June 2024

Volume 24 Issue 1



South Texas Pistolaros Newsletter



Match Info:

A Place To Shoot

13250 Pleasanton Rd.

San Antonio Техаѕ

78221

- **Monthly Match** Schedule for July 6, 2024
- Range gate opens at 9:00 AM
- Match Registration from 9:00 to 9:30 AM.
- Mandatory Shooters Safety Meeting at 9:30 AM.
- Match Starts at 9:45 AM
- Pre-register with PRACTISCORE

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello all you cowboys and cowgirls. As we celebrate Independence Day and our cowboy heritage, we can reflect on how our ancestors built this country and settled the Wild West. Imagine how it must have been 150 years ago in Texas where your six shooter and Winchester was all that stood

between you and certain death at the hands of hostile Indians and bandits; or 248 years ago in Massachusetts when all you had was a flintlock to repel the British army. I doubt any of those fine people had to deal with the heat we're dealing with now. For that reason we're going to "cowboy lite" dress rules. At a minimum you'll need closed toe shoes, shorts (no speedos), short sleeve shirt, and a cowboy hat. Depending how the weather goes we will probably continue the cowboy lite rules through the September match.

Long John Beard has updated some fliers we can use to post at our favorite gun stores and other venues that may attract new shooters. The fliers are at the end of the newsletter. Just print them on your printer and ask your favorite gun store if you can post them on a bulletin board or some other conspicuous location in the store. We should be able to generate some interest. One of the things being discussed is to create a "Rimfire Cowboy" category for our club matches. This would be .22 caliber pistols and rifle and any caliber coach gun or 1897 pump shotgun if they happen to own one. This would allow new shooters to get involved without spending a whole lot of money. I'm interested in your thoughts on the idea.

For those of you who want a bit more shooting during the month I highly recommend the Texican Rangers match held on the second Saturday and Sunday of the month. Their range is located about 8 miles north of Comfort on US 87. I made the trip

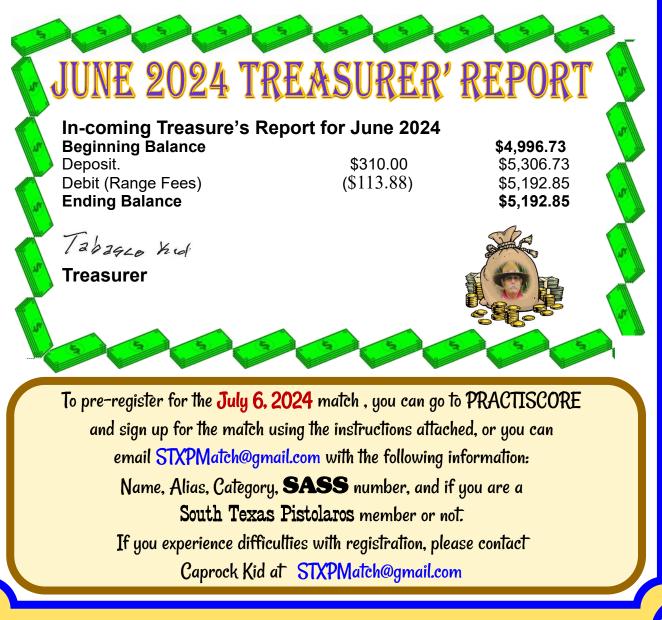
trip last month on a Sunday and had a great time. Check out their website at texicanrangers.org.

We want to hold Wild Bunch matches in months which have a fifth Saturday. Our next one is this Saturday, 29 June, the other months this year with a fifth Saturday are August and November. Clean up your 1911 and have a great time. I encourage you to spend a weekend with one of the other clubs in the area.

Brass is up, shooter up, see you on Saturday.

Colone) Cott Minchanter

Colonel Colt Winchester



Match Starting Time And Range Rules

Access to the Cowboy Action Shooting Range will be available only after A Place To Shoot opens at 9:00 AM.

Please do not attempt to enter the range parking lot via the dirt bypass road.

Please enter the CAS range through the side gates by the pistol range or around the right side of the building, Matches start at 9:45 AM.

Registration will close by 9:30, With the shooter' Safety Meeting to follow.

Please, present no bills larger than \$20 at registration.

Guest shooters must read and sign a liability waiver before the match.

The gate to the CAS range should be closed during a Match. Be aware that visitors may come on to the CAS range who are not familiar with CAS safety protocols.

Members having concerns or complaints about range issues shall communicate those issues to the Pistolaros club officers.

South Texas Pistolaros Guest Shooter Policy

Visiting shooters unknown to club members but possessing a valid SASS Membership who wish to register as a competitor will be a assigned a Pistolaros Officer or member as a "shooting buddy" for at least one stage. New-to-CAS individuals or guest without a valid SASS membership but with a **documented** knowledge of safe firearms hand skills (LTC, NRA certification, etc.) who desire to participate in a club match will be referred to the Range Master, or other designated Officer, for on-site orientation. If time permits, the orientation will be held before the match. If the Range Master and Match Director concur, the individuals will be assigned a mentor and permitted to register as a competitor.

