



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
August 2020

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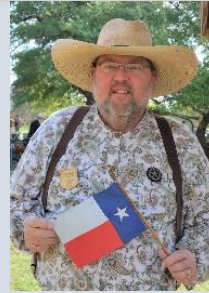
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Hello Texican Rangers



On Saturday there were 58 shooters, on Sunday there were 43 shooters. The August tally was 101 shooters, 22 guests and 30 clean matches. 30% clean matches.

At the August match, the club voted on the following slate of Officers for 2021:

Asup Sleeve – President

Burly Bill Brocius – Vice President

A.D. – Treasurer

Colorado Horseshoe – Ranger Officer

Tombstone Mary – Secretary one more year.

There will be one more workday August 31st before Comancheria Days. This will be our last chance to get the range ready for Comancheria Days.

There will be no September monthly match.

Our workday after Comancheria Days will be on October 6th. We will take down half of the range to make it easier on October 10th. Please consider attending and helping us!

The final match for 2020 will be October 10th. We will pass out the 2020 Club Shooting Awards at the morning meeting. Remember this match is the first match to count for 2021 club awards. Just in case anyone is considering a category change!

A.D.

President, Texican Rangers

Battle of the Plaza, the Last Gunfight By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



If you believe western TV shows and movies. Gunfights in the streets was a common occurrence. Truth is most gunfights were up close and personal in bars or longer distance from ambush on the trail.

Gunfights in the streets were rare. In fact, there were only really three classic gunfights in the old west. There was Wild Bill Hickok against Davis Tutt Jr. in Springfield, Missouri on 21 July 1865. Then there was the shoot-out behind the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona on 26 October 1881. You have probably heard about these two fights, but this story is about the third one with Bat Masterson in Dodge City, Kansas on 10 April 1881.

Bat Masterson was in Tombstone, Arizona Territory, with Wyatt Earp when he received word of threats against his brother's life. Bat left immediately for Dodge City to assist his brother Jim Masterson.

As the Dodge City-bound train pulls into the Kansas depot from the west, Bat swings down off the train on the north side of the tracks. It is about noon. His intuition tells him his brother's enemies may attempt to round him up at the depot.

He scans the train platform and the busy streets looking for trouble. As the caboose passes, he notices two men on the opposite side of the tracks, walking toward the depot.

Bat immediately recognizes both men and shouts, "Hold up there a minute, you two. I want to talk to you."

Lady Gay Saloon owner A.J. Peacock and his brother-in-law, bartender Al Updegraff, take one look at the familiar stocky figure striding toward them and turn on their heels, ducking behind the corner of the jail. Jim is partners with Peacock at the saloon, and the two had disagreed over firing Updegraff, a dishonest drunk in Jim's eyes.

All parties pull weapons and begin to bang away at each other. (It's unclear which side fires first.) Bat retreats to the railroad track's three-foot berm and hides behind it.

Bullets snap over Bat's head and thud into Dr. McCarty's drugstore on the north side of Front Street. Bat returns fire, knocking huge splinters of wood from the corner of the hoosegow.

Soon, Bat is fired upon from several south-side saloons as "deadline partisans" join the fray. The compliment is returned from the north side of the tracks as friendly fire (probably from Jim and his friends) rips into the south-side buildings.

Bullets careen into the Long Branch Saloon, sending patrons scrambling out the back door. Owner Chalk Beeson seeks refuge behind the door of his safe. George Hoover's saloon loses a window, and a bullet tears a newspaper from an idler's hands.

Amidst the wild firing, Updegraff suddenly pitches forward as a bullet rips through his chest. Not long after, Bat and Peacock run out of bullets. Mayor A.B. Webster runs up and sticks a Fox shotgun barrel in Bat's face. Learning from the mayor that his brother is alive, Bat surrenders and hands over his empty six-guns.

A hearing was held, and formal charges were brought against Bat Masterson. The complaint stated that "W.B. Masterson did ... unlawfully, feloniously, discharge a pistol upon the streets of said city." Bat pleaded

guilty and was fined \$8 in court costs. Jim Masterson dissolved his partnership with A.J. Peacock, and both brothers left town on the evening train. Ford County Globe claimed, "They were allowed to leave town, with the understanding that they were not to return."

