



# 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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TX 78278-2261

PO Box 782261  
San Antonio,

### Officers

#### President

**A.D. Texaz**

210-862-7464

[in1897@me.com](mailto:in1897@me.com)

#### Vice President

**Col. Callan**

325-446-7632

[Col.Callan@yahoo.com](mailto:Col.Callan@yahoo.com)

#### Secretary

**Tombstone Mary**

210-262-7464

[maryn58@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryn58@sbcglobal.net)

#### Treasurer

**General Burleson**

210-912-7908

[generalburleson@gmail.com](mailto:generalburleson@gmail.com)

#### Range Master

**Colorado Horseshoe**

719-231-6109

[geo\\_coles@msn.com](mailto:geo_coles@msn.com)

#### [Communications](#)

**Dutch Van Horn**

210-823-6058

[dutchvanhorn@satx.rr.com](mailto:dutchvanhorn@satx.rr.com)

### Happy Holidays Texican Rangers



And I hope everyone has a prosperous and healthy 2019 too!

The 2-month range closure has allowed the officers to refresh and the opportunity to get a lot of the Comancheria Days items done.

To open the range we will have our first workday January 8th. We will set up stages 1-6. Also we will be removing a tree from stage 2 and re-do the stage façade to allow us better target placement and an overall better stage.

The final thing to accomplish on the first workday is to pick up all of the small fallen tree limbs from the winter. Two years ago, Burly Bill Brocius brought his mule and a trailer for the task on January 8th. This worked really well! Burly Bill has graciously offered to bring his mule and trailer for the task.

Friends we could use 30 folks for the January workday, please come out for a ½ day of work to get the range open for the season and to begin the Comancheria Days set up.

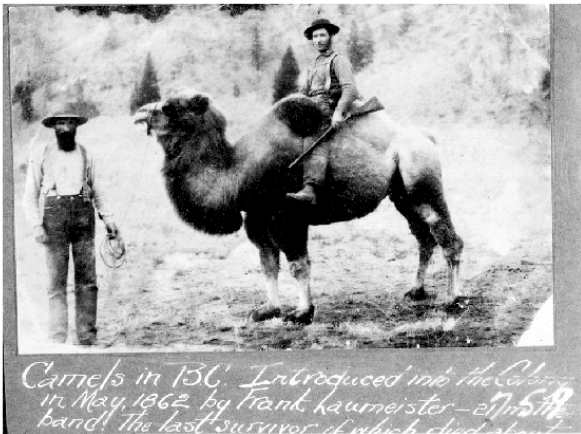
Comancheria Days update: We have received 166 entries, 39 entries for Wild Bunch, and 12 entries for Plainsmen. What a great start! Remember we are only taking 60 entries for Wild Bunch.

I'm off to reload, and believe it or not, clean my rifles!

See you in January.

A.D. Texaz

## When Camels Roamed the Wild West By Unknown



Have you heard about the U.S. Camel Corps?

Before the Civil War, an ambitious Quartermaster major named Henry Wayne proposed that camels could help the military, and the idea had legs (and, presumably, humps). Camels were valuable because of their endurance, proven ability to transport heavy loads, and experience in desert climates. So, in 1855, Congress let Secretary of War Jefferson Davis buy some camels.

The camels were brought over, but the

Civil War delayed the plans (as did, presumably, the departure of Secretary Davis to the Confederacy). Most of the camels were sold to zoos and carnivals, but some weren't. That's where the weird part comes in. A few camels were abandoned in the Southwest and, for years, wild camels roamed the plains. It wasn't common to see a camel out in the wild, but it wasn't unheard of, either. The last wild camel was spotted near Douglas, Texas as late as 1941.

## A Pioneer Christmas By Unknown



By the mid-1800s the American Christmas tradition included much of the same customs and festivities as it does today, including tree decorating, gift-giving, Santa Claus, greeting cards, stockings by the fire, church activities and family-oriented days of feasting and fun.

