



South Texas Pistolaros Newsletter



Match Info:

A Place To
Shoot

13250
Pleasanton
Rd.
San Antonio
Texas
78221

Monthly Match Schedule for February 7, 2026

- 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

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Howdy all you Pistolaros, I hope you are enjoying this nice wave of cool weather were enjoying. The February match may be a bit on the cool side if this weather doesn't move out by then.



This next section is about reloading and paying attention to how your gun is performing during a match. The story begins at the Tejas Caballeros December match just before Christmas. For reference I was shooting my Uberti Schofields in 45 Colt. I decided to shoot gunfighter style. As I recall things started alright with me shooting slowly with several misses.

Towards the second half of the match, I thought I had some bad loads as I could see the bullets as they headed for the targets. Anyway, I didn't get around to cleaning the Schofields until after Christmas. Imagine my surprise when I discovered a small problem. If it's not apparent in the photo, the bottom of the barrel is split from the tip of the barrel to about half way back; this is a 5-inch barrel.

It has the classic look of a squib followed up by another round and then causing a catastrophic failure. Now the strange thing about this is I don't know when it happened and nobody else noticed it during the match. The Timer Operator didn't see it, the spotters didn't see it, the guy at the unloading table didn't see it, and I didn't see it. You would expect a catastrophic failure to result in an explosion or something. The only thing I noticed was during the last stage or two I

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thought I just had some bad reloads. The bullets were hitting the targets but they were going so slow you could see them. They also sounded like typical mouse fart loads. One person commented he saw unburnt powder falling out of my barrel after the last round. That still didn't register with me that I had a gun problem. The one clue I missed was I had no problems with the rifle. Since I use the same loads for the rifle as I do for the revolver, I should have noticed the loads were working just fine in the rifle. I'm sure there's a lesson to be learned in here somewhere and when I figure out what it is I'll let you know.

I'll see you on the firing line, but not with my Schofields anytime soon.

Colonel Colt Winchester

Colonel Colt Winchester
President



JANUARY 2026 TREASURER' REPORT

Beginning Balance

Clean Match Pins

Insurance Renewal

Ending Balance

(-\$423.28)

(-1,923.55)

\$4,163.93

\$3,740.65

\$1,817.10

\$1,817.10

Tabasco Kid

Tabasco Kid
Treasurer





NOTES FROM THE RANGE MASTER.....DOWN RANGE!

I hope you had a fun time on the January match; it was a time to get back to having fun rather than just blasting away at targets for speed. I think I threw everything at you from double bonuses, a swinger, bowling with shotguns, and the “ever-so-popular” run-away stage. Had I set up the can tosser and falling plates, we would have had it all... and we would probably still be out there shooting. For the speed demons out there, don't worry; I won't do that again for a while...or will I?

We had 17 shooters including one new shooter who is a firefighter that Totusky Pete brought to set up on Friday. He took us up on our offer to come shoot and I think we may have infected him with the “cowboy action bug”. Really appreciate these firefighters helping out with setup. Speaking of setup, thanks to the rest of the Wooden Nickel crew comprised of Newt Ritter, Sauk Valley Sam, Latigo Lee, Colonel Colt Winchester, Thunder Mountain, Tabasco Kid, Long John Beard, and Totuskey Pete (and his merry band of firefighters).

As for stats, Beauregard Beard shot the match in 108.07 averaging 0.94 seconds a shot even with all the shenanigans I made him do. Beau shot Stage 5 in 33.44 seconds and that is with having to “stop the stage” 3 times! (Shooter had to pull the ropes to reset the shotgun targets themselves three times for those who weren't there.) Picoso Kid came in second with 141.31 but the battle for third was between PJ Mugwump (176.50) and Wesley James (194.47). Scores seem far away for a ‘battle’, but had it not been for that pesky swinger - Wesley would have beaten PJ. For some reason Wesley doesn't like that swinger. Stripping the M&P's both PJ and Wes averaged 1.5 seconds a shot.

Only had one clean shooter (yours truly), but five shooters were only one miss away (OMA): PJ Mugwump, Totuskey Pete, Silver Dollar Sage, Latigo Lee, and the match winner Beauregard Beard on the last stage! Six shooters shot the swinger clean: Beauregard Beard, Newt Ritter, Totuskey Pete, Silver Dollar Sage, Canyon Jim and myself. Four shooters took the double bonus on Stage 4: Newt Ritter, Totuskey Pete, Latigo Lee, and myself. I don't think anyone took out the 6 bowling with shotgun targets on Stage 3 with less than 4 shots.