Al Updegraff insisted Bat hadn't shot him. Writing in his hometown paper, Medicine Lodge Index (later reprinted in Ford County Globe), Updegraff claimed, "We were then fired at by parties from the saloon doors on the north side of Front Street, from one of which I was shot through the right lung." Although he survived his chest wound, Updegraff died two years later, of smallpox.

Bat Masterson's Colt

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



By far the most popular handgun in the old west was the Colt 1873 Single Action Army, known as the Peacekeeper. Three out of every four cowboys carried some version of this revolver. It was initially issued with a 7 1/2 inch barrel chambered in .45 LC. Other calibers and barrel length were to follow.

In 1875 Colt issued a 5 1/2 barrel model that became known as the Artillery Model. It was extremely popular with the civilian market. Being a little shorter it was easier and faster to draw.

Bat Masterson was supposedly the first person to custom order, in July 1885, a custom Colt Single Action Army in 4 3/4 inch barrel. While most everyone else was carrying a Colt with either a 7 1/2 inch barrel or a 5 1/2 inch barrel, Bat ordered his Colt with the barrel cut right at the end of the ejector housing. He wanted the gun to be nickel plated and have the Colt hard rubber grips. Others followed



Bat Masterson's Custom 1885 Colt

his lead and soon after Colt was offering their Single Action Army in a 4 3/4 inch barrel, and all Colts switched from walnut to the hard rubber grips.

You will never see a gun in any museum that belonged to Bat Masterson. Later in life Bat became something of a con man. He would be asked to speak about his adventures in the old west at some get together. He would tell his stories and afterward he would be mobbed by fans. He would pick a likely candidate and tell them that due to financial difficulties he had to sell the pistol he carried in all his gunfights. He would sell the mark his pistol, usually for \$200.00. They said he would buy his Colts a case at a time and that he pulled this scam as often as he could.

What ever happened to Mushy?

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



Born David Lee Baker in Bloomington, Illinois, he reportedly adopted the name Murdock when setting out in his acting career because he thought it had a tough-guy sound that would land him roles playing the heavy. Ironically, his role as the mentally slow Mushy on Rawhide was directly opposite of that. Other than his 200 appearances as Mushy his acting career never really took off.

After Rawhide, he continued to work. He had appearances on Have Gun Will Travel, Gunsmoke, The Monroes, and Bob Hope Presents the Chrysler Theatre, all from 1958-66. Many times his parts would go uncredited. Then later went back to using his given name of David Baker in the 1970s, appearing in the films Some of My Best Friends Are, Airport 1975, and The Godfather: Part II. After a marriage that produced two children ended in divorce, he had a long-running non-marital relationship with actress Julie Harris. He died of lung cancer on December 24, 1981 at age 50 in Los Angeles.

The Other Wesson: Frank Wesson, Firearm Designer

By La Sombra



The Connecticut River Valley running north to south through Massachusetts and Connecticut is rich with firearm history. The Springfield Armory, Colt, Smith and Wesson, Winchester, and Marlin are all located near the river originally to take advantage of its power. Firearm designers flocked to these manufactures to implement the latest designers to advance firearm technology. Frank Wesson was one such person.

Frank Wesson was born in 1829 as the younger brother to Daniel Wesson. In 1853 he began working in his brother's factory building under the tutelage of another Wesson brother designing revolvers. In 1859 he left his brother's company to form his own company, Frank Wesson Rifles in Worcester Massachusetts. The company-built breech loading rimfire rifles in .22 to .44 caliber. These rifles competed with Sharps, Ballard, and Henry rifles for use by Northern forces in the Western Theater of Civil War (War of Northern Aggression, War for Southern Independence, or the Late Unpleasantness). The rifles were purchased by Kentucky, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, and Ohio for use by their units. Most were purchased through Kittredge & Company in Cincinnati. The South during the war smuggled Wesson rifles and ammunition for their use. But the amount was insignificant to alter any battle.

The .44 caliber Frank Wesson and Ballard rifles could use the same cartridge as each other, and these cartridges were awfully close in size to the .44 Henry rimfire. The Frank Wesson rifle was the first breech-loading rifle designed for these metallic cartridges. Wesson rifles had a distinctive two trigger design. On all 'two-trigger' models, the front trigger opened the rifle, the rear trigger fired it. Another feature of latter Wesson rifle was the ability to tilt/adjust the hammer to fire either rimfire or centerfire cartridges. This was the only rifle that could take advantage of both cartridge types without a major modification.

