



# 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  
June 2020

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### Hello Texican Rangers



Our first match under the COVID-19 restrictions was a success! We had a great turnout on Saturday with 55 shooters and 15 clean matches and on Sunday with 33 shooters and 8 clean matches.

For the July shoot, we will use the same COVID-19 procedures that we used for the June shoot!

On Saturday, July 11th, we will shoot 5 stages that Quintana, aka Jim Berne, wrote back in 1999. The stories are based on the movie 3 Amigo's, if you have the DVD you might want to brush up on our hero's: Lucky Day, Ned Nederlander, and Dusty Bottoms and their rescue of the Village of Santa Poco. There will be no lunch served Saturday. Also, the range will stay open for some practice.

On Sunday, July 12th, we will also shoot 5 stages featuring some interesting stages.

The next workday is Tuesday, July 7th. We will be mowing, weed eating, and setting up the stages. The Major thing to

get done is to clean up the path to Stage 1 and the walkway from Stage 1 to Stage 2. We will need weed eaters and pruning tools.

Speaking of mowing the range, I am happy to announce the purchase of a Gravely Zero Turn commercial mower! I look forward to showing it off at the shoot. This mower should be able to handle everything we need to mow except the area where we park the RV's at Comancheria Days. This area will continue to be mowed with a tractor and shredder.

Comancheria Days 2020 is fast approaching, again. One of the final items that needs to be finished is volunteers for the side matches. Burly Bill Brocius and I have reviewed the staffing and we still need more help. If you haven't signed up for one of the openings, please see Burly Bill Brocius at the July shoot.

Finally, please see the article in this newsletter about elections for the Texican Rangers Board for 2021. All positions are up for re-election except Secretary, which is a two-year term. I will not be running for President for 2021.

Good Shooting!

A.D.

President, Texican Rangers

## **George Devol – Old West Card Sharp From Legends of America**



George H. Devol was the greatest riverboat gambler in the history of the Mississippi River. He was also a con artist, a fighter, and a master at manipulating men and their money.

Born on August 1, 1829, in Marietta, Ohio, George Devol was the youngest of six children. His father was a ship carpenter and was often away from home. Though Devol had good opportunities for early education, he did not like school and spent most of his time playing hooky. The unmanageable boy was also prone to fighting, coming home almost daily with scratches and bruises from his numerous scuffles. When a teacher attempted to discipline him with a hardy whipping, he would turn on them, hitting them with stones that he

carried in his pocket. While his father was away building boats much of the time, his mother would be forced to call in a neighbor or passerby to help with his punishment.

At the age of ten, Devol ran away, serving as a cabin boy on a riverboat steamer called the Wacousta. Evidently, Devol did a good job in this capacity as he soon took a better paying job on a boat called Walnut Hills.

Another boat came soon after – the Cicero, where Devol learned to play “Seven-Up” and the art of bluffing. Seeing the high lifestyle of the professional gamblers on the boat, Devol was determined to follow in their footsteps, and by the time he was in his teens, he could deal seconds, palm cards and recover the cut.

Fighting would continue to be a natural part of his life, and he soon developed skills with a gun, never hesitating to pull it.

By the time the Mexican War broke out he was on a boat called the Tiago. Soon, Devol thought it a good idea to go to war and got a job as a barkeeper on the Corvette, bound for the Rio Grande and Mexico.

While aboard the Corvette he met a man, who taught him how to “stock a deck.” Upon reaching the Rio Grande and joining the forces, he quickly set about utilizing his newly learned skills to swindle the other soldiers. But he grew bored with soldiering and with his pockets filled with his ill-earned gains, he returned to New Orleans, although not for long.

At the tender age of 17, Devol's pockets were filled with almost three thousand dollars as he headed back home to Ohio, laden with gifts for his family.

While back in Ohio he mastered the games of Faro and Rondo. Continuing to hone his skills, Devol made hundreds of thousands of dollars in the years before the Civil War. Working the steamboats of the South, he joined in with other card sharps including Canada Bill Jones, Bill Rollins, Big Alexander, and many others over the years.



One trick that Devol liked to play was betting against ministers, who inevitably lost their meager wages to the professional gambler. However, Devol would always return their money, along with this advice: “Go and sin no more.” But to the many soldiers, paymasters, farmers, thieves, and businessmen, he was not so kind.

