



South Texas Pistolaros Newsletter



Match Info:

A Place To Shoot

13250 Pleasanton Rd.

San Antonio Texas

78221

Monthly Match Schedule for May 2, 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



Famous Texas Rangers

Before I became a Texan back in 1994, the only famous Ranger I knew was Chuck Norris. I wanted to do a little research and quickly found there is no such thing as a little research when it come to the history of the Texas Rangers. So I asked my friend GROK to help me with the research on famous

Rangers. Below is an organized survey of the most famous Texas Rangers in two periods (prior to the Civil War; Civil War through 1899 and early 20th century). For each period I (GROK) highlight the most notable figures, summarize why they matter, and give documented or well-known anecdotal episodes that illustrate their reputations. The focus is on Rangers whose actions are best attested in contemporary records or reputable later histories; and some anecdotal entries.

Period 1 — Prior to the Civil War (to c. 1860) Context: The Republic of Texas and early statehood were dominated by Indian warfare, border raids with Mexico, and ad hoc ranger companies. This era shaped the Ranger image: mounted, fast-moving patrols, the early use of multi-shot revolvers, and small-unit tactics against Comanche and other Plains tribes.



1. **John Coffee "Jack" Hays (1817–1883)** Why he matters: Hays is arguably the most iconic early Ranger—leader, tactician, and a key figure in professionalizing Ranger operations. He helped popularize the use of Colt revolvers among mounted Rangers and led extended frontier patrols and punitive expeditions against Comanche war parties and border raiders. Notable episodes:

- Revolver tactics: Hays's adoption of Colt six-shooters (and use of the heavier Walker-type

revolvers) gave his small patrols sustained firepower against Comanche hit-and-run tactics. Contemporary accounts and later histories credit this

tactical edge with decisive results in several fights. • Bandera/central Texas fights (early–mid 1840s): Hays led repeated patrols and ambushes in the Bandera, San Antonio and Llano areas that repulsed raiding parties and built his legend. Specific small engagements are often grouped in memoirs and newspapers rather than in precise battle-by-battle reports, but they are repeatedly cited in primary and early secondary sources.



2. **Samuel Hamilton Walker (1817–1847)** Why he matters: A Ranger and later U.S. Army officer, Walker worked with Samuel Colt to develop the “Walker” revolver—an important technological contribution to frontier fighting. He fought on the Texas frontier and in the Mexican-American War. Notable episodes:

- Walker’s reputation as a marksman and leader on the frontier and in Mexico is well documented. He was killed in action at the Battle of Huamantla (1847), giving his name to the Walker revolver but denying him the long Ranger career Hays enjoyed.



3. **John Salmon “Rip” Ford (1815–1897)** Why he matters: A fierce and outspoken frontier leader, Ford operated on the Texas–Mexico border in the 1840s and 1850s, prosecuting cross-border raids and leading militia/Ranger-style expeditions. Notable episodes:

- ♦ Ford led several punitive expeditions into Mexican territory against bandits and marauding bands; his border campaigns and blunt off-color memoirs made him a notorious figure in contemporary newspapers.



4. **Benjamin McCulloch (1811–1862)** Why he matters: Before his Civil War fame as a Confederate general, McCulloch was a frontier fighter, Ranger captain, and Indian fighter in the Republic era; he helped set the example for mounted frontier leadership. Notable episodes:

- McCulloch’s early frontier leadership against Indian raiders and Mexican irregulars added to the pool of experience that defined Ranger operations in the 1840s and 1850s.

Period 2 — Civil War through 1899 Context: The Civil War disrupted Texas law enforcement. After the war, the state reconstituted more regular Ranger forces (notably the Frontier Battalion) to counter Comanche raids, banditry, and rustling. This era produced some of the most dramatic and well-documented Ranger exploits.