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Reminder that 31 January is a Fifth Saturday shoot. We are not planning a WBAS/CAS club match that day; it will be a practice day. THERE WILL NOT BE ANY SETUP ON FRIDAY! Saturday, I plan to have a WBAS type stage on one of the lanes and set up a rifle target in Stage 1 so you can sight in Cody Dixon Rifles that many of us only shoot once or twice a year. If you would like to chronograph your loads, I will set up a chrono in one bay. I can even set up some close in targets for derringer and pocket pistol if you want. For those planning on shooting Whoopin' and Comancheria Days, here's your chance to check out your stuff. Don't worry about dressing up in cowboy clothes; come as you are.

I will see you all on the February 7th for the next main match shoot and I promise not to do crazy stuff or at least make it off the clock! Set up will be on February 6th .

'Nough said...brass is up, targets are up, shooter up. Stand by:'. BEEP – BANG – I - BANG – REALLY – BANG – DON'T – BANG – LIKE – BANG – THIS – BANG – #&!*\$^%!# – BANG – SWINGER!



To pre-register for the **February 7, 2026** match , you can reply to this Newsletter and sign up for the match , or you can email STXPMatch@gmail.com

with the following information:

Name, Alias, Category, **SASS** number, and if you are a South Texas Pistoleros member or not.

If you experience difficulties with registration, please contact Caprock Kid at STXPMatch@gmail.com

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 Pistoleros club officers.

South Texas Pistoleros Guest Shooter Policy

Visiting shooters unknown to club members but possessing a valid SASS Membership who wish to register as a competitor will be assigned a Pistoleros 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

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



Check out the club's revised website
at www.stxpistoleros.net

Or scan here



The Bean Pot.....



No, not those Hatfields, the other Hatfields!

In the early 1900's, San Diego, California was in the midst of what we now call an "Exceptional Drought." With the thought that rain would return to southern California eventually, the city undertook the construction of the Morena Dam located some sixty miles from the city in the Cuyamaca Mountains.

By the time the dam construction had been completed, the meager lake one hundred yards behind the new dam was nothing more than a marshy meadow. By 1912, the water shortage in San Diego had become acute. In that year, a real estate agent named F. A. Binney and a delegation from the San Diego Wide Awake Improvement Club approached the city council with a possible solution.

It was proposed that the city hire Charles M. Hatfield to come to the area and produce a little rain. Hatfield had become known as a "rainmaker" of no small reputation. While the city council doubted Hatfield's rainmaking talents were sufficient to the task, Binney took it upon himself to offer \$10,000 if Hatfield could produce enough rain to fill the Morena Dam reservoir.

Charles Hatfield was not a full-time rainmaker, instead making a living selling sewing machines across California. He and his brother, Paul, lived in the smalltown of Vista in San Diego County. To demonstrate his rainmaking abilities to the local skeptics, the Hatfields built a platform on their farm, installed a small windmill, and assembled Charles' secret chemical cocktail.

They picked a cloudless day, blew the chemicals into the air, and quickly produced light rain showers in Vista. The skeptics were still not convinced, so the brothers mixed a stronger batch of chemicals, blew that into the air, and produced .64 inches of rain in Vista.

Noting his success, the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce offered Hatfield \$1,000 if he could make it rain in Los Angeles. The brothers built a new platform in the Baldwin Hills suburb, launched their chemical concoction into a cloudless Los Angeles sky for four months, and generated a measured eighteen inches of rain. Hatfield got his money. Vista got nary a drop.

After months of rain, the Los Angeles City Council asked Hatfield to cease operations as the tourist trade was suffering from days of rainfall. Hatfield briefly moved on to where his efforts filled a lake in Stanislaus County and a reservoir in Fresno, California. Still, San Diego refused to sign a contract with him.

In December, 1915, a delegation from the Wide Awake Improvement Club appealed to Hatfield to generate some rainfall for San Diego. Hatfield sent a letter to the San Diego City Council wherein he proposed to produce forty inches of rain around Morena Dam at no expense to the city. Hatfield was invited to address the Council. He arrived with a detailed contract.

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I will fill Morena Dam to overflowing between now and December 20, 1916 for the sum of \$10,000 in default of which I ask no compensation: or I will deliver at Morena Dam thirty inches of rain at no charge, you pay me five hundred dollars per inch from the thirtieth inch to the fiftieth inch, all above fifty inches of rain to be delivered free, on or before the first of June 1916. Or I will discharge forty inches during the next twelve months, free of charge, provided you pay me \$1,000 per inch for all between forty and fifty inches, all above the fifty inches free."