When the war was over, the railroads began to head west with settlements sprouting up all along the way. Many of these burgeoning towns, often filled with railroad workers, miners, and cowboys

provided all manner of vices including prostitution, numerous saloons, and the ever-present gambling halls. Supplying perfect opportunities for Devol’s operation, he began to follow the railroad expansion between Kansas City and Cheyenne in the early 1870s.

According to his own account, Devol was working the Gold Room Saloon in Cheyenne when he encountered Wild Bill Hickok. Devol tells the story that when Hickok placed a \$50 bet, he lost. He then placed another \$50 bet, winning the hand that time; however, the dealer handed him back only \$25. When Wild Bill protested, the dealer stated that the house limit was \$25. “But you took 50 when I lost,” said Hickok, to which the dealer responded, “Fifty goes when you lose.” The quick-tempered Hickok wasn’t about to accept those terms “sitting down” and quickly whacked the dealer on the head with his walking stick, turned over the table, and stuffed his pockets with the till.

On another occasion when Devol was working the railroad route, he beat a railroad director out of \$1,200. This one-time winning game resulted in Devol’s profession being quickly curbed when the outraged official prohibited gambling on trains. Further, the Pinkerton agency was hired to be on the lookout for the most notorious of the professional gamblers, including Devol.

In 1892, Devol published his autobiography, *Forty Years a Gambler on the Mississippi*, telling of his life and most likely exaggerating much of it. Shortly after he published his book, the great days of railroad and riverboat gambling were over. At the insistence of his new wife, he retired from gambling for good in 1896 and spent the last years of his life selling his book.

It is estimated that Devol won over two million dollars in his forty years of gambling. However, when he died in Hot Springs, Arkansas in 1903, he was nearly penniless.

### **The Smith & Wesson Model 3 American By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153**



One of the few positive side effects of the four years of bloody battle during the U.S. Civil War was that the massive demand for guns and improvements in them created the greatest technological advancement in firearms in 200 years. In little more than a decade, rifles, pistols, and shotguns went from using separate muzzle-loading components to using self-contained cartridges similar to those of today.

Two of the pioneers in that field were Horace Smith and Daniel Wesson, who not only had developed the mechanism and cartridges for what became the Winchester rifles but also had formed, in 1856, their own company and bought the patent rights of gunsmith Rollin White, which gave them exclusive rights in the United



States to manufacture cartridge revolvers with bored-through, rear-loading cylinders. It had been a slow process to develop a man-stopping cartridge caliber larger than the .22s and .32 Smith & Wesson had perfected. So, it was not until the summer of 1870 that the company brought out its big-framed, .44-caliber single-action six-gun, officially designated the No. 3 Model. It would not be named the American until 1874, to differentiate it from its successor, the No. 3 Russian Model.

The Smith & Wesson Model 3 American is a single-action, cartridge-firing, top-break revolver was Smith & Wesson's first big bore handgun. It is interesting to note that this model typically did not have the cartridge information stamped on the gun, as was standard practice for most commercial firearms.

As the first large-caliber revolver made in this country originally for metallic cartridges, there had been cartridge conversions in the past, the American represented a major step beyond conversions of percussion arms. Until the advent of Colt's 1873 Single Action Army model, its design was superior to that of any of its competitors. Production of the American ended in 1874, but it inaugurated a long line of large frame No. 3 size S&Ws in various models, which found a niche among buyers west of the Mississippi.

The Colt Peacemaker wasn't the first metallic cartridge revolver to be used by the U.S. Army. In fact, the Smith and Wesson No. 3 revolver in .44 S&W centerfire was purchased on an experimental basis for trials in 1870. It was not "standard" or "general issue", but it was indeed the first official use of metallic cartridge handgun.

The No.3 proved itself as adequate. Troopers liked the quick reload offered by automatic ejection. Despite this the Army adopted the Colt revolver as Standard in 1873, due in part to its stronger solid frame.

The Smith & Wesson Model 3 American was famously used by notorious law enforcer Wyatt Earp during the OK Corral Gunfight with the Clanton Gang. It was one of Jessie James' favorite handguns and was favored by Wild Bill Hickock and Texas Jack Omohundro.

## Vests in the Old West

### By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



John Wayne was the iconic cowboy. He changed hats for every role, but later on in his film career he wore the same leather vest in most every movie. It was leather in the front and canvas in the back. It had no buttons and looked like if it did that, he could not button it closed.

Vests were an important part of dressing the part of the old west.

