



# *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  
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### **Hello Texican Rangers**



It was good being back at the range shooting our regular monthly shoot in May. There were 61 shooters on Saturday and 12 shooters on Mothers Day, Sunday. New shotgun targets were used both days in May and seemed to do very well. I was not hit by any shot rebounding from the targets. Please give me your feedback on these targets: distance too far or too close, didn't fall with the golden BB, or why didn't we buy more?

It was good to see some of our members who are recovering from some health issues before the match: Both Hoppy and Dirty Dog Dale looked like they are on the road to recovery and will be out shooting soon.

For June we will be shooting on the north side both Saturday and Sunday. Saturday we will be starting at the Cow Camp through High Noon. On Sunday we will be starting at Mean Maggie's and ending on the Out House. There will be a bonus on the Cow Camp both days! You will also see 2 firearms shot from one position on most of the stages. A low winning time should be the order of the day.

Look forward to seeing everyone in June.  
A.D. Texaz

## **Decorations Day, the Forerunner to Memorial Day** **By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153**



On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month. He proclaimed, "The 30th of May 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land." The date was chosen because it

wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

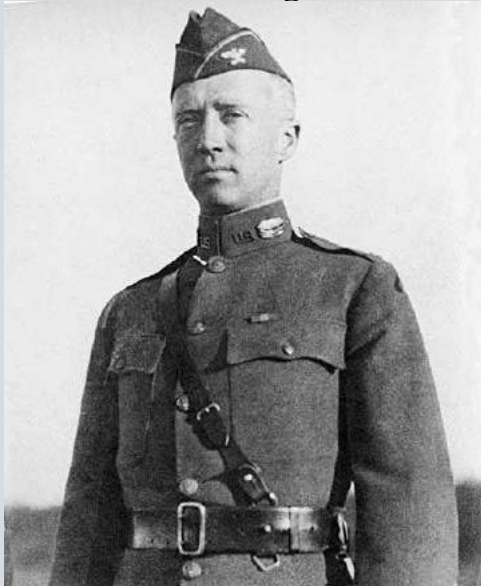
Many Northern states held similar commemorative events and reprised the tradition in subsequent years; by 1890 each one had made Decoration Day an official state holiday. Southern states, on the other hand, continued to honor their dead on separate days until after World War I.

By the late 19th century, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day, and after World War I, observers began to honor the dead of all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May.

Today, Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony in which a small American flag is placed on each grave. It is customary for the president or vice president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. More than 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

## **The Last Gunfight**

**By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153**



George Patton would go on to beat enough Nazi ass to earn the nickname "Old Blood and Guts," but back in 1916, he was just a young second lieutenant chasing Pancho Villa all over northern Mexico along with the rest of the U.S. Army. However, the glint of prospective bloodshed was already twinkling in his eye when he took part in one of the last gunfights of the Old West.

Patton and 10 enlisted men had been sent to San Miguelito ranch to look for Villa, who had recently raided the city of Columbus, New Mexico. Patton positioned his men by the south gate and was making his way up to the north gate when a trio of Villa's men came thundering into the ranch on horseback.

Patton drew his single action Colt Peacemaker

revolver (which was obsolete even by 1916 standards, but the future general evidently respected the weapon). With bullets whizzing by his face, Patton took aim and blasted two of the men's horses right out from under them. The first man had been fatally wounded in the exchange, but Patton patiently waited for the second man to get to his feet and allowed the bandit to draw his pistol before killing him with a single shot. Making this one of last recorded gun fights in the west.

After his troops took down the remaining outlaw, Patton tied the three dead men to the hood of his touring car and drove the bodies back to his commanding officer, because as history would go on to demonstrate, Patton was a cold-blooded son of gun.

## 1873, A Very Important Year in the Old West By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



1873 was a very important year in the Old West. It was the year President Ulysses S. Grant started his second term. The year Remington and Sons started production of the first practical typewriter. The year Levi Strauss & Company begin manufacturing the famous Levi's brand of blue jeans. The year Jesse James and James-Younger Gang pull off the first successful train robbery in the American West. Lastly the year Coors Brewing Company began making beer in Golden, Colorado. It was also the year of some major advancement in firearms.

