Post

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I acquired the rifle from the estate of the late Texican Star member, Handlebar Deputy, shot it several times and decided my elder statesman shoulder comfort limit is closer to my .44 Marlin. Hopefully, some younger, stouter cowboy can put it to good use.

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Texican Rangers
P O Box 294352
Kerrville Texas 78029