Vests not only kept the torso warm, but they were also pretty handy. At that time, shirts had only one pocket (if any) and trousers had to be tight-fitting. Many cowboys wore vests because their four pockets allowed them to carry personal items like tobacco and a pocketknife. Besides, cowboys considered vests to be quite stylish. Style was

important in the Victorian period.

Coats were buttoned at the top and not the bottom, exposing the waistcoat (fancy Victorian name for vest). Waistcoats were simple, sleeveless garments with deep or shallow necks, buttoned down the front. Openings could be V or U shaped. Small pockets on the lower part of the vest were often used for a watch and chain.

Waistcoats were always worn over a white shirt. Even laborers wore vests at work as appearing in only a shirt was considered inappropriate. Working men wore vests of heavy cotton or denim. Upper class men wore silk or wool broadcloth vests. Broadcloth, also used for jackets and trousers, is a large piece of wool that is felted or shrunk in hot, soapy water creating a fabric with no visible weave. Summer versions appeared in linen, heavy cotton, or seersucker.

While early Victorian vests could be quite colorful featuring printed silk designs, later Victorian waistcoats were usually black, grey, or white. Waistcoats featured straps at the back to ensure a snug fit.

While waistcoats featured lapels, those worn for formal occasions had no lapels.

Working class men wore ready-made garments constructed of inexpensive fabrics like cotton, wool, denim, or corduroy. Corduroy is a warm, ribbed fabric that is both soft and durable and was used in making trousers, vests, and jackets. Laborers and factory workers all wore a vest over their shirts.

Of course, lower class men could not afford or have reason to make all the daily clothing changes of the elite. Most lower-class men owned a sack jacket and good trousers for special occasions. This Sunday best lasted a lifetime.

Why did cowboys wear vest? To protect their shirt from the wear and tear of everyday work. Carry heavy stuff on your shoulder or wrestle with horses and cattle and see that it does to your clothes. Now for the bad news. Nowhere in countless photos of cowboys in the old west is anyone wearing a leather vest. Leather vests did not get popular until the 1930s. They looked western and were used in countless movies and later TV shows, to the point that we assume most cowboys wore them. But it is just not the case. John Wayne's leather vest was just another Hollywood mistake.

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

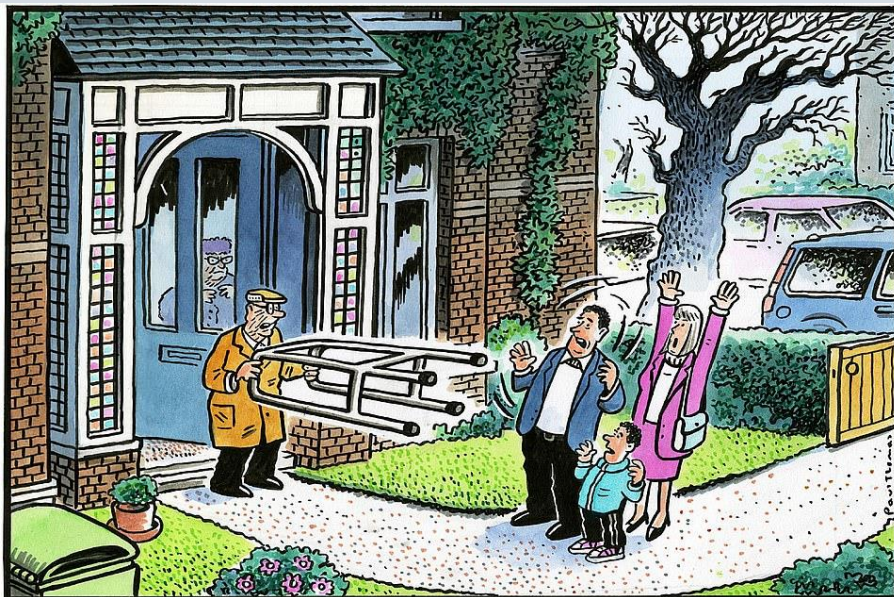


Our July and August matches are your last 4 opportunities to get your 5 matches in one category for annual awards. If you have any questions about how many times you have shot in one category, please email me at:

[Texicanrangers@yahoo.com](mailto:Texicanrangers@yahoo.com)

Secretary

Tombstone Mary



'Relax, grandad - we promise not to hug you!'



## SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR TEXICAN RANGERS' 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 the 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

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 12th.