But, for those in the Old West, far away from the more civilized life of the east, pioneers, cowboys, explorers, and mountain men, usually celebrated Christmas with homemade gifts and humble fare.

Christmas for many in the Old West was a difficult time. For those on the prairies, they were often barraged with terrible blizzards and savage December winds. For mountain men, forced away from their mining

activities long before Christmas, in fear of the blinding winter storms and freezing cold, the holidays were often meager. But, to these strong pioneers, Christmas would not be forgotten, be it ever so humble.

Determined to bring the spirit of Christmas alive on the American frontier, soldiers could be heard caroling at their remote outposts, the smell of venison roasting over an open hearth wafted upon the winds of the open prairie, and these hardy pioneers looked forward to the chance to forget their hard, everyday lives to focus on the holiday.

Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote of the preparations for Christmas on the Kansas Prairie: “Ma was busy all day long, cooking good things for Christmas. She baked salt-rising bread and r’n’Injun bread, and Swedish crackers, and a huge pan of baked beans, with salt pork and molasses. She baked vinegar pies and dried-apple pies and filled a big jar with cookies, and she let Laura and Mary lick the cake spoon. “That very Christmas, Laura Ingalls was delighted to find a shiny new tin cup, a peppermint candy, a heart-shaped cake, and a brand-new penny in her stocking. For in those days, these four small gifts in her stocking were a wealth of gifts to the young girl.

Though perhaps modest, these hardy pioneers made every attempt to decorate their homes for the holidays with whatever natural materials looked attractive at the bleakest time of year, such as evergreens, pinecones, holly, nuts, and berries.

For some, there might even be a Christmas tree, gaily decorated with bits of ribbon, yarn, berries, popcorn or paper strings, and homemade decorations. Some of these homemade decorations were often figures or dolls made of straw or yarn. Cookie dough ornaments and gingerbread men were also popular. In other places, wood was simply too scarce to “waste” on a tree, if one could be found at all. Other pioneer homes were simply too small to make room for a tree.

At the very least, almost every home would make the holiday a time of feasting — bringing out preserved fruits and vegetables, fresh game if possible, and for those that could afford it, maybe even beef or a ham. Many women began to bake for the holiday weeks ahead of time, leaving the plum pudding to age in the pot until Christmas dinner.

Many of the homemade gifts, including corn husk dolls, sachets, carved wooden toys, pillows, footstools, and embroidered hankies, might have had the family members working on for months ahead of Christmas. Others knitted scarves, hats, mitts, and socks. If the family had had a good year, the children might find candies, small gifts, cookies and fruit in their stockings.

Christmas Eve would generally find most families singing carols around the Christmas tree or fireplace. On Christmas Day, most would attend church, return home for the traditional Christmas meal, and spend the day visiting with friends and neighbors.

Then, as it is today, Christmas would also find many a mountain man, explorer, or lone cowboy, spending a solitary evening without the benefit of festivities. The more things change; some things inevitably remain the same.

**To our Texican Ranger family,**

**Fröhliche Weihnachten**

**veselé Vánoce**

**glædelig jul**

**vrolijk kerstfeest**

**hyvää joulua**

**joyeux Noël**

**boldog Karácsonyt**

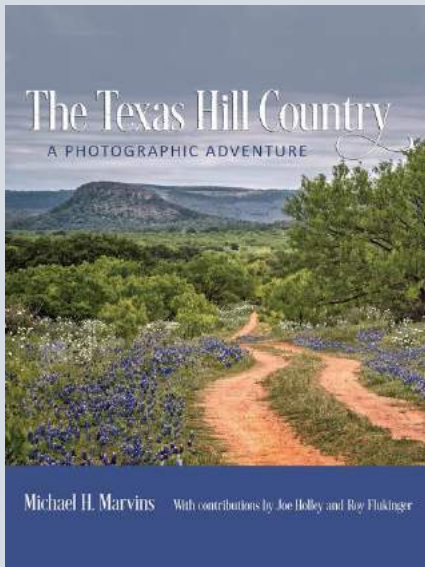
**buon Natale**

**god jul**

**Wesołych Świąt**

**veselé Vianoce**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy Shooting!**



Mike Marvins photographed Stieler Ranch during our Texican Rangers matches. His book is finally out features the Stieler Ranch and the Texican Rangers. If you are interested, you can view it at: [mikemarvins.com](http://mikemarvins.com).

