

# 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 July 2018

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#### Hello Texican Rangers



At End of Trails this June, The Texican Rangers were named the SASS Club of the Year and were presented the Wooly Award!

Mad Dog McCoy and Burly Bill Brocius received the award and brought it to the July Texican Ranger shoot.

The award, first and foremost, is recognition of the Club Members that make up the Texican Rangers.

It is recognition of the Range, the Stages and the Targets.

It is recognition of Comancheria Days – one of the longest continuous running matches in SASS – 23 years and counting.

In my opinion it is a well-deserved award and I am proud to be a Wooly Award Winning Texican Ranger!

It's also time for Elections. Following this article is a recap of the upcoming Elections. Please read and consider running for a position – your help would be appreciated.

There is another article in the newsletter on Cross Draw Holsters. Please

read the article and get with Colonel Callan, Colorado Horseshoe or me at the match if you have any questions about the article or the cross-draw rules.

For August, on Saturday we will shoot stages 2-6, and Sunday we will shoot stages 1 to 5. The stages will be written with the heat in mind.

The Saturday and Sunday matches are the final matches that count towards the category standings for the yearly awards given at the picnic. Remember with the quick stages and the bonus targets this might be your chance to move up a place or two in your category. Also, there will be no lunch Saturday.

See you at the Texican Rangers.

A.D. Texaz



Texican Rangers - SASS Wooly Award - 2017 Club of the Year

Nestled in the beautiful Texas hill country right outside of Fredericksburg, Texas lies a little slice of SASS Cowboy heaven.

Texas Jack of Cimarron Firearms and Captain Jack Hayes had been living in Houston when they first heard of Cowboy Action Shooting. Wanting to know more, Captain Hayes traveled to END of TRAIL in California in 1990 to shoot and learn more about the sport. As a result, the Texas Historical Shootist Society (THSS) was formed and is still located in Columbus Texas.

Shortly after, Cimarron Firearms moved to Fredericksburg, Texas and Texas Jack worked out an arrangement to use the historic Steiler Ranch as Cowboy Action Shooting Headquarters. The Texican Rangers were organized into a SASS club and began shooting on the Steiler Ranch in 1994 and held their first match that year with less than 20 shooters.

The first Comancheria Days was held in March 1995 and has been held annually every year since. The Texican Rangers continue their success to this day, and truly excel in producing one of the most popular matches in the country – with Comancheria Days taking on the added task of being sanctioned as the SASS Texas State Championship. The match continues to grow; drawing hundreds of competitors – and has become a don't – miss on shooters calendars, not just for Texans, but for shooters from neighboring states; in fact, for the whole region, and the world.

The Texican Rangers are rooted in not only Texas Hill Country History, but in SASS History as well, as the oldest Cowboy Action Shooting Club in the Texas Hill Country, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest in the entire state of Texas.

From the moment you drive through the gates of the Steiler Ranch, it is evident that you are somewhere special, and that the folks that comprise the Texican Rangers have a finely tuned recipe for success.

It is my great honor to award the Texican Rangers with the 2017 Sass Wooly Award for the Club of the Year.

Misty Moonshine Chief Executive Officer Single Action Shooting Society

### Seeking Candidates for Texican Ranger Officers

According to our By-Laws here are the requirements for seeking a nomination:

- I. Nomination Process:
  - a. Members in good standing may self-nominate or nominate other members as candidates for offices.
  - b. Nominees must meet the requirements for the intended office.
  - c. Nominations must be submitted to the Executive Committee by the last day of June.
  - *d.* Candidates shall be announced in the July and August newsletters and announced at Shooter's Meetings.
  - *e.* A candidate withdrawal must be submitted to the Executive Committee within two (2) weeks of first announcement.
  - f. Candidates are encouraged to write an article for the July and/or August newsletter stating their qualifications and goals.