1. **Leander H. McNelly (1844–1877)** Why he matters: Commander of the Special Force (1875–1876), McNelly was famous for aggressive, often extralegal, cross-border forays against cattle rustlers, outlaws, and bandits. His methods were controversial but effective in restoring order in parts of South Texas. Notable episodes:

- ◆ Reputation: McNelly's small, tightly disciplined command and his willingness to use bold tactics made him a legend; historians debate his legality but not his effectiveness. Leander McNelly's cross-border zeal: McNelly's Special Force routinely made surprise raids across the Rio Grande to capture rustlers and outlaws; the boldness—and occasional law-breaking nature—of those raids are recorded in contemporary press accounts and state correspondence.



2. **John B. Jones (1834–1881)** Why he matters: Founder and long-time commander of the Frontier Battalion (established 1874), Jones reorganized the Rangers into a professional force better able to police the vast frontier after Reconstruction. Notable episodes:

- Building the Frontier Battalion: Jones's administrative and field leadership—hiring, drilling, and deploying companies—allowed the Rangers to pursue outlaws and control fence-cutting, cattle rustling, and Indian raids. Official reports and state records document his tenure and many successful campaigns.



3. **Lawrence Sullivan (“Sul”) Ross (1838–1898)** Why he matters: Ranger, Confederate general, and later governor of Texas, Ross bridged wartime and postwar frontier politics. Before the Civil War he served in frontier operations; after, he led troops and did notable Indian campaigns. Notable episodes:

- Pease River (1860 prewar action often attributed to Ross): Ross led a force that attacked a Comanche camp and recovered Cynthia Ann Parker (a white captive who had been assimilated into the Comanche). The action is dramatic, controversial, and much studied because of what happened to Parker and her family afterward.



4. **Frank Hamer (1884–1955)** Why he matters: The best-known early 20th-century Ranger, Hamer's fame grew from long service tracking fugitives, border enforcement, and ultimately leading the posse that ambushed Bonnie and Clyde in 1934. His career illustrates the Ranger transition from frontier fighter to pro-law-enforcement manhunt specialist. Notable episodes:

- Bonnie and Clyde ambush (May 23, 1934): Hamer led the lawmen who tracked and ambushed Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow in Bienville Parish, Louisiana. The ambush was planned from

from careful surveillance and intelligence-gathering; Hamer's experience and restraint in refusing to publicize gory details played a role in how the event was handled. This episode is among the best documented in Ranger history and widely reported at the time. • Border and fugitive tracking: Hamer survived multiple gunfights and ambush attempts over a long career; his reputation as a tracker and marksman was reinforced by newspaper reports and contemporary law-enforcement files.

I hope you enjoyed this little survey of the legends of the Texas Rangers (according to GROK). I mention this because I understand the law is you must mention if you use AI in your work. Probably doesn't apply to club newsletters. I've just been dabbling in AI for a few weeks but for those of you still doing Google searches, this takes you to the next level.

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 Regulators (Marble Falls)	14230 South FM 1174 Marble Falls , TX 78654 USA	Bessie James 210-385-3348

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.

APRIL 2026 TREASURER' REPORT

Beginning Balance		\$1,890.83
Supplies	(-\$71.88)	\$1,818.95
Range fees	(-\$70.08)	\$1,748.87
Deposit	\$125.00	\$1,890.87
Ending Balance		\$1,890.87

Tabasco Kid

**Tabasco Kid
Treasurer**





NOTES FROM THE RANGE MASTER - DOWN RANGE!

If you didn't go to Comancheria Days, you missed out. Texican Rangers put on a well-run state championship. STXP had a good number of shooters, but it was also fun to meet and shoot with people from all over. Weather was fantastic and the stages were great! The Wild Bunch was challenging (as it should be) and the side matches were everywhere with Blazing Saddles being the favorite as usual. Despite a plethora of awards, Abilene (as directed by Shooting Iron Miller) got through the Saturday evening awards dinner quite quickly. I highly encourage every shooter to come and shoot Comancheria next year. Don't be intimidated by the "fast shooters" - there are plenty of us normal folks having a great time.

We had 7 shooters for the April match because the potential rain made a few of us little nervous. You missed out as the rain held off until afternoon and the temperatures were really nice. With only seven shooters, we were done and to lunch by 11:30.