Any person who have not completed any type of formal firearms training but wish to participate in CAS will be referred to a formal CAS orientation session to be provided by the club. The orientation session will use a classroom setting to address basic firearms safety, handling CAS firearms safely, **SASS** match protocols, and range and club safety rules. Upon successful completion of the classroom session, attendees will have the opportunity to shoot in a controlled setting on the CAS range. Cost per students has yet to be determined, but a range fee of \$11.00 per person plus the cost of suitable ammunition is to be expected.

Guest Shooter Liability Waiver Policy

<u>Any</u> contestant at a match who is not currently a member of the South Texas Pistolaros must first read and sign a liability waiver before competing.

A reminder

Membership applications are now being accepted for the new year which runs from June to May. You can print a copy of the application from the Club's Website or pick up a copy at the July shoot. The yearly dues for individual are \$36.00 and for family \$48.00

Natalia Sue

Secretary



NOTES FROM THE RANGE MASTER - DOWN RANGE!

June's match was a scorcher in more ways than one. Yes, it was a hot summer South Texas kinda' day, but the shooting was even hotter!

Picosa Kid won the match with a 141 flat. (Don't see that very often...no point something.) Beauregard Beard came in a REALLY close second at 141.79; but that is only half the story. Both Picosa and Beard had quite a few misses (8 for PK and 6 for BB), but it just goes to prove the old line of - "if you're going to miss, miss fast!" If you go to their raw time, Picosa (101.00) averaged 0.97 seconds a shot while Beard (111.79) averaged 1.07 seconds. A tenth of second difference! Oh, AND - Beard was shooting Josey Wales, so he had a pistol transition during rifle the Picosa did not!

Still not the end of the story. PJ Mugwump placed third with 144.96 only three seconds back - averaging 1.39 seconds. I don't have to recalculate his time because he did this while shooting clean! If PK and BB had each had just one more miss...sorry PJ...but still pretty dad-gum fast for a clean match! Closing out honors for June's match would be Latigo Lee who shot a clean match as well; just not as fast.

We had five shooters shoot Josey Wales style throughout the match and as you already know - Beaureguard Beard took JW honors. Newt Ritter came in second and the rest of us blazed away.

At the time of me writing this, we are planning a Wild Bunch match for the fifth Saturday, 29 Jun. So far, we only have four WB'ers so it is in question. The Texicans are hosting a Wild Bunch up in Comfort the same weekend. Stayed tuned for news as plans for the 29th are subject to change.

Expect faster, lower round count and less movement for the next few months to try to try to beat the heat.

'Nough said...brass is up, targets are up, what do you mean you deleted the I-Pad....somebody go find Long John and somebody write his time down.....shooter up



The Boy Captives

On February 26, 1871, two young boys were captured by the Comanche in the vicinity of Dripping Springs. Texas. Clinton L. Smith and his younger brother, Jeff D. Smith were out herding sheep when a large party of Indians began chasing them through the brush. The boys were on foot and were within a hundred yards of their home when they were caught. What followed was a series of perilous adventures, and hardships as the Indians travelled across the Southwest, raiding homesteads, stealing horses and livestock and killing a large number of settlers.

The story begins with their father, H. M. Smith, who emigrated to Texas from Pennsylvania after being orphaned at a young age. Settling in Austin, Texas, H.M. Smith married Fannie Short. She had come from Alabama to Texas at a young age with her family. They eventually had seven children.

H.M. Smith made a name for himself in helping to erect the first buildings in Austin. When the Indian raids in Austin became unbearable, they couple moved to San Antonio. In San Antonio, H. M. Smith and a man named Jacob Linn operated a blacksmith and gun shop near the site of the present-day City Hall. In 1860, H. M Smith joined the Texas Rangers to serve in protecting the frontier during the Civil War. After the War, H. M. Smith operated a freighting outfit from the port of Indianola to San Antonio.

Finally, he moved the family twenty-seven miles from San Antonio to a place near Dripping Springs along the Cibolo River. He traded a fine rifle for 640 acres of good land on which there was a small shepherd's hut. It was there that his young family endured numerous fights with the Comanche and bands of Mexican robbers. They hunted game for food, grew corn for cornbread, and used the wool of their sheep to make clothing.

Young Clinton and Jeff Smith were occasionally tasked with taking some 100 "muttons" to San Antonio. There was not a large demand for mutton in San Antonio, and it could take a few weeks to sell all of their stock to the local butchers. At night, the boys would pen the sheep behind Mrs. Ditlers Beer Hall, located where North Flores crosses San Pedro Creek. (That area is known as "Five Points: today.)

There was no other house in the area at the time, but a Mr. Cotulla had a beer joint, dance hall, and a park a short distance away at San Pedro Springs. At the park, a

Continue next page

'large hole had been dug in the ground in which were kept a coyote, a raccoon, a "wild cat," and two black bears. There were also a variety of birds on display.

By 1871, Clinton and Jeff had escaped capture on multiple occasions. They had been witness to the fighting as Indians and Mexican bandits mounted frequent raids in the area near Dripping Springs. On that February morning in 1871, the boys were herding sheep when they saw a large party of Indians approach. The boys were on-foot, and it did not take long for them to be overtaken and captured.

