



# 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  
January 2018

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### Words from the President



We had a cold start to our first match for January. We had 47 shooters on Saturday and 12 on Sunday. With temperatures in the 20's at the start of the match this was a good turnout on Saturday.

Thank you to all who came out to help set up the range for our first shoot. This club could not continue without all your support and help.

Comancheria Days our SASS Texas State Championship will be here before you know it. I will serve as your Match Director and Newt Ritter will be our Assistant Match Director. If you have already registered thanks if not please do so as soon as possible. We have 215 registered shooters and our maximum is 285. Get your application and check to Tombstone Mary before we fill up.

We have several workdays planned to get the range ready for our annual match. Please consider attending to help us get things done before April.

Volunteers are needed for several positions for Comancheria Days. If you would like to help, please contact Tombstone Mary and she will get you signed up.

Your current slate of Officers all look forward to a great 2018, if you have any suggestions to make your club better please let us know.

A.D. Texaz

## End of the Trail

By Sheriff Robert Love/Life/Regulator 8960



6 February 1934 – 18 January 2018

James E. Campion, known to us as RED DAWG, has gone to the final round-up.

He was born in Hearne, Texas on 6 February, 1934. He proudly served our country in the U.S. Army. He believed in God, country and family.

He was a member Texas Historical Shooting Society and a founding club member of Texican Rangers. Red Dawg loved Cowboy Action Shooting and was a hard-working posse member, that was always smiling and always fun to shoot with. He was quick witted, with a great sense of humor. He told me he ran a home for wayward Colts. He always signed his notes to me as, Red Dawg, Scourge of the West, Friend of the working girls.



He was recently released from a lengthy hospital stay when he had a fall at home and broke his spine. On January 18, 2018, with Dorothy, his wife of 59 years and his 3 daughters present, Jim asked that all life support be removed. He ate some potato chips, drank a coke, and went to be with Jesus.

If you would like to make a donation in Jim's honor, make it to Hospice Brazos Valley, 502 W. 26th Street, Bryan, TX 77803.

I am proud to have called Red Dawg my friend and I will miss him. Vaya con Dios, amigo mío.

Sheriff Robert Love

Next time you drive on the range, be sure and notice the big wooden cowboy in the red long johns with the 10-gallon hat waving at you. That was created to depict Red Dawg.

## Chris Madsen, Legendary Lawman (Or was he?) By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



Deputy U.S. Marshal Chris Madsen was the least know but most flamboyant member of the “Three Guardsmen”.

The Three Guardsmen is the name popularized in Old West literature describing three lawmen who became legendary in their pursuit of many outlaws of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. They were Deputy U.S. Marshals Bill Tilghman, Heck Thomas and Chris Madsen. These deputies worked the Indian Territory that was an area of more than 70,000 square miles and was, until 1875 when Judge Parker was appointed by President grant, almost entirely lawless.

While working with Tilghman and Thomas, over 300 outlaws were either apprehended or killed. The three of them were largely responsible for bringing down outlaw Bill Doolin, and his Doolin Dalton gang. Madsen was personally responsible for the killing of Doolin gang members Dan “Dynamite Dick” Clifton, George “Red Buck” Waightman, and Richard “Little Dick” West.

Deputy U.S. Marshal Chris Madsen was born Chris Madsen Rormose in Denmark in 1851. Upon immigrating to the United States in 1876, he dropped Rormose. Madsen told fanciful stories about earlier service in the Danish Army and the French Foreign Legion. Actually, he had been a

criminal, and between 1869 and 1874 he had served five sentences in a Copenhagen prison for begging, vagrancy, fraud, and forgery. Prison records reveal Madsen an intelligent but cold, artful scoundrel who had no intention of changing his ways. The records imply that the Danish government paid Madsen's passage to the United States, a common practice by nations to purge habitual criminals.

Arriving in New York City, Madsen enlisted in the U.S. Army on January 21, 1876, and served fifteen years in the Fifth Cavalry. Although he also embellished accounts of his army experience, he did participate in the Bighorn-Yellowstone Expedition shortly after the Battle of the Little Bighorn (1876) and saw significant action against the Ute Indians in September 1879. While serving in the army, Madsen was court-martialed, but acquitted, for stealing government grain; but later convicted for larceny, he served five months in the Wyoming Territorial Penitentiary.



Discharged on January 10, 1891, Madsen became a deputy U.S. marshal under Marshal William Grimes in Oklahoma Territory, a position he held until 1893. Early in 1893 U.S. Marshal Evett D. Nix was relieved from office for gross malfeasance. The federal inspector also recommended that Madsen and others be relieved for filing false reports. Madsen resigned and went to work for the U.S. marshal in the Western District of Missouri.



