

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
November/December 2021

PO Box 782261
San Antonio, TX 78278-2261

Officers

President

Asup Sleeve

(954) 632-3621

asupsleeve@yahoo.com

Vice President

Burly Bill Brocius

210-310-9090

Bexarbillbrocius@gmail.com

Secretary

Tombstone Mary

210-262-7464

maryn58@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

A.D.

210-862-7464

jn1897@me.com

Range Master

Colorado Horseshoe

719-231-6109

george.coles0627@gmail.com

[Communications](#)

Dutch Van Horn

210-823-6058

dvh@satx.rr.com

Howdy Texican Rangers



As 2021 draws to close so does my tenure as President. It has been an honor to serve. One last time, I'd like to thank all those members who worked so hard to support the Texicans throughout this challenging year. It's that kind of involvement that makes this the premier shooting club in Texas

The duly elected 2022 Texican Ranger Board now have the reigns and I know that they will enjoy the loyal support of all Texican Rangers.

I pray that y'all will take time to celebrate the blessing of the season. May God bestow Peace and prosperity for the coming New Year on you all.

So for now, Adios and Happy Trails. As always, I look forward to making noise outta gunpowder with ya in the New Year. Asup Sleeve

President, Texican Rangers



Words from the President Elect



My focus for 2022 will be to increase our cowboy/cowgirl shooter membership.

I am currently reading a book that I received for my birthday “Empire of the Summer Moon” Quannah Parker and the rise and fall of the Comanches, the most powerful Indian Tribe in American History. It is proving to be a great read. Buy it...you will enjoy.

Hope everyone has a Blessed and safe Christmas and New Year! Looking forward to seeing everyone very soon at the first match of the season!
Alamo Andy
2022 President, Texican Rangers

An Outlaw's Christmas By Unknown



Kid Curry was a member of Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch. His real name was Harvey Logan and he was an outlaw and gunman. In the Paul Newman movie, he was the one that wanted to fight Butch Cassidy with a knife. Here is the story of his 1894 Christmas.

Kid Curry was mean; to begin with. There is no doubt whatever about that.

Christmas morning, 1894, Landusky, Montana. Jew Jake's (his real name) Place was part dry-goods store part saloon and oddly enough, about to be a part of Christmas history.

This was an odd fellow, Jew Jake! Easy to recognize as he had one leg standing, and the other missing. In the space vacated by the latter leg was propped a Winchester rifle, it was a bit slow going in a three legged race but this volatile leg had silenced at least two troublemakers, which made it a

barkeepers' best friend. In essence we can say, with clear conscience and easy heart, Jake was not a ladies man nor was he a great dancer. But Harry Logan (alias Kid Curry) held no interest in women nor dancing that cold Christmas day, so it was at Jake's that we find him, and not in search of canned beans or candy canes.

The Kid had been doing an exceptional job of wrapping any and all of his Holiday cheer in whiskey. He had been laboring on it most of the day until whatever fragment of goodwill he began with was now completely invisible to any human eye that might be reckless enough to wander in his direction. Kid Curry was in a very black mood and no amount of red or green, nor crystal white could sway him out of it. Black was his, and he wore it like garland! Unfortunately he had a mind to decorate the town.

At some point he grew restless, staring into a glass no longer satisfied him, and the need to share was upon him, so out he went to do a little last minute holiday shooting!

In this he showed no prejudice, no one home received more bullets than another! Windows were his favorite! He even shot the blacksmith sign! He treated all, as equals...there were holes everywhere.

Others, who had been in possession of that same special brand of holiday cheer decided they too would join in, after all there was much town left and Kid was only one mean man. It was indeed the charitable thing to do! They proceeded to ventilate the little town until they got bored, or cold or possibly just got thirsty. Then it was

back to Jew Jakes for refreshments. Neither the libations nor the bullets worked to fill the blackness Curry held so dear, no matter how regularly or skillfully applied. The void not only remained, but grew in size and hunger, needing tending once again.

Enter into Jew Jake's, one Pike Landusky, town father, and a man who should have stayed home. For months Pike had been looking to deliver a certain caliber Christmas card to Curry, a little note of displeasure for the seduction of his stepdaughter by Lonnie Logan brother of Harry. Pike and the Kid were sworn blood enemies; murky eyes met as brown teeth clenched. The saloon held its collective breath, ducked under tables and hid their candy canes. Kid struck first, then Pike, and so forth and so on and round about until Pike found himself back to the floor and face to a six-shooter. He did try to reach for his gun, but never had a chance. Six in the face beats one in the coat every time.