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



Thank you to everyone who signed their waivers and paid their dues by mail. This helps speed up the January match check-in.

Everyone must sign a new 2019 waiver before they can shoot a match. If you did not mail your waiver, I will have a copy at the January match for you to complete.

Please remember that all guests on the range must sign a waiver.

If I can help in anyway or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [Texicanrangers@yahoo.com](mailto:Texicanrangers@yahoo.com).  
Tombstone Mary



### Top 10 Western Quotes

1. "Get out of Dodge." – Matt Dillon, James Arness, *Gunsmoke*
2. "I'm your huckleberry." – Doc Holliday, Val Kilmer, *Tombstone*
3. "Well, you may not know this, but there's things that gnaw at a man worse than dying." – Charlie Waite, Kevin Costner, *Open Range*
4. "I won't be wronged. I won't be insulted. I won't be laid a hand on. I don't do these things to other people and I require the same from them." – John Bernard Brooks, John Wayne, *The Shootist*
5. "You see, in this world there's two kinds of people, my friend: Those with loaded guns and those who dig. You dig." – Blondie, Clint Eastwood, *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*
6. "A gun is a tool, Marian; no better or no worse than any other tool: an ax, a shovel or anything. A gun is as good or as bad as the man using it. Remember that." – Shane, Alan Ladd, *Shane*
7. "It's a hell of a thing, killing a man. Take away all he's got and all he's ever gonna have." – Will Munny, Clint Eastwood, *Unforgiven*
8. "Dying ain't much of a living, boy." – Josey Wales, Clint Eastwood, *The Outlaw Josey Wales*
9. "That'll be the day." – Ethan Edwards, John Wayne, *The Searchers*
10. "I hate rude behavior in a man. I won't tolerate it." – Woodrow Call, Tommy Lee Jones, *Lonesome Dove*



All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names.

## 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

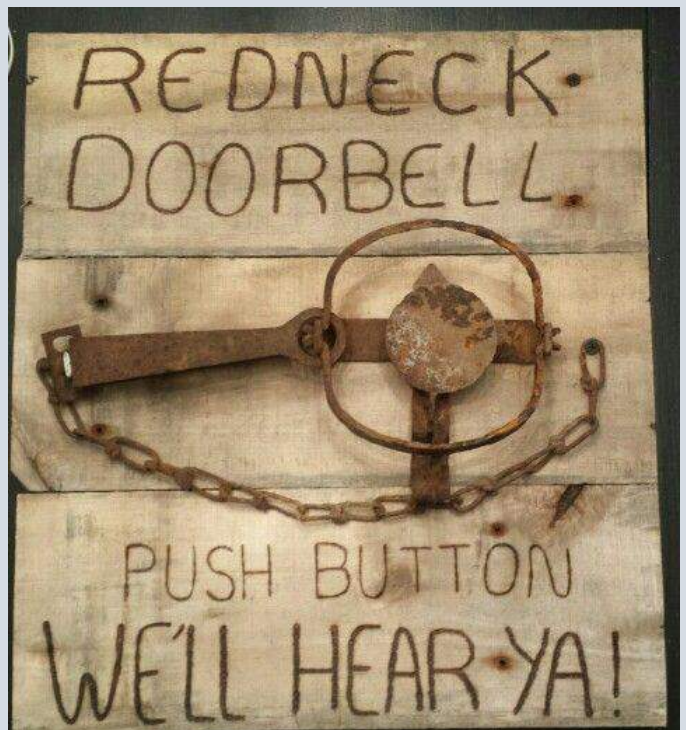


### December Birthdays:

Asup Sleeve	12/1
Dutch Van Horn	12/3
General Burleson	12/4
Minnesota Clay	12/9
Texas Slim Pickens	12/10
Long John Beard	12/12
Sauk Valley Sam	12/15
Badlands Bruce	12/25
Preacher Kid	12/31

