



South Texas Pistolaros Newsletter



Match Info:

A Place To Shoot

13250 Pleasanton Rd.

San Antonio Texas 78221

Monthly Match Schedule for April 4, 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 AM

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The President's Message



Howdy all you Pistoleros,

I had the pleasure of joining the Tejas Caballeros for their annual Whoopin. I entered as an Elder Statesman Gunfighter. I finished second in my category, which was also last place in the category. As for side matches, I participated in the Wild Bunch match with nothing to report and the Long-Range match. In the Long-Range match, I shot the big bore precision category with my 1885 Highwall in 45-70 with Vernier Sights. The course of fire was four shots on each of six targets ranging in distance from 175 yards out to 460 yards, with bull's eyes counting two points. When the smoke cleared, I had scored 30 points. I was sure I had won that match, but some other old fart, Ranger Tays, a few tables down also scored 30 points. It was decided to have a shoot-off on what is called the Quigley target. A small piece of steel at about 350 yards. I shot first and missed; he shot and missed; so now it's back to me and I missed again. He shot and hit to win the match. At least I got a "Clean Match" pin.

I Since I am writing this in March, I didn't want to forget something about the Alamo. While there are numerous books on the subject, I thought a look at movies about the Alamo might be interesting. Being the lazy sort I am about doing research, I asked my new friend Grok to tell me which of the major movies about the Alamo is the most accurate, and here's what he told me.

The **2004 film *The Alamo*** (directed by John Lee Hancock, starring Billy Bob Thornton as Davy Crockett, Dennis Quaid as Sam Houston, and Jason Patric as William B. Travis) is widely regarded by historians, Alamo enthusiasts, and film analysts as the most historically accurate major cinematic depiction of the 1836 siege

and battle.

Why the 2004 version stands out

It consulted historians (including Stephen L. Hardin and others) during production and made deliberate efforts to correct myths perpetuated by earlier films. Key improvements include:

- A more realistic timeline and pacing of the 13-day siege (fewer dramatic fabrications).
- Better portrayal of the diverse makeup of the defenders (including Tejanos and others, rather than an all-Anglo heroic force).
- A pre-dawn battle (the real assault occurred in the early morning darkness, not broad daylight as in many earlier versions).
- ◆ Nuanced character depictions: Crockett is shown as a complex figure grappling with his own legend (rather than a pure folk-hero caricature); Travis and Bowie are flawed leaders; Santa Anna is ruthless but not cartoonishly villainous in every moment.
- ◆ It draws on sources like the de la Peña diary for Crockett's possible fate (captured and executed, one of the debated historical accounts) instead of inventing a spectacular last stand.

It is not flawless—some details (like exact fort dimensions, certain character interactions, or Sam Houston's precise location in one scene) still take liberties for dramatic effect, and the film has been critiqued for pacing and not fully exploring broader contexts like slavery or expansionism. Still, it is consistently ranked above predecessors for fidelity to known facts

Comparison to other major films

- **John Wayne's *The Alamo* (1960):** Entertaining epic with strong visuals and a rousing spirit, but riddled with inaccuracies. These include a daytime battle, a fictional heroic gunpowder explosion death for Crockett, an overly whitewashed defender force, invented romantic subplots and characters, and heavy mythic embellishments influenced by Wayne's politics and the Cold War era. It prioritizes legend and patriotism over precision.
- ***The Alamo: 13 Days to Glory* (1987 TV movie):** More accurate than the 1960 version in some respects (e.g., treatment of women/children survivors and Travis's slave Joe), and it draws from Lon Tinkle's book. However, it is generally seen as less comprehensive and polished than 2004, with its own dramatic choices.
- Earlier films (silent era like *Martyrs of the Alamo* 1915, *Heroes of the Alamo* 1937, Disney's *Davy Crockett* 1955, or *The Last Command* 1955) lean even

even more heavily into myth, composites, or simplified heroism, with limited historical consulting.