The man had style and he favored the 1878 Double Action Colt. In 1877, Colt came out with its first double-action, the medium-frame Lightning. The company immediately followed with the Model 1878, a big-bore, double-action brother to the Single Action Army (SAA). In fact, it was popularly called the Double Action Frontier, even though it was originally chambered only in .45 Colt. But the introductory announcement heralded the Double Action Frontier as "Colt's New Double Action, Self-Cocking, Central Fire, Army Six Shot .45 in. caliber, Revolving Pistol."

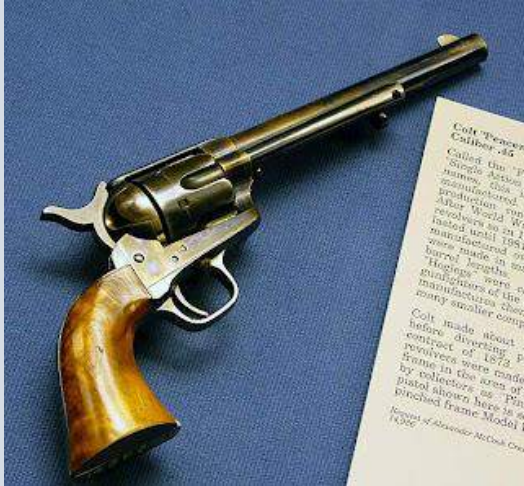
Later returning to Indian Territory, he was appointed as a special deputy in the territory's Southern District in early March 1898. That year he joined Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders, serving as quartermaster sergeant. After the Spanish-American War ended, Madsen returned to Indian Territory and served as a deputy U.S. marshal. After John L. "Jack" Abernathy became U.S. marshal of Oklahoma Territory in February 1906, Madsen worked as his chief deputy. He then became interim U.S. marshal from January 1 to March 31, 1911, because Abernathy was removed from office. After leaving active law enforcement in 1913, Madsen worked as a guard, a court bailiff, and as superintendent at the Union Soldiers' Home.



Madsen had a long career as a deputy U.S. marshal; however, he and various writers greatly inflated his reputation as a "terror to evil doers." Rarely involved in any gunfights, he spent most of his service in administrative work. Was he the "Fighting Dane" he claimed to be, or was he just a skilled administrator?

On January 9, 1944, at age ninety-two Madsen died in the Masonic Home for the Aged in Guthrie while recovering from a broken hip. He was buried in Yukon, Oklahoma.

## Colt 1873 Single Action Army By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



By 1875 civilian demand for Colt .45s resulted in a version with 5-1/2-inch barrel length and by 1879 a 4-3/4-inch length became a standard catalog item. Colt did sell that length earlier, but it was a custom order item. Civilian finish was a brighter blue than the government ordered and in the black-powder era nickel plating was a popular finish. (Cleaning black-powder fouling from a nickel-plated revolver is easier than from a blued/case hardened one.)



Bat Masterson had a custom-made 1885 .45 caliber Colt Single-action Army (SAA) revolver that had a specially-made hammer that was exceptionally fast on release. It was his personal preference to help him survive a gunfight. The front sight was also a little taller and thicker than on the ordinary model, another of his preferences. The revolver was nickel plated and polished to a high shine. It had a claw-shaped scratch on the side plate, and a number "1" engraved on the loading gate.



Early on Peacemakers made for the civilian market also carried the 1-piece walnut stocks. Ivory stocks built in the same manner as walnut ones were popular too—again as custom order items. By 1882 2-piece hard-rubber grips became standard and actually remain so to this day.

Another significant change began in 1892. Until that time all Peacemakers' cylinder pins were secured by a small screw angled in from the front of the frame. In that year the transition began to a spring-loaded transverse latch, but the system did not become the norm until 1896. Often the first system is called the "black-powder frame" and the latter one the "smokeless powder frame." That is not correct. Colt did not begin to warranty any of their Peacemakers for smokeless powder ammunition until 1900.

Although Colt began offering other chamberings in the Single Action Army as early as 1875 with the .44 Henry Rimfire and eventually offered Peacemakers in about three dozen different ones, the .45 Colt was always top seller by a wide margin. Here's an example. It is generally accepted that total production from 1873 until 1941 was 357,859. (That includes variations such as Bisley, Bisley Target, and Single Action Target.) Just considering regular fixed-sighted Peacemakers there were over 150,000 made as .45 Colts. The next most popular caliber was .44 WCF (aka .44-40) with only about 64,000.