Historians divide time into two segments, BC and AD. But, for firearms enthusiasts, history is divided "before 1873/after 1873." The three most iconic firearms of the 19th century, and their equally influential cartridges, all made their appearance in 1873. The development of the Colt Single Action Army revolver in .45 Colt, the 1873 Winchester lever action rifle in .44-40 and the 1873 Springfield Trapdoor rifle in .45-70, made 1873 one of the most important years firearms design in the 19th century.



I would bet that there isn't a person in Cowboy Action Shooting that isn't familiar with the Colt Single Action Army revolver—better known as the SAA, or the Model P, for Peacemaker. Did you know that Colt originally wanted to call their new revolver the New Model Army Metallic Cartridge Revolving Pistol? Thank goodness someone from marketing said no.

The SAA wasn't the first big-bore, cartridge-firing, American sixgun adopted by the U.S. Army—the Smith & Wesson American has that distinction. In fact, the 1873 SAA wasn't even the first Colt cartridge revolver to be adopted by the Army. The Army bought 1,200 of the first model Richards .44 Colt open top conversion of

the cap and ball 1860 Army revolver in 1871. But the acquisition of both the S&Ws and the Colt conversions were of limited quantities that were destined to be issued to the troops for practical field tests.

When the Army conducted formal competitive tests to pick its next service pistol, the Colt SAA easily bested the competition. The Army bought 12,500 Colt SAAs for service use over the 19-year service life of the SAA. That was a nice jump start to Colt's business, but by 1900 Colt had sold over 190,000 SAAs.



The second famous gun and cartridge pairing of 1873 was the model 1873 Winchester rifle and the .44-40 cartridge. The rifle itself wasn't spectacular. It represented the next step in refinement of Winchester's toggle link, lever-action that began with the Henry rifle and continued with the model 1866 Winchester. The model 1873 improved on the 1866 version in several ways. The frame was made of iron rather than bronze. There was a lever-actuated safety that prevented the rifle from firing until the bolt was fully in battery. And the frame had removeable plates on either side that allowed a shooter to clean the action without totally disassembling the rifle.

So, those improvements to the rifle were certainly welcome, but the thing that really set the model 1873 apart from its predecessors was its chambering. Previous Henry and Winchester rifles had been chambered in the .44 Henry rimfire round. And, even though skilled frontiersmen like Yellowstone Kelly dropped everything up to and including buffalo with that round, most experts would agree that it is pretty anemic.

The 1873 Winchester, chambered for the .44 Winchester Center Fire (.44 WCF) cartridge was still underpowered compared to the big single-shot buffalo rifles of the day, but it was a big step up from the .44 Henry rimfire. More importantly, it ushered in the era of standard cartridges. Because Winchester sold so many 1873 rifles, every general store and trading post carried a stock of .44 WCF cartridges. Other arms manufacturers quickly realized that chambering their weapons for those readily available cartridges would be a good selling point.

I don't think there is a single major gun maker in the latter 19th century who didn't chamber at least one model for the .44 WCF round. But calling it a .44 Winchester Center Fire was just giving Winchester too much free advertising, so the name .44-40 was born, and it stuck.



The final gun and cartridge to emerge in that watershed year was the 1873 Springfield Trapdoor rifle and the .45-70 Government cartridge. The 1873 Springfield rifle was a minor evolution on the trapdoor rifles turned out by the Springfield arsenal since 1866. As was the case with the 1873 Winchester, the cartridge is the real star of this story.

In 1866 the U.S. government had a huge arsenal of muzzleloading rifles produced during the Civil War that were effectively rendered obsolete by improvements in metallic cartridge technology. But, after the huge outlays of money spent to fight the Civil War, the government was in no mood to scrap the muzzleloaders and

shell out the cash needed to re-equip the army with cartridge firing weapons. The solution was provided by Erskin S. Allin, the master armorer of the Springfield Armory. What Allin did was to cut off the breech of the muzzleloading barrels and fit them with a strong trapdoor cartridge chamber and breech block. The barrels were lined, reducing them from .58 to .50 caliber, and the .50-70 cartridge was designed to shoot in these rifles. The stubby 450-grain, .50 caliber bullet lacked ballistic efficiency. The 1873 model corrected those problems, and its new .45 caliber round, with a 405-grain bullet, propelled by 70 grains of black powder, became an instant classic. It was the army's primary long arm for 19 years, until it was replaced by the Krag. But they remained in use with some units into the 20th century.

