



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
February 2019

PO Box 782261
San Antonio, TX 78278-2261

Officers

President

A.D.

210-862-7464

in1897@me.com

Vice President

Bexar Bill Brocius

210-310-9090

Bexarbillbrocius@gmail.com

Secretary

Tombstone Mary

210-262-7464

maryn58@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

General Burleson

210-912-7908

generalburleson@gmail.com

Range Master

Colorado Horseshoe

719-231-6109

geo_coles@msn.com

Communications

Dutch Van Horn

210-823-6058

dutchvanhorn@satx.rr.com

Hello Texican Rangers



Old Man Winter decided to blow in and we had to cancel our February matches due to very low temperatures and freezing rain.

We have 306 shooters signed up for Comancheria Days. We can fit about 10 more if you forgot to sign up or your plans have changed please contact Tombstone Mary.

Comancheria Days are fast approaching and there is still a lot of work to be done on the range. Here is a list of the projects we need to complete:

- Fix Jail Siding and Roof
- Fix Hitching Posts on all stages
- Cut a tree on the Homestead
- Paint the Barn and Train
- Touch up paint on all the stages and signs
- Overall Range Clean up

Here is a list of our upcoming workdays:

- February 26th
- March 5th
- March 12th
- March 19th
- April 2nd
- April 8th
- April 10th

Please try to come and help when you can. We are very fortunate to have a great bunch of Cowboys and Cowgirls who always help us keep our range looking great. Thank you!

See you in March.

A.D.

President

“Hail Yes, I Survived Winter Range 2019”

Dragon Hill Dave

We had several of our regular shooters compete in Winter Range 2019, the National Championship of Cowboy Action Shooting. Some came home with trophies and buckles and all had a great time notwithstanding the miserable weather for the first two days, including rain, mud, freezing temperatures, and hail. Check out folks wearing their “Hail Yes, I Survived Winter Range 2019” pin at the next shoot. Here is where some of our folks placed:

Dragon Hill Dave	2d in Classic Cowboy
Alamo Andy	3d in B-Western
Whiskey Kid	6th in Frontier Cartridge
Fairbanks Sam	6th in Gunfighter
Big Iron Patnode	8th in B-Western
Kit Carson	10th in Senior Gunfighter
Asup Sleeve	17th in Elder Statesman
Burly Bill Brocius	21 st in Classic Cowboy

A few other notes: Panhandle Cowgirl, last year’s World Champion Lady B-Western, got a Match DQ when the rain and mud led to slippery conditions that caused her to fall during a stage and a loaded pistol fell out of her holster. Tough break for a great competitor. Some other folks that we see occasionally at our shoots were Oklahoma Dee (National Champion 49’r), Kansas City Sneed (2d in Lady Gunfighter), Agarita Annie (13th in Lady Silver Senior), Nueces Slim (30th in Silver Senior), Texas Jack Daniels (5th in Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter), Shotgun (21st in Lady Silver Senior), and Squawty Bawdy (23d in Lady Silver Senior). And three Central Texans that we hope to see more frequently in the future were Waterloo (3d Overall), Hey You (3d in Cowgirl) and Paisley (7th in Cowgirl). Congratulations to all who endured and persevered at Winter Range 2019.

More on Winter Range 2019

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153

Charley Reynolds and I decided to go up to Winter Range to see old friends and shop. Little did we know that this shoot would have some of the worst weather they have had in 20 years. Flagstaff had 40 inches of snow in a 24-hour period.

Winter Range has a long history of bad weather. They have had snow, graupel, high winds, freezing temperatures, and unseasonable warm temperatures. I told Charley before we left San Antonio to plan on at least one day of rain. The year with high winds, it blew the first row of vendor tents over the second row of vendor tents. I have seen stages with 1 ½ feet of standing water. The match goes on no matter what the weather. So, they shot this year in the freezing temperature while it was hailing. They only delayed the match for the lightning.

Skinny said it best. He said, that he took one look at the weather on Thursday and decided for safety sake, he was not going to shoot. It is a shame to go that far and pay for the match and then not get to shoot.