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# BOOYAH BULLETS

email your order: [booyahbullets@gmail.com](mailto:booyahbullets@gmail.com) or text it to us @ 512.927.6743

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. I ate a clock yesterday; it was very time-consuming.
2. A perfectionist walked into a bar...apparently, the bar wasn't set high enough.
3. You know it is going to be a bad day when the letters in your alphabet soup spell D-I-S-A-S-T-E-R.
4. Did you hear about the crook who stole a calendar? Yea, He got twelve months.
5. Did you hear about the semi-colon that broke the law? He was given two consecutive sentences.
6. Never criticize someone until you've walked a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, they won't be able to hear you from that far away. Plus, you'll be wearing their shoes.
7. The world tongue-twister champion just got arrested. I hear they are going to give him a really tough sentence.
8. I own the world's worst thesaurus. Not only is it awful, it's awful.
9. So what if I don't know what "Armageddon" means? It's not the end of the world.
10. Correct punctuation: the difference between a sentence that's well-written and a sentence that's, well, written.
11. What's the difference between a good joke and a bad joke timing.
12. I woke up this morning and forgot which side the sun rises from, then it dawned on me.
13. I've just written a song about tortillas; actually, it's more of a wrap.
14. Velcro—what a rip-off!
15. I recently decided to sell my vacuum cleaner as all it was doing was gathering dust.
16. Don't you hate it when someone answers their own questions? I do.
17. I hate Russian dolls, they're so full of themselves.
18. 250 lbs here on Earth is 94.5 lbs on Mercury. No, I'm not fat. I'm just not on the right planet.
19. The best thing about good old days is that we were neither good nor old.
20. I have clean conscience. I haven't used it once until now.
21. If we shouldn't eat at night, why do they put a light in the fridge?
22. Do I lose when the police officer says papers and I say scissors?
23. If I got 50 cents for every failed math exam, I'd have \$ 6.30 now.
24. Meanwhile, in a parallel universe: "Oh for God's sake! Where are all these extra single socks coming from?!"
25. Moses had the first tablet that could connect to the cloud.
26. A lot of people cry when they cut onions. The trick is not to form an emotional bond.
27. I bought one of those tapes to teach you Spanish in your sleep. During the night, the tape skipped. Now I can only stutter in Spanish.
28. My girlfriend and I often laugh about how competitive we are. But I laugh more.
29. When I lost my rifle, the Army charged me \$85. That's why in the Navy, the captain goes down with the ship.
30. The closest a person ever comes to perfection is when he fills out a job application form.
31. I think it's pretty cool how the Chinese made a language entirely out of tattoos.
32. A Canadian psychologist is selling a video that teaches you how to test your dog's IQ. Here's how it works: If you spend \$12.99 for the video, your dog is smarter than you.
33. Why do dogs always race to the door when the doorbell rings? It's hardly ever for them.
34. Bifocals are God's way of saying, "Keep your chin up."

## 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



### June Birthdays

Leon Springs Bill	6/2
Rusty Bang Stick	6/4
La Sombra	6/6
T.H. Boland	6/8
Thunder Mountain	6/9
Nueces Slim	6/16
Quintana	6/18
Mad Dog McCoy	6/19
Skinny	6/21
Colorado Horseshoe	6/27
Burly Bill Brocius	6/30

### July Birthdays

Ruby Redheart	7/1
Texas Terror	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



### Key Links

[www.sassnet.com](http://www.sassnet.com)  
[www.texicanrangers.org](http://www.texicanrangers.org)  
[www.greenmountainregulators.org](http://www.greenmountainregulators.org)  
[www.pcss.org](http://www.pcss.org)  
[www.stxpistolaros.com](http://www.stxpistolaros.com)  
[www.tejascaballeros.org](http://www.tejascaballeros.org)  
[www.darbyroughregulators.com](http://www.darbyroughregulators.com)  
[www.trpistolaros.com](http://www.trpistolaros.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

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)



**Feb 24-Mar 1**  
**Mar 14-15**  
**May 30**

**June 18-28**  
**Sep 3-5**  
**Sep 23-26**  
**Oct 24-25**

**April 28-31**

**2020**  
**Winter Range**  
**Round Up**  
**SASS Texas State Wild Bunch**  
**Championship**  
**End of Trail**  
**Comancheria Days**  
**Comin' At Cha**  
**SASS Texas State Black Powder**  
**Championship**  
**SASS Southwest Regional Land Run**



**DONT SNEEZE ON ME**

Photo Album