Lonny stole the first wagon he could find, Kid jumped aboard and ere they drove out of sight. He shot what was left of the town to shoot that Christmas night!

One can only imagine that after word of this incident got around, Kid Curry was not invited to a lot of Christmas parties. The same probably held true for Lonnie.

The Confusing History of .44 Caliber in the Old West By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



Since the beginning of the big-bore, self-contained metallic cartridge there has been no standardization of the ammunitions' name or designation. It seems many companies went out of their way to make ammunition confusing.



In the beginning, Oliver Winchester's company brought forth the first really successful repeating firearm with the .44 Henry lever gun. This rimfire cartridge was a true .44 —actually almost .45 — as it used a bullet with a diameter of 0.445", the outside diameter of the cartridge case. This was accomplished by using a bullet that had a base of a smaller diameter than the rest of the case and this smaller-diameter "heel" fitted inside the cartridge case. It was underpowered in that the normal loading was with 26 grains of black powder.



When Smith & Wesson brought out the first big-bore cartridge-firing sixgun in late 1869, they followed the same pattern using a bullet with two diameters, a smaller heel and the main part of the bullet being 0.441". This was named the .44 American. It used a .434 bullet and black powder and according to some references, the military used it from 1871 to 1873, when it was replaced by the 45 Colt. Then along came the Russians.



Smith & Wesson received a large order from the Russian military for their S&W American Model #3 revolver, however, the Russians made two significant changes. One was for the revolver itself changing the grip frame by adding a hump to the top of the curved backstrap and also placing a spur on the bottom of the trigger guard. To this day there is still no common agreement on the purpose

of this spur. Was it to give a more solid grip or simply to keep the pistol from sliding down when placed in a sash at the waistband?

The more important change was the cartridge — the Russians wanted a bullet of uniform diameter. When the bullet was fashioned to fit inside the case (the normal way today), the bullet diameter was shrunk to a standard 0.429". This has been the case ever since with the ensuing .44 Special, simply a longer .44 Russian, and the .44 Magnum which came about by lengthening the .44 Special case. It is known for its great accuracy and the cowboy shooters adopted it. Buffalo Bill was a fan of this round.

I was under the impression that the .44 Russian was the first to come up with the inside lubricated bullet, that is, a bullet with the lube grooves inside the case. This is not true as the original .44 Russian rounds still used an outside lubricated bullet until 1887 when the Union Metallic Cartridge Company began placing the lube grooves of the .44 Russian cartridge inside the case.



The 44 Colt was adopted by the US military in 1871 and used until replaced by the 45 Colt in 1873. Bullets were heeled, weighing from 210 to 225 grains. Black powder loads produced in the neighborhood of 650 to 700 FPS averaging 200 to 210 FT. LBS. of energy which was fairly effective at close range.

We can purchase sixguns today chambered in .44 Colt but these also have been changed from the original. Colt's first .44 also used a heeled bullet, however, today's .44 Colt cartridge is simply the .44 Special shortened and with a smaller rim diameter. The latter was done to fit the first replica sixguns which had cylinders too small in diameter to accept six .44 Russian or .44 Special whose rims would overlap. Today's .44 Colt replicas, at least some of them, have larger diameter cylinders to also accept .44 Russian and some are also chambered to accept all three of these .44 cartridges.

Many of the rifle cartridges of the 19th century were hyphenated, consisting of two numbers with the first one giving the bullet diameter while the latter was for the powder charge. For example, we have the .45-70 which used a bullet of 0.457" to 0.459" diameter over 70 grains of black powder. Notice .45 rifles are actually closer to .46 caliber. Other rifle .45 caliber nomenclature included such as the .45-60, .45-75 .45-90, .45-100, .45-110 and .45-120 with the second number in each case denoting the charge of black powder under the bullet. Then came the Winchester Model 1894 and more confusion.



This now-legendary levergun was first chambered in .38-55 and .32-40, which both follow the original nomenclature pattern. Then in 1895 the first smokeless cartridge arrived in the 1894, the .30 Winchester Centerfire (or .30 WCF) that is now mostly known as the .30-30, the second number

having nothing to do with a black powder charge. About 10 years later saw the arrival of first the .30-03 and then the .30-06 with the second numbers having absolutely nothing to do with powder charges but rather the year they were introduced. The .308 Winchester of the 1950s actually was named for the bullet diameter.