As I said, Charley and I came up to shop and because of the weather, very few vendors even tried to open on Thursday and Friday.

Heard a good story from the Rugged Gear representative. He said that one New Zealand shooter had told his airline that his Rugged Gear gun cart was a baby stroller and they didn’t charge him anything extra to store it in the luggage compartment. He did, to make it look more like a baby stroller take out the gun racks and pack them in another bag. Rugged Gear has a lot of new accessories. Check out their web site.

The Dillon Press reps were great. All you had to do was mention a broken part on your Dillon Press and the next thing you knew you had that part in your hand. They have the greatest customer service.

Well at last the weather cleared on Saturday. We finally got to shop. It was the first day I took any pictures.

5 Myths Everyone Believes About the Old West

By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153

The Wild West, aka the Old West, was an astoundingly awesome period in American history that every person who has ever dreamed of being a cowboy wants to emulate. Now, clearly pop culture has turned much of the true West into legend -- there were never quick-draw artists who could shoot a six gun out of your hand with another six gun. But the basics were true, right? The lawlessness, the guns, the constant Indian attacks? Well ... not exactly. Some common myths you probably still believe include ...

Settlers Were Constantly Clashing with Indians



Old Westerns treat Native Americans kind of like *The Walking Dead* treats zombies -- sudden, murderous ambushes could come from anywhere, at any time. Any expedition into "injun" territory came with the warning that you'd better go well-armed. When wagon trains saw a raid of Sioux coming, they would "circle the wagons" to form a defense perimeter -- and to this day, "circle the wagons" is shorthand for "hunker down and fight back."

And all of this must be true; we know that horrific numbers of people died when settlers

expanded West. Those frontiersmen must have been firing bullets and dodging arrows daily, right?

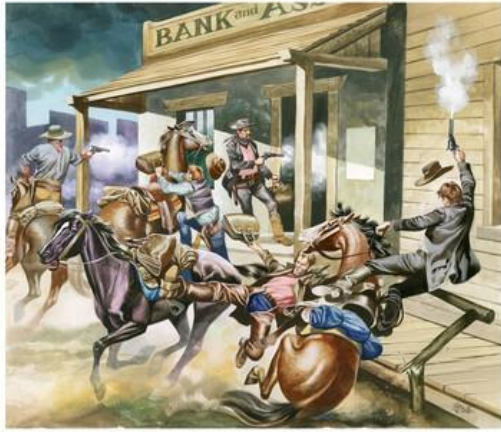
Well, not really. Granted, between the United States cavalry and, uh, pretty much every tribe you can name, things certainly got good and massacre-y. But skirmishes between Native Americans and the typical American settler trundling along in his covered wagon hardly ever happened. Of the hundreds of thousands of pioneers who willingly trudged all the way through Nebraska, only a few hundred died in clashes with Native Americans.

Yes, a few hundred, not tens of thousands, not even thousands. About 300 to 400. To put that number in perspective, the total number of pioneer deaths on the Oregon Trail from all causes (including disease) numbered 10,000 to 30,000, which means only 1 to 4 percent of all trail fatalities can be attributed to Native Americans. More settlers were accidentally trampled by their own cows than killed by Indians.

During this same period, settlers killed over 400 Native Americans. Again, that's not zero, but it does mean that the vast majority of settlers never got into a murderous conflict with hostile tribes. It was far more likely that the average settler would trade with Native Americans or hire members of various tribes as guides, rather than fight them. It wasn't necessarily because they were open-minded and peace loving that they abstained from violence, but rather that it's never good business to kill your customers, or vice versa. Especially when you're talking about someone providing a potentially life-saving service (a guide kept you from getting lost, when getting lost meant getting dead).

As for the "circling the wagons" thing, that ring formation was done each night not to keep hostile Indians out, but to keep their absurdly expensive cattle from wandering off. It wouldn't even be possible to "circle the wagons" in an emergency -- these wagon trains typically traveled spread out in a line several miles wide, rather than in the column that the term "train" suggests, in an effort to avoid each other's dust, wheel ruts, and debris. It would have taken hours to get everybody together and hooked up in circle.