- Some enthusiasts argue the 1988 IMAX docudrama *Alamo: The Price of Freedom* is among the most accurate overall due to its shorter format and focus on factual recreation (played for years near the actual site), but it is not a traditional feature film.
- Crockett's death scenes: The filmmakers shot five different versions of Davy Crockett's (Billy Bob Thornton) death. The one used in the final cut is based on a specific 1836 Mexican officer's letter (discovered in 1935) that describes an execution-style ending—making it one of the more grounded (and debated) cinematic takes on his fate.



Billy Bob Thornton as Davy Crockett (center, holding his rifle), Patrick Wilson as William B. Travis (left), and Jason Patric as Jim Bowie (right).

I hope you enjoyed this brief cinematic history of the Alamo.

See you on the firing line

Colonel Colt Winchester

Colonel Colt Winchester

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 Regula-	14230 South FM 1174 Marble Falls , TX 78654	Bessie James 210-385-3348

March 2026 Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance		\$1,827.27
Deposit	\$230.00	\$2,057.27
Range fees	-\$166.44)	\$1,890.83
Ending Balance		\$1,890.83

Tabasco Kid

**Tabasco Kid
Treasurer**



Notes from the Range Master.....Down Range!



Just finished unpacking from Whoopin' 2026; it was a fun shoot. Stages were fun and fast, and the Cabs put on a safe and efficient match. Hats off to the entire crew for a great time. Now I must get to loading rounds to get ready for Comancheria Days!

We had 19 shooters for our March shoot so we were finally able to break into 2 posses! Beauregard Beard took the match with 104.61 seconds; averaging 0.95 seconds a shot. Picoso Kid took second shooting a 126.72 averaging 1.15 a shot. Third went to Charro B Eans shooting 177.93 averaging 1.48 a shot. Wesley James closed out the top four shooting 179.62 averaging 1.50 a shot. Newt Ritter and Silver Dollar Sage shot sub 2.0 but placement came down to Newt's clean shoot. Newt shot 193.91 averaging 1.85. While Sage averaged 1.81 a shot, it included 2 misses, so his overall time was 199.56.

As mentioned, Newt was the only clean shooter, but Sauk Valley Sam was close as the sole member of the "Almost Clean" with only one miss...for the second month in a row!

I have been asked how I get the average because we all know the likes of Beau and Picoso pull triggers a lot faster than one second a shot. I take the total time of the match without misses, procedurals or bonuses and divided by the number of rounds which means the average includes the time to move between firing positions, switch pistols, load shotgun, shotgun makeups, etc. It might be interesting to record splits sometime.

As always, thank you to the Wooden Nickel crew for the set-up assistance. I will see you all on April 4th for the next main match shoot. Set up will be on April 3rd . Quick reminder that I will not be at the May shoot or set up; will need some back up.

'Nough said...brass is up, targets are up, shooter up. Stand by BEEP - (pulls first pistol) - PFFFT -"SQUIB! GROUND YOUR PISTOL." (pulls second pistol) - PFFFT - "SQUIB! GROUND YOUR PISTOL." (picks up rifle) - KA-BOOOOOOM! "Well, I think we know where your powder went."



Match Start 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 gate by the pistol range or around the right side of the building.

Matches start at 9:45 AM. Registration will closed by 9:30 AM. 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.