The City Council countered with an offer to pay Hatfield a flat fee of \$10,000 to fill up Morena Dam. Hatfield, Binney, and the Wide Awake Improvement Club accepted that directive as a contract. The Hatfield brothers got to work . By Friday, June 14 th , the rain began falling, so much so that the races at the Aguas Caliente Racetrack had to be cancelled. Tourists once again found other, drier places to be rather than San Diego.

The rains continued. Streams filled. Bridges and houses were washed away towards the Pacific Ocean. Railroad tracks and highways became submerged. Stranded train passengers were rescued by a seagoing launch. A party was sent by horseback to inform the Hatfields that, while the Morena Dam reservoir had yet to be completely filled, San Diego would immediately authorize payment of \$10,000 to cease operations. Thirty minutes later, the rain stopped.

And then the lawyers got involved. The rains had caused hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of damage. Should the San Diego City Council actually pay Hatfield what was owed, the City of San Diego would then be liable for the damages. The City Council declined to pay Hatfield \$10,000.

Hatfield, still clutching his unaccepted invoice for \$10,000, retreated back to his operation near Morena Dam. On January 24 th , it began to rain in amounts that made his previous rain totals seem like mere sprinkles. The soaked ground could take no more. Several dams failed, and flash-flooding was taking place virtually everywhere. The railroad parked a string of laden ore cars atop one trestle, only to see the whole affair wash away. Ships in San Diego harbor were swept from their moorings. The last of the homes in the Tia Juana River Valley were swept out to sea. Fourteen people died.

Finally, on January 29 th , the Morena Dam reservoir was spilling over the top. Deeming his original contract terms fulfilled, Hatfield ceased operations. He never did get paid for filling the Morena Dam. Years of suit and countersuit eventually ran their course, and by 1938 the courts deem the proceedings a "dead docket."

Charles Hatfield died quietly in Los Angeles in 1952. His obituaries contained no mention of his talent for producing rain. The secret of his rainmaking chemical concoction died with him.

Source: The West. Lost Legends and Treasures
Brad Williams & Choral Pepper
Promontory Press

- Beans Ahgin

TG Corner.....

SASS Info for 2026

Check out the new SASS Handbook and the Regional Map below

Long John Beard

Single Action Shooting Society®

Regional Structure & Regional CAS Championship Locations

Effective Jan 1, 2026:

A redesign and reallocation of the SASS Regional structure and allocation goes into effect. Some Regional Championship locations are affected/changed, while others remain intact. Further Regional Championship locations change in 2027, as reflected in the table below.