Bank-Robbing Outlaws Ruled the West



Black Bart, the Dalton Gang, and Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid all were famous for their seem like a low number.

But there are several things that contributed to this low number. First, towns back in those days were much smaller, with the sheriff's office, saloon, general store, and bank usually clustered together for convenience. This one-stop social-needs block usually made up the dead center of town. Being that the sheriff's office was usually no more than a few doors down, you were probably pulling your big heist within earshot of the law.

Second, the banks weren't that easy to get in and out of. Old West buildings were usually built close together, meaning the bank would be flanked by other buildings, while a reinforced back wall would keep anyone from intruding from behind. When you walk out the front door with the loot, there's the sheriff waiting for you. Now, the most famous robberies -- the jobs pulled by Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid -- were true. But that's the point -- they got famous for a reason. They were doing what nobody else was crazy enough to do.

But for everyday criminals, common targets were often trains and stagecoaches because they were more isolated, easier to get into, and easier to escape. So why bother with a bank, which would be a suicide mission in comparison?

Cowboys Are an American Creation



One reason Americans have always been so in love with the Old West is that it's so distinctly American. The original cowboys were Mexican cattlemen known as vaqueros, and they are literally everything you imagine a cowboy to be.

They came up with all of the cowboy lingo, including "bronco," "lariat," and even "stampede." Vaqueros rode the long-haul cattle drives, and their sombreros were probably the precursor to cowboy hats. They also wore chaps, held rodeos, and lived the life of a cowboy in relative anonymity for some 200 years.

daring robberies. They could take entire fortunes from banks that had slightly less security than a modern hot dog stand.

And why not? Lawlessness ruled, vaults didn't exist, and criminals didn't care about anyone else. The banks might as well have left their big white bags of gold sitting out on the porch.

Not true; research can find evidence of only about eight true bank heists, and that's across 15 states in 40 year period. As a point of comparison, bank robberies in 2010 amounted to 5,600. Even if we'd never seen a Western in our lives, that would

American. Today, if you find a political rally of people proclaiming themselves to be patriots, you can bet you'll find cowboy hats in that crowd. The more of a cowboy you are, the more American you are. Even Teddy Roosevelt got in on the act by calling himself the "cowboy candidate."

Cowboys weren't an American invention at all. In fact, they precede Plymouth Rock by some 20 years, meaning they're older than America itself.

When Americans moved westward, it was these vaqueros who knew the land and wildlife enough to help teach the future American cowboys everything they knew. The settlers in turn did the right thing and outright stole the entire culture, including the title of "vaqueros," which was turned into "buckaroos."

But it's not like vaqueros went the way of the cowboy at the time, either. Despite what Hollywood would have you believe, not every cowboy (or human being, for that matter) was a white male. One in three cowboys were Mexican vaquero. One in four are believed to be black men who were released from slavery but didn't have the ability to flee far from their captors. Even the Native Americans would help move the cattle with their white, Mexican, and black brethren. It was a rainbow cowboy coalition! Except if you were Chinese. Then you were building railroads in hellish conditions.

Cowboys Wore Cowboy Hats



you'd better be packing one of these.

The truth is lots of people wore hats back then. But they seemed to wear everything *but* what we think of as "cowboy" hats. Beside cowboy hats, they wore top hats, homburgs, fedoras, caps, and sombreros.



The ultimate item of the cowboy outfit is of course the Stetson hat, which most of us just call a cowboy hat. There're always the boots, too, but they kind of go together as a pair.

The hats were practical, lightweight, and made with utility in mind. They had curved edges that could defend you from both sun and rain, and they made you look incredibly stylish while doing what amounted to staring at cows for weeks at a time. The curved brim, those dips in the crown, the band - - the Stetson is about as iconic as clothing gets. So, if you get in your time machine and set it for 1870,

But what you would have seen mostly back then were bowler hats. They were more popular because they were a little more versatile in various social situations, especially in a time when all men wore hats all the time. In fact, famed Western historian Lucius Beebe went so far as to call it "the hat that won the West." Looking back on most portraits from the time, you can find that almost every single major name in the West owned a bowler hat, at least if they had class.

call "cowboy hats" today. Originally known as "the Boss of the Plains," it looked more like modern Amish hats, and may have been just a modified sombrero.