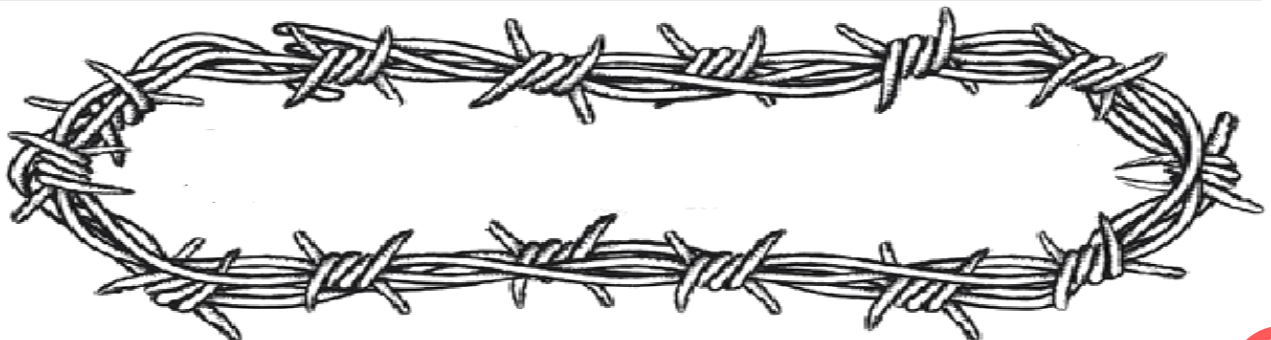
Members having concerns or complaints about range issues shall communicate those issues to the Pistoleros officers.

South Texas Pistoleros Guest Shooter And Liability Waiver Policy

Visiting shooters unknown to club members but 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 has not completed any type of formal firearms training but wishes 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 student has yet to be determined, but a range fee of \$12.95 per person plus the cost of suitable ammunition is to be expected.

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,



The Bean Pot....



“You may depend on the gallant Hays and his companions.”

- General Sam Houston

After 1836, and the formation of The Republic of Texas, the Mexican government sought ways to take back what had been lost...meaning Texas.

On several occasions, emissaries of the Mexican government were discovered among the bodies of Indian parties in Central Texas. They bore documents with detailed instructions on plans to retake Texas using Indians to attack settlements. On one such occasion, 600 pounds of powder and bullets were discovered among the bodies.

In 1841, Ranger Captain Jack Hayes was sent to Laredo to check on the possibility of an imminent invasion. Hays rode boldly into Laredo, which was garrisoned with Mexican troops. Hays calmly ran off a small horse herd and then camped at the edge of town with them. The next day, he gave the horses back with a warning to the Mexican Commandante. If there were any more robberies or raids north of the Nueces river, the Mexicans would face quick retribution.

Some time later, a wagon train travelling between San Antonio and Laredo was attacked. Hays again set out for Laredo, this time with a dozen “Rangers” and thirteen San Antonio Mexicans under Antonio Perez, a noted Indian-fighter.

Some ten miles from Laredo, a party of thirty-five Mexican Lancers charged Hay’s party “with the bugle.” At the end of the brief battle, all but four of the surviving Mexican troopers grounded their weapons and asked for quarter. Their Captain, and three troopers defiantly remained on horseback. Soon, the Alcalde of Laredo approached the scene under a white flag. He asked that Hays again spare the town.

Hays did indeed spare the town (from roughly 25 Texicans) with the demand that there would be no more raids on Anglo and Texican commerce. Hays then marched his prisoners to San Antonio. Hays then turned back to the task of taking care of “The Indian Problem” which meant the Penetaka Comanche tribes.

Hays resorted to guerilla tactics, hitting Indian encampments from the Nueces river to the Llano river, usually with fewer than fifty men. Lipan Apache Chief Flacco, who scouted for Hays on some of the raids, remarked “Me and Red Wing not afraid to go to Hell together. Captain Jack heap brave; not afraid to go to Hell himself.”

Then came Governor Lamar’s ill-advised “wild goose” expedition of 1841 to capture Sante Fe. The Texas survivors were all mistreated. Some starved, some were executed. The United States government became involved, and the survivors eventually repatriated. The Mexicans took that expedition as proof that Texas had to be retaken. In March of 1842, General Vasquez arrived with an army and occupied San Antonio.

Continue on next page

The Bean Pot.....Continued

Hays had to let Vasquez take the city as he had not quite 100 men. When Vasquez started the march back to Mexico, Hays followed him all the way back to the Rio Grande. Hays could not attack. Hays was not involved in a separate action against General Canales which was led by Davis and Ewen Cameron at Lipantilican.