We will have the following Officer positions for election this year:

President Vice President Treasurer (2 year term) Range Master Communications

If you are interested in serving as an Officer of the Texican Rangers, please let a member of the Executive Committee know. All interested candidates must notify a member of the Executive Committee no later than August 10<sup>th</sup>.

### SINGLE ACTION SHOOTING SOCIETY Shooter's Handbook Holsters

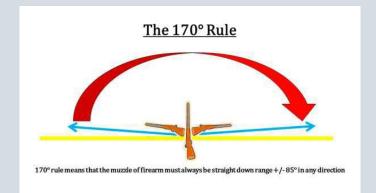
- - All handguns must be carried in a safe holster capable of retaining the firearm throughout a normal range of motion.
- - Main match holsters must be located one on each side of the belly button and separated by at least the width of two fists at the belt. (Note: Pocket pistol and derringer holsters are not "main match" holsters)
- - Holsters may not depart from the vertical by more than 30 degrees when worn.
- - Although cross draw and shoulder holsters are legal, extreme care must be exercised when drawing a firearm from a cross draw or shoulder holster or retuning the firearm to leather. The user must "twist" their body, if necessary, to ensure the muzzle never breaks the 170° safety rule during the process.
- When drawing a revolver, the muzzle may be oriented into the straight down (180°) as it clears leather; but must then go immediately into the downrange 170° (and vice versa on the return). These restrictions against breaking the downrange 180° angle apply to all holsters and methods of draw/re-holster. This allowance applies to all types/styles of holsters, from canted double strong side to cross draw, to shoulder/Huckleberry rigs.
- - During the course of fire, the shooter must be given the ability to draw and holster revolvers from approved/legal holsters and the ability to retrieve and return vertically staged double-barreled shotguns without penalty.
- - Any firearm that breaks the 170° safety rule will result in a Stage Disqualification.

## The 170° Rule

The 170° rule means the muzzle of a firearm must always be straight down range  $(+/-85^{\circ})$  in any direction). Muzzle direction and muzzle control is important between, before, during, and after shooting a stage. The 170° rule is the backbone of all safe firearm handling and is always in effect.

- A muzzle must not be allowed to "sweep" the other participants at any time.
- Long guns shall have their actions open with chambers and magazines empty and muzzles pointed in a safe direction when transported at a match.
- - A holstered revolver (loaded or empty) with the hammer fully down on an empty chamber or expended case is considered safe and may not be interpreted as sweeping another shooter while safely secured in the holster.
- - Failure to manage safe muzzle direction is grounds for a Stage Disqualification penalty assessment, and for repeat offenses, a Match Disqualification penalty.

NOTE: An obvious exception to this rule exists, where the shooter is given the ability to draw and holster revolvers from approved, legal holsters without penalty. Further exception is given when retrieving and returning vertically staged double barrel shotguns without penalty.



## **CROSS DRAW HOLSTERS**



Let's talk a little bit about the use of a Cross Draw Holsters at the range.

Here is the Holster section from the SASS Rulebook. I took the liberty of slightly changing the format of the highlighted section for clarity.

- - All handguns must be carried in a safe holster capable of retaining the firearm throughout a normal range of motion.
- - Main match holsters must be located one on each side of the belly button and separated by at least the width of two fists at the belt.
- - Holsters may not depart from the vertical by more than 30 degrees when worn.
- - Although cross draw and shoulder holsters are legal, extreme care must be exercised when drawing a firearm from a cross draw or retuning the firearm to leather.

- The user must ensure the muzzle never breaks the 170° safety rule during the process. A shooter may need to "twist" their body to correctly draw their revolver.
- - When drawing a revolver, the muzzle may be oriented into the straight down (180°) as it clears leather; but must then go immediately into the downrange 170° (and vice versa on the return). These restrictions against breaking the downrange 180° angle apply to all holsters and methods of draw/re-holster. This allowance applies to all types/styles of holsters, from canted double strong side to cross draw, to shoulder/Huckleberry rigs.
- - During the course of fire, the shooter must be given the ability to draw and holster revolvers from approved/legal holsters and the ability to retrieve and return vertically staged double-barreled shotguns without penalty.
- - Any firearm that breaks the 170° safety rule will result in a Stage Disqualification.