All of the curling and ornamentation came later, but this hat is the granddaddy of every cowboy hat in the world today. And that's not exactly what your mind jumps to when you think of cowboy hats, is it?



Even the cowboy hats that Stetson was making in the late 1800s didn't look like the Stetson hats we
Guns Were Rampant in the Old West



Well, even if cowboys didn't have cowboy hats, we sure as hell know they had six-shooters on their hip. Back then, every man, woman, and child came pre-equipped with an old-timey revolver, which was used for everything from personal defense and hunting to celebrating.

Regardless of the public's perception, gun control laws may have been stricter back in the 19th and early 20th century than they are now, especially in the West. In the beginning, there was gun

violence, as there was neither standardized law nor a good way to enforce it, but the Wild West didn't stay wild forever.

As towns formed and communities grew, the need for and tolerance of handguns started to fall. Starting in 1878, some 25 years into the westward expansion, action was finally taken -- even places as wild as Dodge City started posting signs like this:



In fact, the gunfight at the O.K. Corral was caused by one gang being unwilling to abide by the anti-firearm rule of Tombstone.

Among those who used guns, six-shooters weren't the favorite. They were little more than a weapon of last resort. Shotguns and rifles were the preferred weapons, having both the power and the range to put down a mountain lion or a card cheat.

But who would ever want to watch a Western where cowboys were meeting at high noon to shoot each other in the face with huge shotguns?

The adage is true; When the legend becomes fact, print the legend.

Tombstone Mary, Secretary Regulator/Life #19524



We still have some Cowboys and Cowgirls who have not paid their dues. Please remember that you must sign a waiver for 2019 before you can shoot in a monthly match.

We have been busy getting ready for Comancheria Days 2019. Burly Bill Brocius is our new Volunteer Coordinator. If you can help out in any way, please send him an email at: bexarbillbrocius@gmail.com and he will find a place for you. It takes all of us to put on a great match for all our guests and members.

If you would like to be a stage sponsor the cost is \$50.00 and it includes a two-sided sign to place on a stage at Comancheria Days. You can find a sponsor form on our website under Comancheria events.

If I can help in any way, please email me at:
Maryn58@sbcglobal.net
Tombstone Mary

Best Western Quotes

“Get ready, little lady. Hell is coming to breakfast.”
The Outlaw Josey Wales

“Oh. Johnny, I apologize; I forgot you were there. You may go now.”

Tombstone

“Man, I got vision and the rest of the world wears bifocals.”

Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid

“I don’t hate my fellow man, even when he’s tiresome and surly and tries to cheat at poker. I figure that’s just a human material, and him that finds in it cause for anger and dismay is just a fool for expecting better.”

The Ballad of Buster Scruggs

“You go for a man hard enough and fast enough, he don’t have time to think about how many’s with him; he

thinks about himself, and how he might get clear of that wrath that’s about to set down on him.”

True Grit

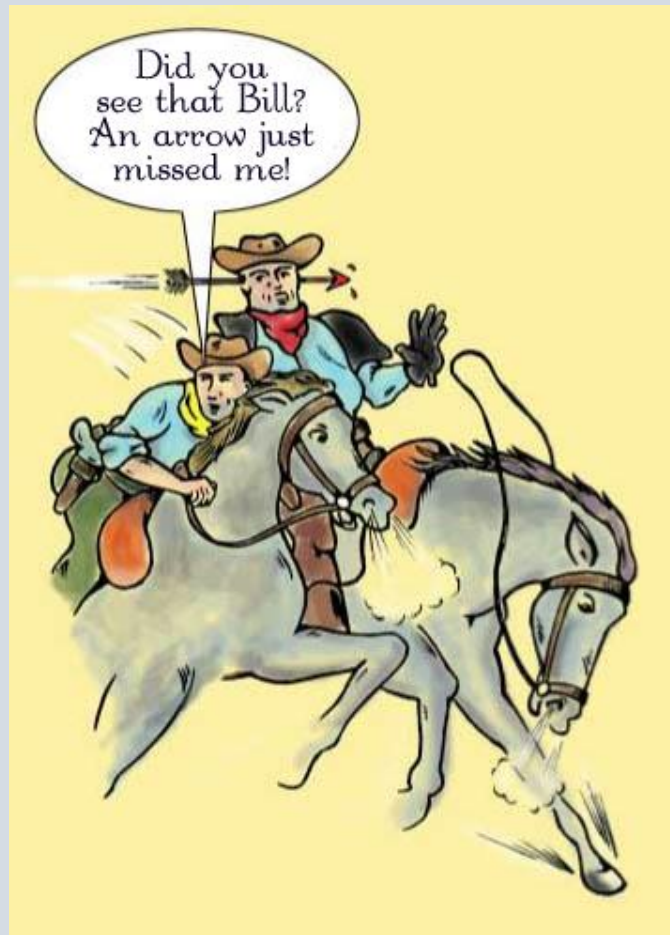
“We’ll give you a fair trial...Followed by a first class hangin’.”