Wesson and his business partner N.S. Harrington were granted patent 25,926, 'Improvement in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms' in 1859, and Frank Wesson was granted patent 36,925, 'Improvement in Breech-Loading Fire-Arms' in 1862. These improvements helped increase the rate of fire for the rifle.

The 1862 patent added the use of a slotted link to stop the barrel from pivoting too far, which made the gun much easier and quicker to load. The carbine with a 24-inch barrel weighed only 6 pounds, low weight being desirable in a weapon to be carried by cavalry. The 28- and 34-inch barrel models weighing 7 and 8 pounds, respectively.

By 1866, twenty thousand Frank Wesson rifles had been made, of which 8,000 were sold to the military.



Also, during this period, Wesson produced a series of single shot rimfire tip-up pistols. These failed to successfully compete with the S&W tip-up revolvers.

Attempting to expand his business, in 1871 Wesson partnered with Gilbert Harrington (nephew

of N.S, Harrington) to produce spur triggered revolvers. These guns came in 22 -38 rimfire. This business partnership lasted until 1875. I am fortunate enough to own a 3rd Model of the pistol in 32 rimfire.

After the partnership with Harrington ended, Wesson continued to make both rifles and pistols out of his factory in Worcester. During this period, he focused on centerfire target rifles, stocked single shot pistols and derringers. Interesting note here on the derringers, some were equipped with a knife blade. Two shots and stab! The company folded in 1888. Wesson died in 1899.

Gilbert Harrington formed a company with William Richardson to produce firearms at a factory next door to Wesson's in Worcester. H&R Firearms was formed. In one form or another that company lasted until 2015.

Two items of note: There is no singular biography of Frank Wesson and no detailed look at the firearms that he produced. (Models, variations, etc. Think Standard Catalog of Smith and Wesson, Supica and Nahas). Flayderman in his book "Flayderman's Guide to Antique American Firearms" posits that Frank Wesson rifles and pistols are ripe for a person to collect since little is known of the builder and values have been stable for a number of years unlike Colt and S&W firearms whose values have skyrocketed. Wesson products are an interesting collection niche.

Tombstone Mary, Secretary Regulator/Life #19524



August was your last chance to get 5 shoots in one category for annual awards. With no match in September, your monthly match on October 10th will start the new awards year. Please make sure your category is correct on the Posse sheet before the end of the match.

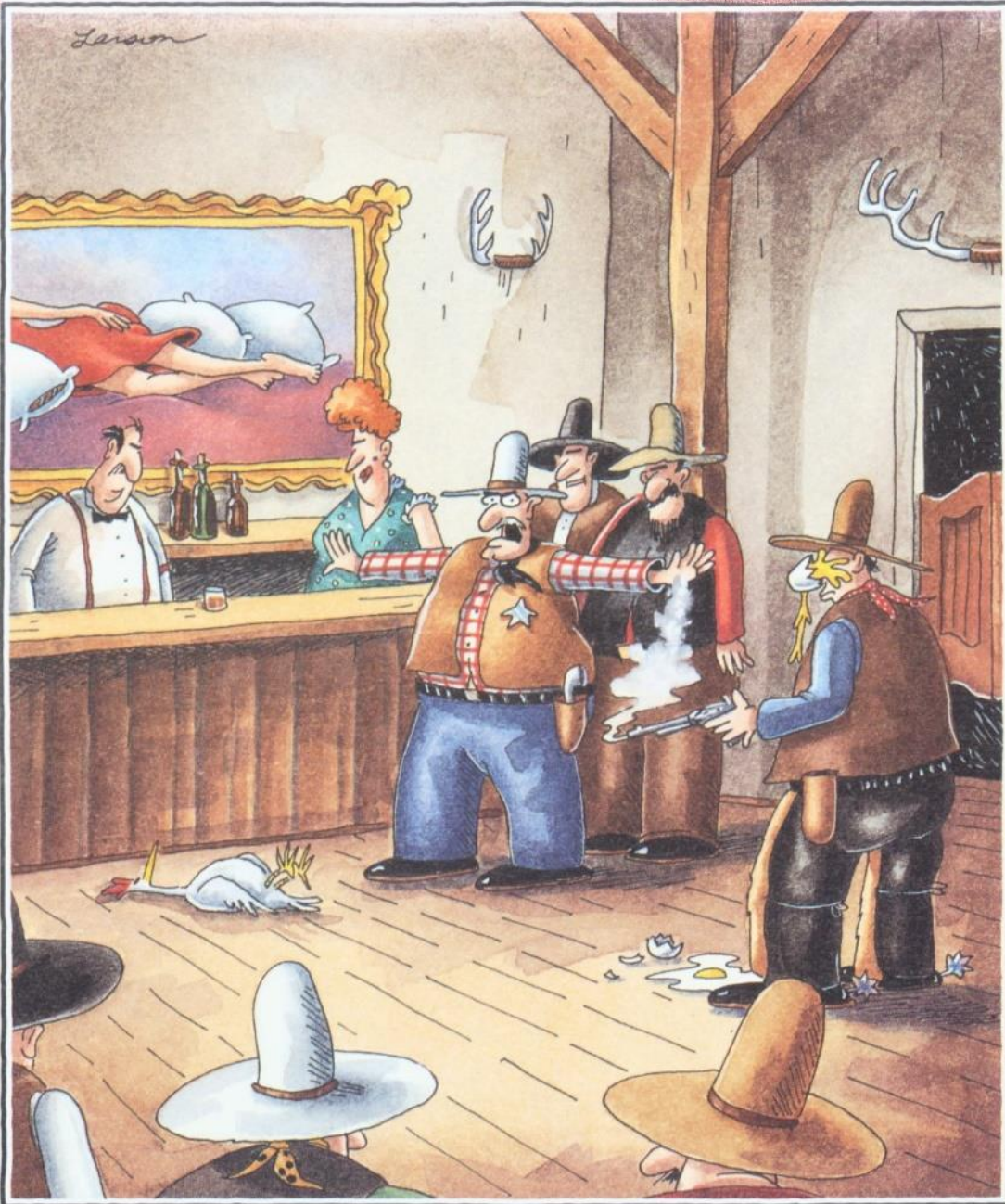
If I can answer any questions or help in any way please contact me at:

Texicanrangers@yahoo.com

Secretary

Tombstone Mary



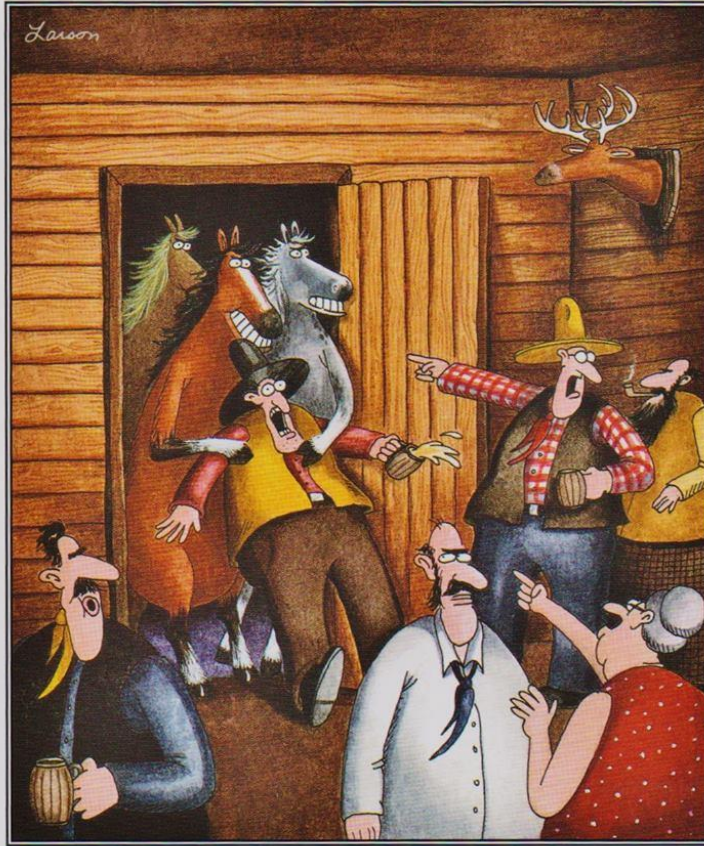


"OK, everyone just stand back! ... Anyone see what happened here?"



What the stranger didn't know, of course, was that Sam always kept a Dobie in his boot.

6/27/90



Suddenly, the door was kicked open, and with nostrils flaring and manes flying, wild horses dragged Sam away.