That venture resulted in another Mexican occupation of San Antonio by General Adrian Woll and some 1,200 troops in September of 1842. Woll meant this to be a demonstration of Mexican sovereignty while “chastising” the Texans and dissuading any thoughts of annexation to the United States. Woll remained only a short time, but did succeed in capturing the District Court which happened to be in session. Several prominent Texans were also persuaded to accompany the Mexican Army back to Mexico.

Meanwhile, the outnumbered Hays rode eastward to raise the alarm and recruit more men. Soon “Old Paint” Caldwell had raised some 250 men. Caldwell used this small force to engage Woll at the Salado Creek on September 17 th . The Mexican cavalry and Infantry did not fare well as the militia used the creek, brush, and terrain to “even the odds a mite.”

Hays, leading a small force of Rangers, harassed Woll all the way back to the Rio Grande. On one occasion, Hays led a mounted charge into a Mexican artillery battery killing the gunners with a combination of Colt pistols and shotguns. By this time, shotguns had largely replaced the long rifle in the Ranger arsenal.

Then, President Houston authorized a “show of force” led by General Somervell. That in turn led to the sacking of Laredo and the ill-fated “Meier Expedition.” But that is a tale best left for another issue of the Newsletter.

Source: Lone Star, T.R. Fehrenbach, Tess Press

- Beans Ahgin



To pre-register for the **April 4, 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.

Gun show Schedule

Local Shows

Apr 10th – 12th, 2026

The San Antonio Gun Show
Alzafar Shriners
901 N Loop 1604 W
San Antonio, TX 78258
(210) 844-9599

Apr 24th – 26th, 2026

The Live Oak San Antonio Gun Show
Hilton Garden Inn San Antonio
Live Oak Conference Center
8101 Pat Booker Rd
(830) 399-5955

Area Shows

Apr 11th – 12th, 2026

The Al Amin Shrine Gun Show
Al Amin Shrine Pavilion
2001 Suntide Road
Corpus Christi, TX 78409
(361) 696-1585 or (361) 215-8500

Apr 11th – 12th, 2026

The Kerrville Expo Hall Guns & Gifts Show
Hill Country Youth Event Center
The Ag Barn
3785 Highway 27
Kerrville, TX 78028

Apr 17th – 19th, 2026

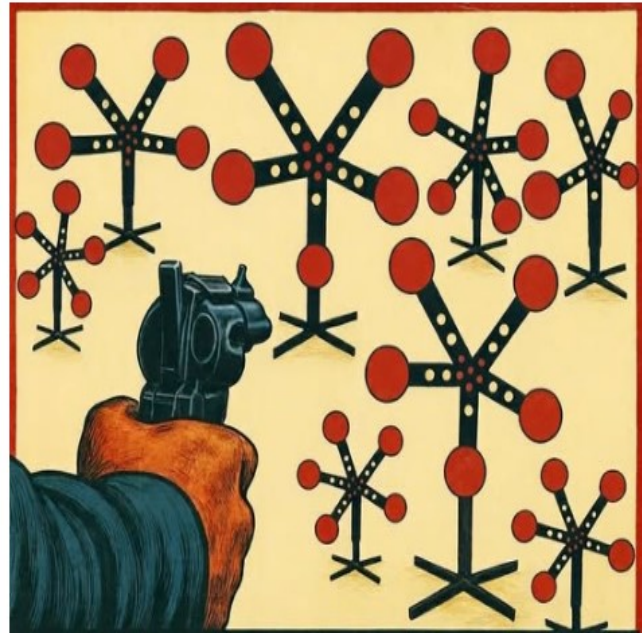
The Round Rock Gun Show
Round Rock Embassy Suites Conference Center
270 Bass Pro Dr
Round Rock, TX 78665
(210) 844-9599

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





"Well, there it goes again. ... Every night when we bed down, that confounded harmonica starts in."



**WHEN COWBOY ACTION SHOOTERS
HAVE NIGHTMARES...**



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



HAPPY EASTER