### January Birthdays:

Chasen Aces	1/5
Blacky Vela	1/7
Panhandle Cowgirl	1/11
Hawkeye	1/12
Skyhawk Hans	1/12
Three Fingered Dutchman	1/21
Big John Mesquite	1/23
Leather Lung	1/27



### 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

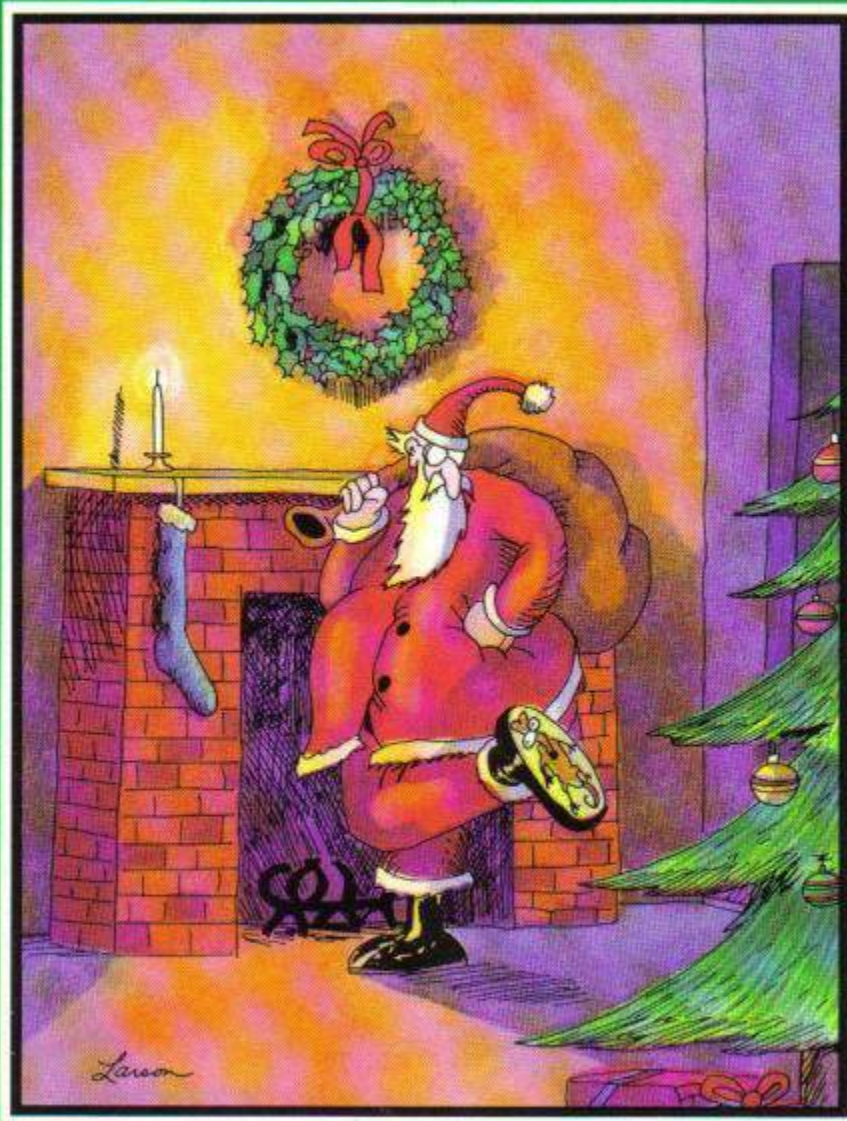
2018

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)

	<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>



'Twas the night before Christmas and all  
through the house not a creature was  
stirring ... not even a mouse.



Best Shots of 2018