BOOYAH BULLETS

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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. My wife told me to stop impersonating a flamingo. I had to put my foot down.
2. I went to buy some camo pants but couldn't find any.
3. I failed math so many times at school, I can't even count.
4. I used to have a handle on life, but then it broke.
5. I was wondering why the frisbee kept getting bigger and bigger, but then it hit me.
6. I heard there were a bunch of break-ins over at the car park. That is wrong on so many levels.
7. When life gives you melons, you might be dyslexic.
8. It takes a lot of balls to golf the way I do. A sandwich walks into a bar.
9. I told him to be himself; that was pretty mean, I guess.
10. I know they say that money talks, but all mine says is 'Goodbye.'
11. My father has schizophrenia, but he's good people.
12. I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.
13. Most people are shocked when they find out how bad I am as an electrician.
14. Never trust atoms; they make up everything.
15. The easiest time to add insult to injury is when you're signing someone's cast.
16. Light travels faster than sound, which is the reason that some people appear bright before you hear them speak.
17. My therapist says I have a preoccupation for revenge. We'll see about that.
18. A termite walks into the bar and asks, 'Is the bar tender here?'
19. People who use selfie sticks really need to have a good, long look at themselves.
20. Two fish are in a tank. One says, 'How do you drive this thing?'
21. Just burned 2,000 calories. That's the last time I leave brownies in the oven while I nap.
22. Build a man a fire and he'll be warm for a day. Set a man on fire and he'll be warm for the rest of his life.
23. I don't suffer from insanity—I enjoy every minute of it.
24. The last thing I want to do is hurt you; but it's still on the list.
25. The problem isn't that obesity runs in your family. It's that no one runs in your family.
26. I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.
27. 'Doctor, there's a patient on line one that says he's invisible.' 'Well, tell him I can't see him right now.'
28. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
29. A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.
30. Maybe if we start telling people their brain is an app, they'll want to use it.
31. If a parsley farmer gets sued, can they garnish his wages?
32. I got a new pair of gloves today, but they're both 'lefts,' which on the one hand is great, but on the other, it's just not right.
33. I didn't think orthopedic shoes would help, but I stand corrected.
34. I was riding a donkey the other day when someone threw a rock at me and I fell off. I guess I was stoned off my ass.
35. People who take care of chickens are literally chicken tenders.
36. It was an emotional wedding. Even the cake was in tiers.
37. I just got kicked out of a secret cooking society. I spilled the beans.
38. Blunt pencils are really pointless.
39. 6:30 is the best time on a clock, hands down.
40. Two wifi engineers got married. The reception was fantastic.

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
Dirty Dog Dale	2017
Dutch Van Horn	2017
Shooting Iron Miller	2017



August Birthdays

Crooked Creek Sam	8/7
Moose McCoy	8/9
Shootin Star	8/12
Texas McD	8/24
Scooter	8/27

September Birthdays

Wildcat Bob	9/3
Abilene	9/4
Uncle Nick Wilson	9/7
Sam McDermott	9/10
A.D.	9/15
T Bone Paul	9/16
L.W. Hannabass	9/21
Three Fingered Dutchman	9/21



Key Links

www.sassnet.com
www.texicanrangers.org
www.greenmountainregulators.org
www.pccss.org
www.stxpistolaros.com
www.tejascaballeros.org
www.darbyroughregulators.com
www.trpistolaros.com
www.texasjacks.com
www.cimarron-firearms.com
www.tsra.com
www.wildwestmercantile.com

TEXICAN RANGERS

2020

January 11	Monthly Match
January 12	Monthly Match
February 8	Monthly Match
February 9	Monthly Match
March 14	Monthly Match
March 15	Monthly Match
June 13	Monthly Match
June 14	Monthly Match
July 11	Monthly Match
July 12	Monthly Match
August 8	Monthly Match
August 9	Monthly Match
August 29-31	TSRA TX State Championship
September 3 – 5	Comancheria Days
September 12	Shindig
September 13	Monthly Match
October 10	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)

2020

Feb 24-Mar 1	Winter Range
Mar 14-15	Round Up
May 30	SASS Texas State Wild Bunch Championship
June 18-28	End of Trail
Sep 3-5	Comancheria Days
Sep 23-26	Comin' At Cha
Oct 24-25	SASS Texas State Black Powder Championship
April 28-31	SASS Southwest Regional Land Run

Photo Album