Winchester's original centerfire cartridges for the Model 1873 levergun were the .44 WCF, .38 WCF and .32 WCF. Today these are more commonly known as .44-40, .38-40 and .32-20. The prevailing wisdom is Marlin started this difference in naming the cartridges because they did not want to write "Winchester" on their barrels

so the .44 Winchester Centerfire became the .44-40 with the second number denoting the number of grains of black powder. The .32-20, actually a .31, was loaded with 20 grains of black powder but what of the .38-40? The actual bullet diameter is not 0.38" but rather 0.401".

There are some who say it actually was a .40-38, however .38-40 sounded better and then there would be the confusion if it was called a .40-40. Perhaps we shall never know. Even more confusing is a so-called .41 Long Colt which uses not a 0.410" bullet as the later arriving .41 Magnum, but actually a 0.386" diameter bullet. And both the .38-40 and .41 Long Colt sixguns produced by Colt had a barrel groove diameter of 0.401" with the latter cartridge designed so the smaller bullet would expand to match the barrel.

Are you confused yet? Trying to understand the different .44 calibers and the ways they named them makes my head hurt.

Mary Elizabeth Browser, the most successful Civil War Spy **By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153**



In 1839, Mary Elizabeth Van Lew was born a slave in Richmond, Virginia. Her owner was the John Van Lew family. He was a wealthy hardware merchant.

After his death in 1851, Van Lew's daughter Elizabeth and her mother freed his slaves. When the women learned of slaves of other owners were offered for sale, they purchased and freed them.

Mary remained with the Van Lew family after she had her freedom and worked as a paid servant. Elizabeth sent Mary to the Quaker School for Negroes in Philadelphia in the late 1850's.

Following her graduation, Mary returned to Richmond and married William or Wilson Bowser, a free black man on April 16, 1861, just a few days

before the beginning of the Civil War. Their wedding was unusual because the church where the ceremony was held was mostly white. They settled just outside Richmond, and Mary continued to work for the Van Lew family.



After the war began, Elizabeth Van Lew asked Mary to help her with an elaborate spying system she carried out in the Confederate Capital. Elizabeth was a strict abolitionist, and a Union Army supporter. Because her father was a wealthy and prominent member of Richmond, she was tolerated. Her views and actions, namely attending to the wounds and feeding Union soldiers at Libby Prison, gained her enmity within the community. She used it to her advantage. She managed to appear as a muttering, slovenly, and crazy woman, earning her the nickname "Crazy Bet". She acquired information from the captives, and when one would escape, she would hide them in a secret room in the family mansion. She wrote ciphered messages and hid them in the soles of servant's shoes or eggshells, and, with the aid of other agents,

smuggled them out to the Union Army.

Mary was exceptionally intelligent, and displayed some acting skills. Hoping to gain access to secret information, she became "Ellen Bond", a dim-witted, crazy, but very able servant. Elizabeth had a friend take

Mary along to help with functions held by Varina Davis, wife of Confederate President Jefferson Davis. She proved herself very efficient, and was taken on full-time in the Confederate White House, where she stayed until just before the end of the war. Of course, they believed she was still a slave.

Racial disrespect assumed that all slaves were illiterate, and lacked intelligence. And slaves were trained to be “invisible”. Mary listened carefully to troop and military strategies exchanged between Davis and his Officers. Serving and cleaning up after meetings gave her access to documents left behind. In Davis’ study, she memorized dozens of vital documents with the aid of a “photographic memory”. She never missed a single word.

Mary collected some of the most vital information about the war and passed it on to Elizabeth on some evenings, meeting her at the Van Lew farm just outside Richmond, or gave it to Thomas McNiven, a reputable Richmond baker. With his business, he was able to pass on information both at the bakery and on his deliveries. When he arrived at the Davis residence, Mary would greet him briefly at his wagon, keeping their conversation as short as possible. Just before his death in 1904, he told his daughter Jeanette about the activities. She passed the information on to her nephew Robert Waitt, Jr., who recorded them in 1952. Thomas said about Mary:

“...as she was working right in the Davis home and had a photographic mind. Everything she saw on the Rebel president’s desk, she could repeat word for word. Unlike most colored, she could read and write. She made a point of always coming out to my wagon when I made deliveries at the Davis’ home to drop information.”