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



Scoring is a very important part of the game we play. You are responsible for looking at the time after you shoot and making sure that the correct time, misses and penalties are put down correctly on the scoresheet and it is legible.

Having the correct category is also very important. The following is a list of all club categories and their description:

\*For Ladies Just add an L behind the description\*

BW - B Western

BB - Buckaroo Boy (up to 13)

BG - Buckarette (up to 13)

CB - Cattle Baron (75+)

CC - Classic Cowboy

C - Cowboy (17+)

CG - Cowgirl (17+)

D - Duelist

DS - Duelist-Senior (60+)

DSS - Duelist-Silver Senior (65+)

ES - Elder Statesman (70+)

GD - Grand Dame (70+)

FN - Forty-Niner (49+)

FC - Frontier Cartridge

FCD - Frontier Cartridge Duelist

FCGF - Frontier Cartridge Gunfighter

F - Frontiersman

GP - Grand Patron (80+)

LP - La Patroness (80+)

GF - Gunfighter

GFS - Gunfighter-Senior (60+)

S - Senior (60+)

SS - Silver Senior (65+)

W - Wrangler (36+)

JB - Junior Boy (14-16)

JG - Junior Girl (14-16)

SHS - Sharpshooter

CDL - Cody Dixon Lever

CDSS - Cody Dixon Single Shot Wild Bunch  
Modern

WBT - Wild Bunch Traditional

WBTL - Wild Bunch Traditional Lady

WBM - Wild Bunch Modern

WBML - Wild Bunch Modern Lady

WBO - Wild Bunch Open

WBOL - Wild Bunch Open Lady

1911 T - 1911 Traditional

1911 TL - 1911 Traditional Lady

1911 M - 1911 Modern

1911 ML - 1911 Modern Lady

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [maryn58@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryn58@sbcglobal.net).  
Tombstone Mary

## The Best Chuck Norris Jokes

Chuck Norris has a grizzly bear carpet in his room. The bear isn't dead it is just afraid to move.

Chuck Norris frequently donates blood to the Red Cross. Just never his own.

When Chuck Norris enters a courtroom, the judge stands up.

There used to be a street named after Chuck Norris, but it was changed because nobody crosses Chuck Norris and lives.

While learning CPR Chuck Norris actually brought the practice dummy to life.

Chuck Norris threw a grenade and killed 50 people, then it exploded.

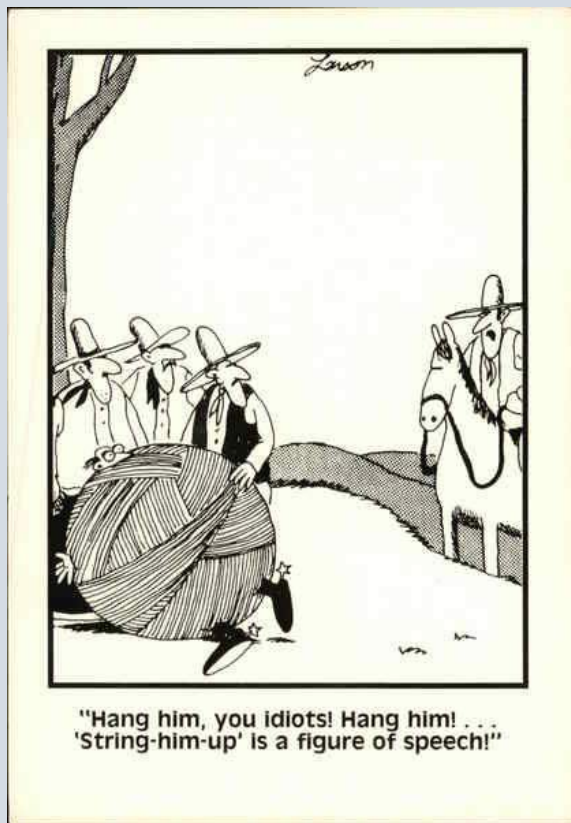
Chuck Norris and Superman once fought each other on a bet. The loser had to start wearing his underwear on the outside of his pants.