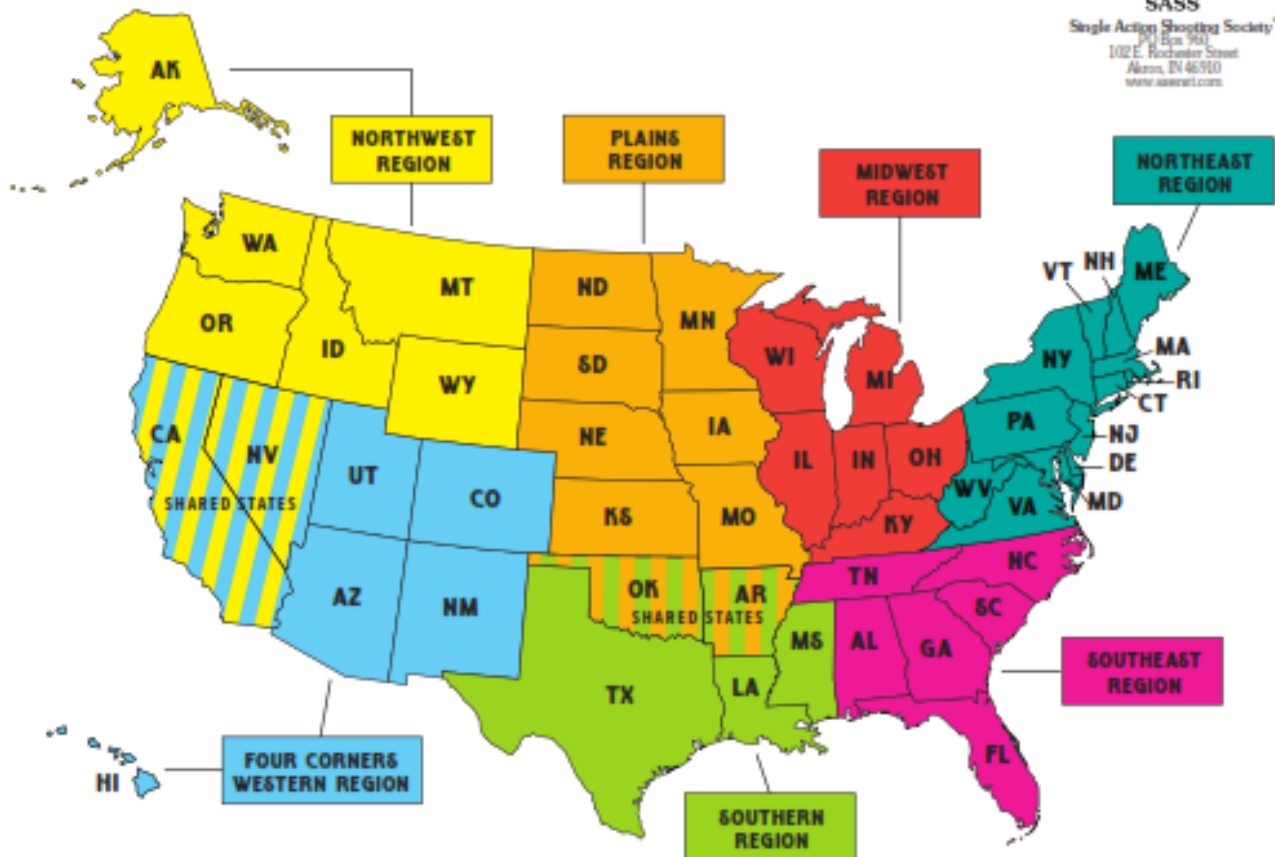
Region	2026	2027
Northwest Regional Championship (AK, WA, OR, ID, MT, WY +shared: CA,NV,HI)	Snake River Western Shooting Society Jerome, Idaho	Snake River Western Shooting Society Jerome, Idaho
Four Corners Western Regional Championship (UT, CO, AZ, NM +shared: CA,NV,HI)	Dixie Desperados St. George, Utah	Dixie Desperados St. George, Utah
Plains Regional Championship (ND,SD,NE, KS,MN,IA,MO +shared: OK,AR)	Judge Parker's Marshals Van Buren, Arkansas	TBD
Midwest Regional Championship (WI, IL, MI, IN, OH, KY)	Paradise Pass Regulators Etna Green, IN	Paradise Pass Regulators Etna Green, IN
Southern Regional Championship (TX, LA, MS +shared: OK, AR)	Judge Parker's Marshals Van Buren, Arkansas	TBD
Northeast Regional Championship (WV, VA, DC, MD, DE, NJ, CT, TI, MA, PA, NY, VT, NH, ME)	NONE	El Posse Grande Muncy Valley, Pennsylvania
Southeast Regional Championship (TN, NC, SC, AL, GA, FL)	North Alabama Regulators Woodville, Alabama	North Alabama Regulators Woodville, Alabama

Note: CA & NV are shared states between the Northwest and Four Corners Western Region. Oklahoma and Arkansas are shared states between the Plains and Southern Region.

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SASS Info for 2026

SASS® Regional Structure Map



GUN SHOW SCHEDULE

Local Shows

**Feb 13th – 15th, 2026
The San Antonio Gun Show
Garcia Event Center
1327 Bandera Rd.,
San Antonio, TX 78228
(830) 399-5955**

**Feb 13th – 15th, 2026
The San Antonio Gun Show
Alzafar Shriners
901 N Loop 1604 W
San Antonio, TX 78258
(210) 844-9599**

Area Shows

**Feb 7th – 8th, 2026
The Saxet Corpus Christi Gun Show
Richard M. Borchard Regional Fairgrounds
1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd
Corpus Christi, TX 78380
(361) 289-2256**

**Feb 14th – 15th, 2026
The Fredericksburg Gun & Knife Show
Gillespie County Fairgrounds
530 Fair Drive
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
(830) 285-0575**

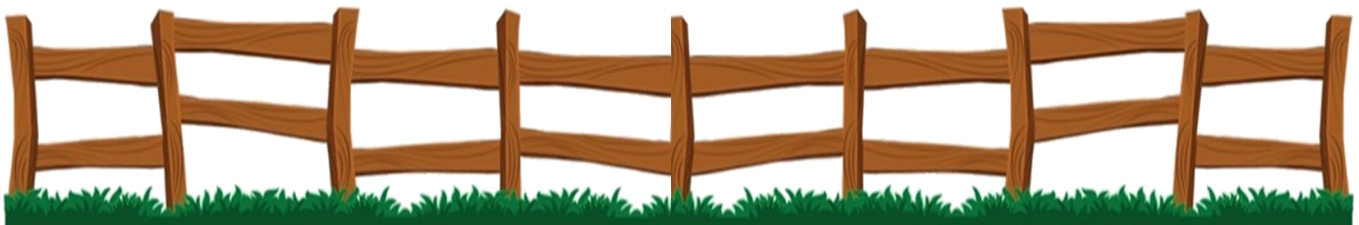
**Feb 20th – 22nd, 2026
The Sealy Gun & Knife Show
Sealy American Legion 442
1630 Meyer St
Sealy, TX 77474
(713) 474-3900**