Towards the end of the war, suspicion fell on Mary. It is not known how or why. She fled in 1865, but before she did, she make one last attempt to aid the Union. She unsuccessfully attempted to burn down the Confederate Capitol.

After the war, the government destroyed all records of the southern spy effort, including those of Mary, Elizabeth, and Thomas, that’s why there are no details to tell. It is believed that Mary kept a diary of her actions, and that it was accidentally discarded in 1952. Others say it was intentionally destroyed by her family, fearing retribution by the Confederacy. And still others claim it is in the possession of a Black family who will not disclose its whereabouts.

There is no record of Mary after her escape from Richmond, or when or where she died. It is commonly believed she headed north, possibly to Philadelphia.

In 1995, the U.S. government honored Mary Elizabeth Bowser for her efforts by inducting her in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Corps Hall of Fame in Fort Huachuca, Arizona. During the ceremony, her contribution was described thus:

“Ms. Bowser certainly succeeded in a highly dangerous mission to the great benefit of the Union effort. She was one of the highest placed and most productive espionage agents of the Civil War. ... [Her information] greatly enhanced the Union’s conduct of the war. ... Jefferson Davis never discovered the leak in his household staff, although he knew the Union somehow kept discovering Confederate plans.”

Jefferson Davis’ Confederate President’s Guard By Dutch Van Horn/Regulator 51153



The White House of the Confederacy had no Secret Service per se. President Jefferson Davis had a few military aides that worked out of the executive mansion.

This changed in early February 1864 – perhaps not coincidentally two weeks after an arson attempt at the mansion – did the Confederate government station what was known formally as the President’s Guard. The commander’s report on a surviving muster roll details the unit’s history and purpose:

“This guard was organized by orders of Brigadier-General John H. Winder, in obedience to an order issued by the Secretary of War for the exclusive purpose of guarding the Executive Mansion. It is composed of disabled-bodied men, detailed by General [Robert E.] Lee, for light duty. Its officers are disabled, each by the loss of an

arm. It has four posts and requires a detail of one commissioned officer, two noncommissioned officers and twelve privates, daily.”

Captain William H. H. Coe, who commanded the Guard from March to November 1864, had lost his left arm at Gaines’ Mill in June 1862 while serving with the 40th Virginia Infantry. His successor, Capt. Charles T. Huckstep, had been commander of the Fluvanna (Virginia) Artillery.

It consisted over time with between 36 and 48 members. They relied of the people of Richmond to provide uniforms and armament. It is unique, beside the fact that all the officers only having one arm, as the only Confederate unit in the Civil War armed with the 1860 Henry rifle.

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 2022 waiver before they can shoot a match. If you did not mail your waiver, Shooting Iron Miller will have a copy at the January match for you to sign.
Tombstone Mary
Texican Rangers Secretary



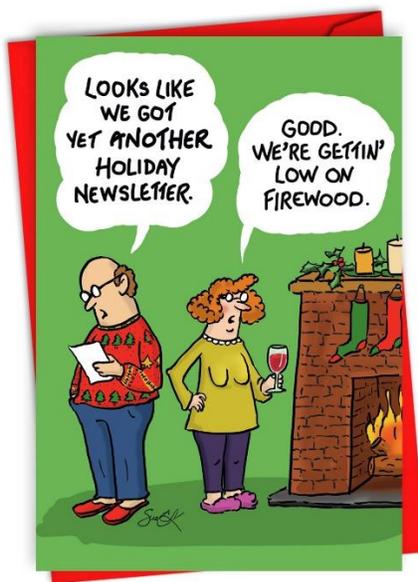
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YET ANOTHER
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Price List effective 03.01.21

Caliber	Weight	Config.	Price/500	Price/1000
.38	100	RNFP	42	83
	105	FP	43	85
	125	RNFP	47	94
	125	FP	47	94
	130	RNFP	49	97
	158	RNFP	54	106
	158	FP	54	106
	158	SWC	54	106
.380	100	RNFP	42	83
.38-55	245	RNFP	82	162
.41	215	SWC	70	139
.44	180	RNFP	58	115
	240	SWC	75	149
.44-40	200	RNFP	64	127
.45 COLT	160	RNFP	61	121
	180	RNFP	58	115
	200	RNFP	64	127
	250	RNFP	76	152
9MM	124	RN	47	94
	125	CN	47	94
40 S&W	180	FP	58	115
.45ACP	200	SWC	64	127
	200	RN	64	127
	230	RN	73	144
45-70	405	FPT	75 (250)	300 (1K)
			150 (500)	