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



Thank you to all our members who mailed or dropped off their waiver and dues for 2018. We still have a few members who need to pay and sign a waiver. You can find the waiver on our website at [www.texicanrangers.org](http://www.texicanrangers.org). Remember you must sign a waiver before you shoot a match for 2018.

Comancheria Days our SASS Texas State Championship is right around the corner. We are filling up fast so please get your application to us as soon as possible. We do not want our club members to miss out on all the fun we have planned.

If I can answer any questions or help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at [maryn58@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryn58@sbcglobal.net).  
Tombstone Mary

### **Best Action Movie Quotes**

“Hell, I’ll kill a man in a fair fight, or if I think he’s gonna start a fair fight, or if he bothers me, or if there’s a woman, or if I’m gettin paid; mostly only when I’m gettin paid.”

Serenity

“And now you understand. Anything goes wrong, anything at all... your fault, my fault, nobody’s fault... it won’t matter – I’m gonna blow your head off. No matter what else happens, no matter who gets killed, I’m gonna blow your head off.”

Big Jake

“I have come here to chew bubble gum and kick ass...and I’m all out of bubble gum.”

They Live

“There’s gotta be a hundred reasons why I don’t blow you away. Right now I can’t think of one.”

The Rookie

“Are you gonna do something? Or just stand there and bleed?”

Tombstone

### **Lost and Found**

Lost at the Saturday match in January 2018:

I lost my knife it is a bone handle hunting knife that must have fell out of its scabbard after I took off my gunbelt. May be at the homestead or somewhere between there and where I parked behind the restrooms. Could also be down toward the jail since I went down there after the match. If found and turned in I will offer a \$50 reward. Sentimental value.  
Howdy Nabor

Lost at the Sunday match in January 2018:

Lost my screw knife. It’s a simple homemade one, the handle is made from a small forked deer antler. I sure would appreciate it if y’all could keep an eye out for it for me.  
Brazos Bo



## 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



### January Birthdays

Blacky Vela	1/7
Hawkeye	1/12
Skyhawk Hans	1/12
Three Fingered Dutchman	1/21
Big John Mesquite	1/23
Leather Lung	1/27

### February Birthdays

Doc O'Bay	2/1
Howdy Nabor	2/3
Mr. Outback	2/3
Newt Ritter	2/3
Two Spurs	2/5
Shooting Iron Miller	2/7
Charlie Reynolds	2/9
Yuma Jack	2/9
Dirty Sally	2/11
Major Samuel Clayton	2/11
Long Juan	2/19
Quigley McCoy	2/20
Col. Callan	2/21
El Patron	2/21
Bar Diamond Rider	2/25
Dusty Lone Star	2/27



### Key Links

[www.sassnet.com](http://www.sassnet.com)  
[www.texicanrangers.org](http://www.texicanrangers.org)  
[www.greenmountainregulators.org](http://www.greenmountainregulators.org)  
[www.pccss.org](http://www.pccss.org)  
[www.stxpistoleros.com](http://www.stxpistoleros.com)  
[www.tejascaballeros.org](http://www.tejascaballeros.org)  
[www.darbyroughregulators.com](http://www.darbyroughregulators.com)  
[www.trpistoleros.com](http://www.trpistoleros.com)  
[www.texasjacks.com](http://www.texasjacks.com)  
[www.cimarron-firearms.com](http://www.cimarron-firearms.com)  
[www.tsra.com](http://www.tsra.com)  
[www.wildwestmercantile.com](http://www.wildwestmercantile.com)

## TEXICAN RANGERS 2018

January 13	Monthly Match
January 14	Monthly Match
February 10	Monthly Match
February 11	Monthly Match
March 10	Monthly Match
March 11	Monthly Match
April 12 – 15	Comancheria Days
May 12	Monthly Match
May 13	Monthly Match
June 9	Monthly Match
June 10	Monthly Match
June 30	Wild Bunch, BAMB, Long Range
July 14	Monthly Match
July 15	Monthly Match
August 11	Monthly Match
August 12	Monthly Match
September 8	Shindig
September 9	Monthly Match
September 29	Wild Bunch, BAMB Long Range
October 13	Monthly Match
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 9-11	2018 Jail Break	Oakwood Outlaws
Feb 19-25	Winter Range	Phoenix
Mar 22-25	Trailhead	THSS
April 12-15	Comancheria Days	Texican Ranger (Comfort)
April 19-21	SASS Southwest Regional Land Run	Oklahoma
June 14-24	End of Trail	Founders Ranch, NM
Oct 19-20	SASS Texas State Black Powder Championship	Groesbeck, TX
Oct 19-21	SASS Texas State Wild Bunch Championship	Cleburne, TX
Nov 2-4	Battle of Plum Creek	Plum Creek



# Photo Gallery