**Feb 21st – 22nd, 2026
The New Braunfels Gun Show
New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center
375 S Castell Ave
New Braunfels, TX 78130
(817) 732-1194**

**Feb 27th – Mar 1st, 2026
The Kenedy Gun Show
The Mill Convention Center
820 Escondido St.
Kenedy, TX 78119
(830) 399-5955**

**Feb 28th – Mar 1st, 2026
The Kerrville Expo Hall Guns & Gifts Show
Hill Country Youth Event Center
The Ag Barn
3785 Highway 27
Kerrville, TX 78028**

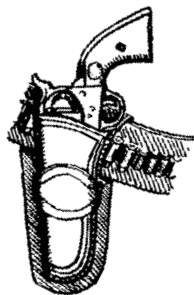
**Dates and locations of gun shows are subject to change, some may be cancelled,
so please contact the show before traveling.**



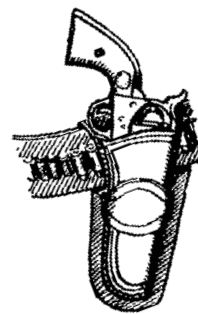
CENTRAL TEXAS MONTHLY CLUB SHOOTING MATCHES

1st Saturday Plum Creek (Lockhart)	1000 Pin Oak Road Lockhart , TX 78644 USA	Brazos Bo 210-303-6996
1st Saturday South Texas Pistoleros (San Antonio)	13250 Pleasanton Road San Antonio , TX 78221 USA	Colonel Colt Winchester 210-788-4422
2nd & 5th Saturday Texas Riviera Pistoleros (George West) 5th Sunday Cowboy & Long Range	157 County Road 332 George West , TX 78022 USA	Tocayo 361-648-1680
2nd Sunday Rio Grande Valley Vaqueros (Pharr)	600 East Javelina Drive Pharr , TX 78501 USA	Dream Chaser 956-648-7364
2nd Weekend Saturday & Sunday (Cowboy/1911) Texican Rangers (Comfort)	130 Adolf Stieler Ranch Road Comfort , TX 78013 USA	San Saba Slim 832-691-7998
3rd Saturday (Cowboy) & 3rd Sunday (Long Range) Tejas Caballeros (TX Republic Ranch)	8545 Ranch Road 1623 Blanco , TX 78606 USA	Farr Ranger 512-657-2491
4th Saturday (Cowboy) and 4th Sunday (Long Range) Green Mountain Regulators (Marble Falls)	14230 South FM 1174 Marble Falls , TX 78654 USA	Bessie James 210-385-3348

Shooting Schedule For 2026



January 3, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
January 31, 2026 - TBA
February 7, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
March 7, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
April 4, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
May 2, 2026- Main CAS Shoot
May 30, 2026- TBA
June 6, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
July 4, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
August 1, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
August 29, 2026 - TBA
September 5, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
October 3, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
October 31, 2026 - TBA
November 7, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot
December 5, 2026 - Main CAS Shoot



DENVER'S FIRST TRIAL



Six Cans of Oysters
Denver's First Trial

When the cry of silver or gold goes out, immediately hundreds and even thousands of people flock to the area. Overnight, the area is dotted with crude structures called homes. And stores, restaurants and the mandatory saloons pop up right along with the homes. What doesn't happen immediately is the town's infrastructure... regulations to insure people are civilized, and a means of enforcement when people aren't civilized.

That's what happened with Denver, Colorado. But, on January 13, 1859, some of the citizens of Denver decided it was time for law and order.

A makeshift court was assembled along the Platte River. The hardened criminal was brought before the court. The man was charged with stealing...six cans of oysters. That's right oysters. They were a delicacy to the miners. And, those six cans were probably the last oysters in town. Besides, they were valued at \$30.

He was found guilty. And, since there was no jail in the area, his punishment was 20 lashes. However, there were those who thought he should be hanged.

When they discovered that he was drunk at the time he stole the oysters, and, since most of the jury were probably heavy drinkers themselves, the final verdict was amended. They decided the offender should be banned from the settlement.

However, realizing that the draw of gold might mean that he would sneak back, they added one more caveat to his sentence. That was that if he returned to the village anyone could shoot him on sight.

I understand he was never heard from again.

Courtesy Chronicle of the Old West and Long John Beard