Before going to bed, the Boogeyman always checks his closet for Chuck Norris.

Chuck Norris has already been to Mars; that's why there are no signs of life.

Once a cobra bit Chuck Norris. After 5 days of extreme pain... the snake died.

While vacationing in France, Chuck Norris went out for a casual bike ride and accidentally won the Tour de France.



## 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



## May Birthdays

Bluebonnet Nell	5/01
Marshall Willy	5/04
Texas Sarge	5/05
Texas Tony	5/08
Shootin Steel	5/08
Whiskey Kid	5/16
Frontier Faith	5/17
Faye Starr	5/18
Sierra Cheyenne	5/29

## June Birthdays

Rusty Bang Stick	6/4
T.H. Boland	6/8
Thunder Mountain	6/9
Gypsy Soul	6/12
Nueces Slim	6/16
Mad Dog McCoy	6/19
Skinny	6/21
Colorado Horseshoe	6/27
Burly Bill Brocius	6/30



### 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

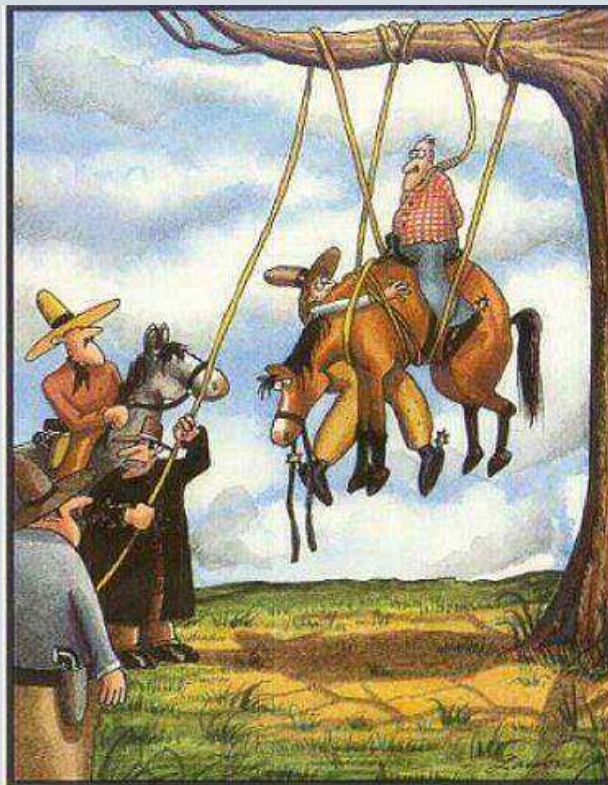
January 13	Monthly Match
January 14	Monthly Match
February 10	Monthly Match
February 11	Monthly Match
March 10	Monthly Match
March 11	Monthly Match
April 12 – 15	Comancheria Days
May 12	Monthly Match
May 13	Monthly Match
June 9	Monthly Match
June 10	Monthly Match
June 30	Wild Bunch, BAMB, Long Range
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)



	<b>2018</b>	
<b>Feb 9-11</b>	<b>Jail Break</b>	<b>Oakwood Outlaws</b>
<b>Feb 19-25</b>	<b>Winter Range</b>	<b>Phoenix</b>
<b>Mar 22-25</b>	<b>Trailhead</b>	<b>THSS</b>
<b>April 12-15</b>	<b>Comancheria Days</b>	<b>Texican Ranger (Comfort)</b>
<b>April 19-21</b>	<b>SASS Southwest Regional Land Run</b>	<b>Oklahoma</b>
<b>June 14-24</b>	<b>End of Trail</b>	<b>Founders Ranch, NM</b>
<b>Oct 19-20</b>	<b>SASS Texas State Black Powder</b>	
	<b>Championship</b>	<b>Groesbeck, TX</b>
<b>Oct 19-21</b>	<b>SASS Texas State Wild Bunch</b>	
	<b>Championship</b>	<b>Cleburne, TX</b>
<b>Nov 2-4</b>	<b>Battle of Plum Creek</b>	<b>Plum Creek</b>



"Okay, okay, okay... everyone just calm down and we'll try this thing one more time."

Photo Album