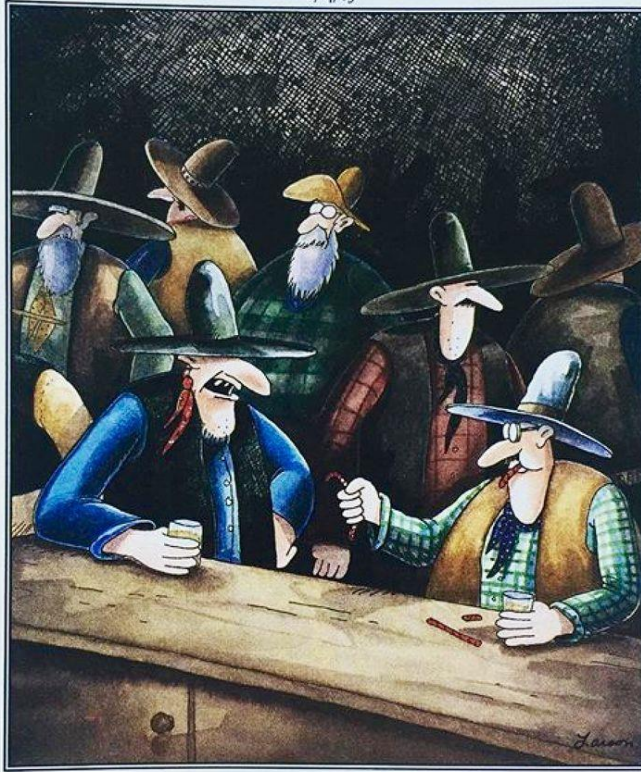
Silverado

“For a one-leg rancher...He’s one tough son of a bitch.”
3:10 to Yuma

“Move a little strange, you’re gonna get a bullet. Not a warning, not a question...a bullet.”

The Hateful Eight





“Saaaaaay, aren’t you a stranger in these parts? Well, I don’t *take* candy from *strangers*.”

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

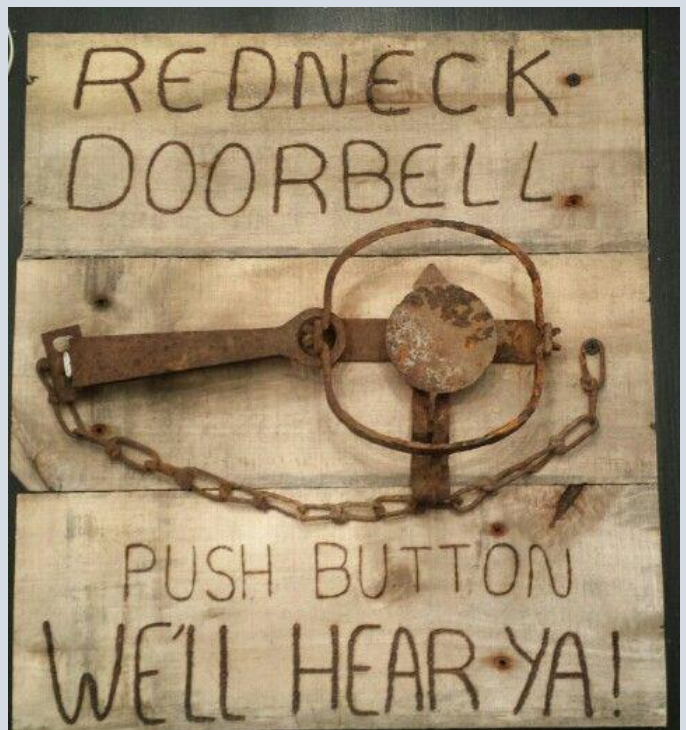


February Birthdays:

Doc O'Bay	2/1
Howdy Nabor	2/3
Mr. Outback	2/3
Newt Ritter	2/3
Shooting Iron Miller	2/7
Charlie Reynolds	2/9
Yuma Jack	2/9
Dirty Sally	2/11
Major Samuel Clayton	2/11
Tricky Tunes	2/11
Long Juan	2/19
Quigley McCoy	2/20
Col. Callan	2/21
Bar Diamond Rider	2/25
Dusty Lone Star	2/27

March Birthdays:

Aiyana Kay	3/17
Tombstone Mary	3/17
Will Tinker	3/19
Marshall Brooks	3/22
Maverick McCoy	3/29
Hopalong Herbert	3/31



Key Links

www.sassnet.com
www.texicanrangers.org
www.greenmountainregulators.org
www.pccss.org
www.stxpistoleros.com
www.tejasballeros.org
www.darbyroughregulators.com
www.trpistoleros.com
www.texasjacks.com
www.cimarron-firearms.com
www.tsra.com
www.wildwestmercantile.com

TEXICAN RANGERS

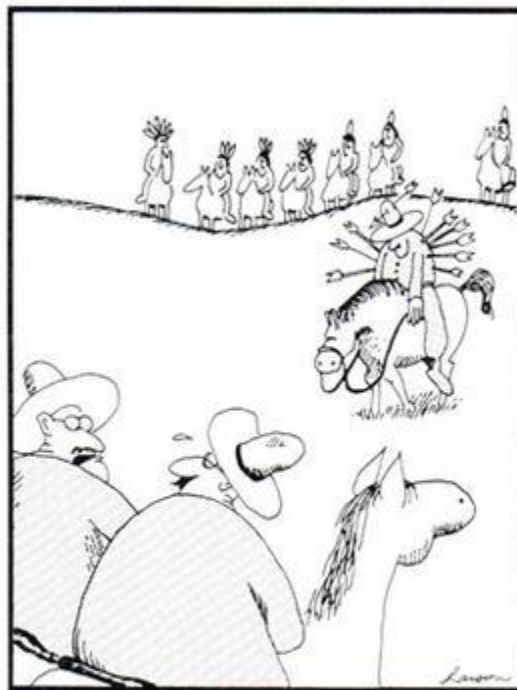
2019

January 12	Monthly Match
January 13	Monthly Match
February 9	Monthly Match
February 10	Monthly Match
March 9	Monthly Match
March 10	Monthly Match
April 11 – 14	Comancheria Days
May 11	Monthly Match
May 12	Monthly Match
June 8	Monthly Match
June 9	Monthly Match
June 29	Wild Bunch, BAMB, Long Range
July 13	Monthly Match
July 14	Monthly Match
August 10	Monthly Match
August 11	Monthly Match
August 31	Wild Bunch, BAMB, Long Range
September 14	Shindig
September 15	Monthly Match
October 12	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 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)

Feb 8-10	2019 Jail Break	Oakwood Outlaws
Feb 18-24	Winter Range	Phoenix
Mar 21-24	Trailhead	THSS
April 11-14	Comancheria Days	Texican Ranger (Comfort)
April 25-27	SASS Southwest Regional Land Run	Oklahoma
June 13-23	End of Trail	Founders Ranch, NM
Oct 19-20	SASS Texas State Black Powder Championship	Groesbeck, TX
Oct 18-20	SASS Texas State Wild Bunch Championship	Cleburne, TX



"Now stay calm . . . Let's hear what they said to Bill."

Photo Album