Longhunter, aka Jim Finch, a great supporter of the Texas Hill Country SASS Clubs has graciously allowed the NSSF to put clips of his SASS teaching videos on the net!

If you search https://www.youtube.com/results?search\_query=nssf+longhunter - you should be directed to a list of his many great videos each lasting 3 to 5 minutes covering many of his 'Tips and Best Practices'.

This is a direct link to a segment on Cross Draw Holsters.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uLWLpIskVx4&t=0s&list=PL64DBEE0284DF6424&index=7

Longhunter's video shows a location of the Cross-Draw Holster on your belt and a stance modification that allows the shooter to draw and re-holster using the Cross Draws Holsters that keeps the muzzle within the 170-degree requirement.

It seems to me that if a shooter follows Longhunter advice most of the penalties called on shooters using the Cross-Draw Holsters will go away

If you have any questions about Cross Draw Holsters and their use, please call me directly, or see me or Colorado Horseshoe before the August match. AD

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



Our August matches are your last opportunity to get your 5 matches in one category for annual awards. There are still several who need 1 or 2 more shoots in a particular category to qualify. If you have any questions, please email me at: Texicanrangers@yahoo.com. Tombstone Mary

#### The American Western (How do you tell the good guy from the bad?) By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153





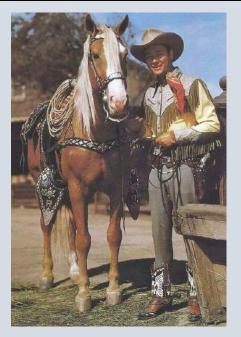
The Western is a genre of various arts which tell stories set primarily in the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the American Old West.

They often center on the life of a nomadic cowboy or gunfighter, armed with a revolver and a rifle who rides a horse. Cowboys and gunslingers typical wear Stetson hats, bandannas, spurs, cowboy boots, and buckskins.

The stories are usually basic with good fighting evil. When the Western movies first started with silent films, basically from 1894 to 1927, the directors wanted to make sure that audiences knew who the good guy was. They came up with a simple method. Good guys wore white hats and bad guys wore black hats.

With the advent of sound, westerns went down in popularity. They were only made by smaller studios in the form of serials. That became the birth of the B Western. By this time audiences were more sophisticated and no longer needed the white and black hat code to separate the good guy from the bad. So now good guys could wear black hats, but just in case another signature item happened to make it easy to spot the good guy. More later on this.

By the late 1930s. The Western film popularity was dramatically revived by major studio products such as *Dodge City* staring Errol Flynn, *Jesse James* with Tyrone Power, *Union Pacific* with Joel McCrea, *Destry Rides Again* featuring James Stewart and Marlene Dietrich, and the release of John Ford's landmark Western adventure *Stagecoach*, which became one of the biggest hits of 1939. Stagecoach made John Wayne a mainstream movie star.





Western movies were king during the 20s, 30s and 40s, with Tom Mix and Gene Autry as Hollywood's Top Box Office Stars. Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy, John Wayne and a host of others became huge box office sensations. But it was really the era of television where weekly serial westerns reigned, that spawned the nationwide interest in Fast Draw. Wanted Dead or Alive, Maverick, Paladin, Texas Ranger, The Rifleman, Lawman, Wagon Train, Johnny Ringo, Bonanza and Gunsmoke are just a few of the westerns that captured the imagination of Americans.

Well, have you figured it out yet? What is the common thread on all these movie and TV stars identifying them as the good guy?



Now you have it. It is the stag grips on their guns. If you see in a movie and a stranger walk in an old western saloon with stag grips on his pistol, then he is the hero.