Clinton was brought before the chief, who motioned that he wanted Clinton to ride behind him. Clinton took his hand and swung up onto the horse behind the chief. As the party rode up out of the creek, the boys could see their two older sisters with guns and running from the house as fast as they could. Fortunately, the Indians only laughed at them before riding off.

Upon returning home, their father became determined to overtake the Comanche and recover the boys. He rode to Boerne, and from there a runner was sent to Fort Concho, some 190 miles to the Northwest. They also sent a runner to Camp Verde in Kerr County where Ranger Captain John W. Sansom's Company was camped. He and his men had bloodhounds, and they took up the trail of the Indians. They were later joined by Captain Charles Schreiner with some 25 minutemen but to no avail.

It would be over five years before the boys were found. During those years as captives, the boys assimilated into the Comanche lifestyle. Jeff had been traded to Geronimo at some point. Jeff was found by Mexican soldiers after a big fight near Bisbee, Arizona. It was known that his father had posted a reward of \$1,000 for the return of his son. Eventually the money was sent to Mexico City, and Jeff was taken to San Antonio. His brother, Clinton, had been found and returned the previous year.

There is, of course, much more to this story. But that will have to wait for now.

Source: The Boy Captives, Clinton L. Smith

- Beans Ahgin

GUN SHOW SCHEDULE

No Local Gun Shows Scheduled

Area Gun Shows

Jul 6th – 7th, 2024 The Real Belton Gun Show Bell County Expo Center 301 W Loop 121 Belton, TX 76513 (713) 724-8881 Jul 13th – 14th, 2024 The Dripping Springs Gun Show Dripping Springs Ranch Park 1042 Event Center Drive Dripping Springs, TX 78620 (325) 205-2688

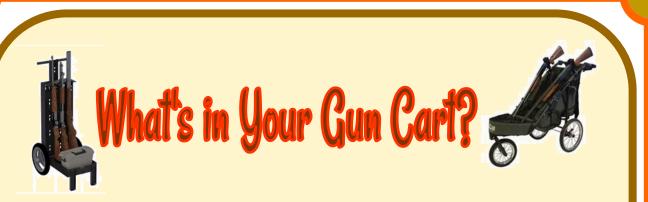
Jul 13th – 14th, 2024 The Kerrville Gun & Knife Show Happy State Bank Expo Hall 3785 Highway 27 Kerrville, TX 78028 (830) 285-0575

Jul 20th – 21st, 2024 The New Braunfels Gun Show New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center 375 S Castell Ave New Braunfels, TX 78130 (817) 732-1194

Jul 27th – 28th, 2024 The Floresville Gun Show Floresville Event Center 600 TX-97 Floresville, TX 7811 (774) 486-7469 ext. 774-GUN-SHOW

Dates and locations of gun shows are subject to change, so please contact the show before travel





Have you ever thought about adding to your Gun Cart a water proof container (a small washed out peanut butter jar is what I have in my Gun Cart) with Emergency information that can be easily obtained in an emergency?

Information I have gathered includes My real name, an emergency contact with a phone number, a list of medications including what I'm being treated for and the name of my primary Physician

Long John Beard



Check out the club's revised website @ www.stxpistolaros.net Or scan here





South Texas Pistolaros

"A Cowboy Action Shooting Club" 119 PR 6706 Natalia, Texas 78059 Phone: 210-414-7786 Email: lngjhnbeard@gmail.com



New/Renewal - Membership Application (Circle One)

Please fill in the following information, and return with membership dues to the above address.

Name:	Alias:	DOB:
Address:		
City, State, Zip Code:		
Home Phone:	Business Phone:	Cell Phone:
Email Address:		
Emergency Contact Name_		_ Emergency Phone:
SASS Member: Yes No	SASS #	Check if applicable Range Officer Certification
NRA Member: Yes No	NRA #	
TSRA Member: Yes No	TSRA #	
Can we include you in our o	directory Yes No	SASS WB RO Other
******	******	***************************************

South Texas Pistolaros

Membership Release

I, the undersigned, do hereby release and discharge the South Texas Pistolaros and their representatives, agents, servants, directors, employees and or any land owner or operating facility associated with the South Texas Pistolaros, from any and all liability of every kind and character, howsoever arising, including bodily injuries and loss or damage of property, sustained by me, my guest, and any other person or entity, having or asserting claims or rights, by, through, or under me; and I do covenant and agree to HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY the said entities and persons from any claims of the nature released or discharged, arising by, through, or under me.

I AM SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT FOR THE PURPOSE AND CONSIDERATION EXPRESSED AS MY FREE ACT AND DEED.

This is a legal and binding obligation from date of signature to May 31, 20 25 inclusive!

Signature:	Date:
Parent or Guardian:	Date:
***************************************	***************************************

Yearly dues are: Individual - \$36.00. Family - \$48.00. \$3.00 per month for individual

\$4.00 per month for family for any part of year remaining. (June to May).

South Texas Pistolaros



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL OR TEXT 210-788-4422

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