Parting Shots Halloween Edition

1. Not saying I live in a rough area but just bought an advent calendar and half the windows are boarded up!
2. Can I have your picture so I can show Santa what I want for Christmas?
3. I asked my wife what she wanted for Christmas. She told me "Nothing would make her happier than a diamond necklace" So I bought her nothing.
4. What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic
5. There's nothing like the joy on a kid's face when he first sees the PlayStation box containing the socks I got him for Christmas.
6. Remember, children. The best way to get a puppy for Christmas is to beg for a baby brother.
7. STRESSED is just DESSERTS spelled backward.
8. Why is Christmas just like a day at the office? You do all the work and the fat guy with the suit gets all the credit.
9. How do you know when Santa's in the room? You can sense his presents.
10. I bought my son a fridge for Christmas. – I can't wait to see his face light up when he opens it.
11. The 3 stages of man: He believes in Santa Claus. He doesn't believe in Santa Claus. He is Santa Claus.
12. What is the best Christmas present ever? A broken drum - you can't beat it!
13. When you stop believing in Santa Claus is when you start getting clothes for Christmas!
14. Why did Santa go to a psychiatrist? He no longer believed in himself.
15. Santa's elves are just a bunch of subordinate Clauses.
16. Who is never hungry at Christmas? The turkey - he's always stuffed!
17. What is the best evidence that Microsoft has a monopoly? Santa Claus had to switch from Chimneys to Windows.
18. The main reason Santa is so jolly is because he knows where all the bad girls live.
19. What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the ordinary alphabet? The Christmas alphabet has Noel.
20. My wife set a limit on how much we can spend on each other for Christmas. It's \$100 on me and \$500 on her.
21. I have this weird talent where I can identify what's inside a wrapped present. It's a gift.
22. What's red and white, red and white, red and white? Santa rolling off your roof.
23. On St. Patrick's Day I like to make believe I'm Irish. Just like at Christmas when I make believe I'm good.
24. What did Adam say to Eve on the 24th December? It's Christmas Eve, Eve.
25. Yo mamma is so short, when she went to meet Santa he said, "Go back to work!"

Texican Rangers Regulators

Tombstone Mary	2003
A.D.	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
Krazy Kat	12/2
Shotgun Jim	12/2
Dutch Van Horn	12/3
Half-Hitch Holley	12/14
General Burleson	12/14
Minnesota Clay	12/9
Sauk Valley Sam	12/15
Badlands Bruce	12/25

January Birthdays:

Tombstone Terry	1/3
Chasen Aces	1/5
Blacky Vela	1/7
Panhandle Cowgirl	1/11
Hawkeye	1/12
Skyhawk Hans	1/12
Stony Lane	1/18
Brazos Bo	1/19
Big John Mesquite	1/23



Key Links

- www.sassnet.com
- www.texicanrangers.org
- www.greenmountainregulators.org
- www.pccss.org
- www.stxpistolaros.com
- www.tejascaballeros.org
- www.trpistolaros.com
- www.texasjacks.com
- www.cimarron-firearms.com
- www.tsra.com
- www.wildwestmercantile.com

TEXICAN RANGERS

2022

January 8	Monthly Match
January 9	Monthly Match
February 12	Monthly Match
February 13	Monthly Match
March 12	Monthly Match
March 13	Monthly Match
April 7-9	Comancheria Days
April 30	Wild Bunch/BAMM
May 14	Monthly Match
May 15	Monthly Match
June 11	Monthly Match
June 12	Monthly Match
July 9	Monthly Match
July 10	Monthly Match
July 30	Wild Bunch/BAMM
August 13	Monthly Match
August 14	Monthly Match
September 10	Shindig
September 11	Monthly Match
October 8	Monthly Match/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 28 – Mar 6, 2022
March 17 - 20, 2022
March 23 – 26, 2022
April 7 - 9, 2022
October 8 – 16, 2022
November 4 – 6, 2022

2022

EOT (SASS World Championship)
SASS Texas State Championship Trailhead
SASS Southwest Regional
Comancheria Days
SASS National Championship – Land Run
SASS Texas State Wild Bunch
Championship

Photo Album