The interesting part is that stag grips were not all that popular in the old west. When the westerns got more popular the guns got more popular and gun manufacturers, at that time, universally felt that stag grips made their firearm look more western.

In the old west most grips were wood, with some mother of pearl, ivory and black composite thrown in. Stag was mostly used for knife grips. Life imitates art and art imitates life. Movie and TV directors wanted their hero to look authentic, so they gave him or her a gun with grips that weren't popular until the 1920s. Doesn't make since, but that is why Matt Dillon has plastic stag grips on his Great Western revolver.

BAAM New By Grouchy Spike



The Texican Rangers hosted a BAM Match after the Saturday match on June 30th. Seven marksmen formed up a defensive line with Bolt Action Military rifles – a 1903A1, a 1903A3, a Mosin Nagant (Finnish), a Mauser, a Krag

Jorgensen, and pair of K31s (Swiss). Two scenarios were shot – a Combat Match with ten rounds at Cody Dixon targets, and a Sniper Match with fifteen rounds at smaller and more distant targets.

Judge Hangin Knott was the winner of the Combat match with excessive speed and marksmanship. Mr Outback, shooting his first BAM Match, outshot everybody in the Sniper match with a clean run on distant targets, and was the only clean shooter in that match! That 16" target at 122 yards allowed for no error in sight alignment, sight picture, and trigger control, and that target humbled several experienced shooters as it had to be shot at least three times. At the suggestion of several shooters, that troublesome 16" target was replaced after the match with a 20" target so they could hear the 'clang' in the July BAM Match!

The Combat match is usually shot offhand, and a sling can be used. The Sniper match can be shot rested. Occasionally, depending on time, interest, and weather, a third stage is added as a Close Combat match to include a military sidearm and military shotgun at cowboy targets. That sidearm is usually a 1911 pistol or 1917 revolver, and a Model 97 or Model 12 shotgun.

Several clubs offer a Doughboy category in a Wild Bunch category or Wild Bunch match. Instead of a lever action cowboy rifle, the BAM rifle is used for 5 rounds at Cody Dixon targets.

The BAM match was introduced to the Texican Rangers in 2015. It is more an accuracy match than a speed match, and is scored by the number of hits, and any tie on hits is broken by time. The shooter loads 5 rounds in the magazine starts with the bolt open. At the buzzer the shooter closes the bolt, shoots 5 rounds, and reloads as necessary on the clock.

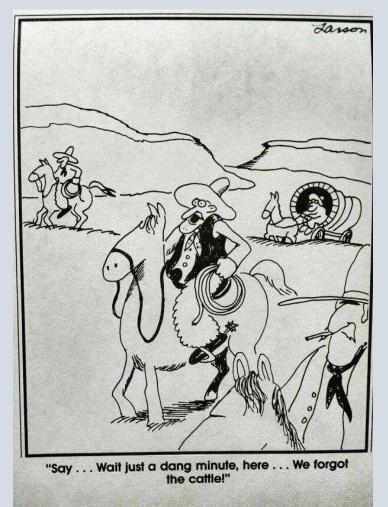
Rifle requirements: "Must be an original caliber bolt action rifle issued by any country to its Military Forces through the end of WWII. It must be as issue with original iron battle sights and no external modifications. Internal modifications allowed. Faithful reproductions are allowed." Cast bullets are required at most matches including the Texicans; no jacketed bullets. Velocities are low, usually between 1300 fps and 1700 fps.

If you are interested in BAMM, visit the Oriental stage (Stage 4) after a Saturday main match. If you have a sporterized military rifle and want to try the game before committing to purchase to a regulation BAM rifle, load it up and bring it along. Be sure to zero it for the downloaded ammunition with cast bullets before arriving at the range as time doesn't permit us to do sight-ins before the match. Load data is available from several BAMM shooters. For more information contact Grouchy Spike by email at spikes@ktc.com.

#### **NCIS Gibbs's Rules**

- 1. Never let suspects stay together
- 2. Always wear gloves at a crime scene
- 3. Don't believe what you're told
- 4. Never be unreachable
- 5. The best way to keep a secret? Keep it to yourself
- 6. You don't waste good
- 7. "Never say you're sorry. It's a sign of weakness
- 8. Always be specific when you lie
- 9. Never take anything for granted
- 10. Never go anywhere without a knife
- 11. Never get personally involved in a case
- 12. When the job is done, walk away

- 13. Never date a co-worker
- 14. Never, ever involve lawyers
- 15. Bend the line, don't break it
- 16. Always work as a team
- 17. Never, ever interrupt Gibbs
- 18. It's better to seek forgiveness than ask permission
- 19. Unknown
- 20. Always look under
- 21. Unknown
- 22. Never ever bother Gibbs in interrogation
- 23. Never mess with a Marine's coffee



# **Texican Rangers Regulators**

| 0                    | J    |
|----------------------|------|
| 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 |
|                      |      |

## July Birthdays

| Ruby Redheart       | 7/1  |
|---------------------|------|
| Texas Terror        | 7/5  |
| Shotgun Hammond     | 7/5  |
| Squaw Man           | 7/9  |
| Sheriff Robert Love | 7/10 |
| July Smith          | 7/10 |
| Dirty Dog Dale      | 7/11 |
| Picosa Kid          | 7/15 |
| Bisbee Jackson      | 7/25 |
| Bandera Kid         | 7/26 |
| Bison Jim           | 7/29 |
| Little Bit Sassy    | 7/31 |
| August Birthdays:   |      |

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| Crooked Creek Sam | 8/7  |
|-------------------|------|
| Moose McCoy       | 8/9  |
| Shootin Star      | 8/12 |
| Joe Darter        | 8/22 |
| Texas McD         | 8/24 |
| Scooter           | 8/27 |
|                   |      |





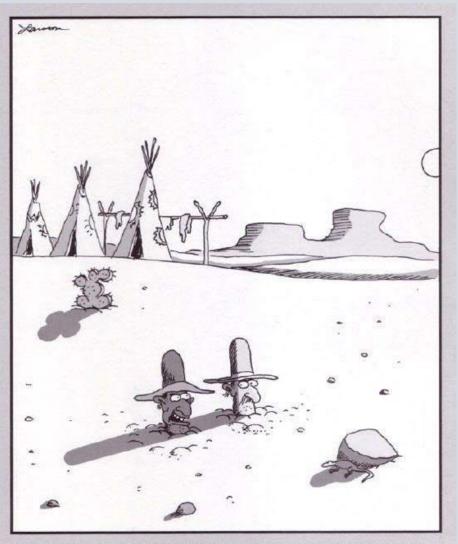


| Key Links  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
|  | www.sassnet.com   |  |  |  |
| www.texicanrangers.org                                 |   |  |  |  |
|  | www.greenmountainregulators.org                         |  |  |  |
|  | www.pccss.org   |  |  |  |
|  | <u>www.stxpistolaros.com</u><br>www.tejascaballeros.org |  |  |  |
| www.tejascabaneros.org<br>www.darbyroughregulators.com |   |  |  |  |
| www.trpistoleros.com                                   |   |  |  |  |
| www.texasjacks.com                                     |   |  |  |  |
| www.cimarron-firearms.com                              |   |  |  |  |
|  | www.tsra.com<br>www.wildwestmercantile.com              |  |  |  |
|  | www.wndwestniereantie.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, BAMM, 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, BAMM 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 Pistaleros (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) |

|             | 2018                             |                          |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Feb 9-11    | Jail Break                       | <b>Oakwood Outlaws</b>   |
| 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               |



"Hey Frank ... nice and cool here in the shade ... yesiree ... niiiiice and cool."