Beauregard Beard shot a blazing 89.36 with only 1 miss. He was set to fast forward because he averaged 0.77 seconds a shot AND he shot two stages under 15 seconds. Sure, one of them was a stand and deliver (Stage 2), but Stage 3 had movement between three shooting positions! Takes me that long just to walk between the three points let alone shooting. Across 5 stages, he averaged 16.87 a stage. Newt Ritter took second and he was sole clean shooter of the match. Joining Beau in the "Almost Clean Club" was myself and Tabasco Kid. We both made it clean to Stage 5 and then Tabasco had a miss and I brain faded and earned a P.



Thank you so much to the setup crew comprised of Newt Ritter, Colonel Colt Winchester, Long John Beard, Beans Ahgin and Monterrey Plainsman.

Reminder that I will not see you all at the May shoot so ask you all to pitch in for the set up and shoot.

'Nough said...brass is up, targets are up, shooter up. Careful there, cowboy. Your suspenders have come undone and you are in

danger of shooting out of category...or at the very least; you'll be forced to shoot duelist while holding up your pants with your other hand!



Clean Match Award Recognition.



Quite some time ago, Monterrey Plainsman suggested that we recognize clean match shooters that have concentrated on accuracy. We developed a plan to recognize these shooters so that for every 10 clean matches; we will award the shooter a special clean match pin with a gold star on it. The club has records of clean matches back to 2017 and will begin recognizing shooters that hit the 10X level. (We combined Cowboy and Wild Bunch clean matches to make it easier.) We have a little house cleaning to do to catch up because Newt Ritter (imagine that) leads the club with 51 clean matches. Our other 10x awardees include Caprock Kid, Latigo Lee, Beans Ahgin, Picoso Kid, and Cibolo Sam. A few are only 1 or 2 away from 10. Oh, so close; but as we all know, it is so easy for one M or P to sneak in on your shooting when you least expect it. When we

realized how many clean matches Newt had, we thought we should make another level for 25X Clean Matches. The photo shows the first two 25X awardees: Newt Ritter and Caprock Kid. Several other shooters are closing in on this level – keep shooting straight, true, and normal! If we missed someone in the tallies, please let Long John Beard or Caprock Kid know so we can rectify any errors.

What our Pistoleros did at SASS TX State Championship/Comancheria Days 2026

Clean and Smooth Main Match
Beauregard Beard
Caprock Kid

Cowboy
Beauregard Beard - 2nd Place

B Western Forty-Niner
Marshal Jamison - 2nd Place

Senior Lady
Shooting Iron Miller - 3rd Place

The Bean Pot.....



The Schuetzen Verein

After German immigrants began arriving in the 1840's and 1850's, San Antonio soon became known for having more championship shooting records and champion record shots in the entire State of Texas.

The San Antonio Schuetzen Verein is an organization known throughout the country for promoting the sport of target shooting. (They still shoot in New Braunfels at Dietz Range.) It was organized in 1853. In the beginning, the membership rolls featured the names of many leading business and professional citizens. Still in existence today, the club is the oldest and most prosperous shooting organization in the State.

The first organized matches were held at San Pedro Springs on Sundays. Using custom made rifles firing a wide variety of projectiles in what are now considered obscure calibers, the contestants divided their attention to shooting, singing, and drinking beer. (The water in San Antonio from the acequia ditches was known to cause illness.)

At that time, George A. Dueler was the leading spirit in the sport. In 1857, the club was organized under the name of the San Antonio Shooting Society. The first club officers were R. Newman, President, and Frederick Schmidt, secretary. The original members of the club were Stephen Seffel, Anton Altman, SR., Feliz Altman, William Shetzler, Anton Hannah, Franz Neumann, B. Mauermann, Sr., A. Altmann, Jr., Edward Seffel, and Anton Braden.

In 1857, the club established their shooting grounds on Powder House Hill and on Easter Sunday of that year the first prize shoot was held. By all accounts, the shoot was well attended and deemed "enjoyable." Among the old members of the club was Mr. E. Dosch, who was the president of the organization at that time. Mr. Dosch was considered one of the greatest hunters in Central Texas. He operated a saloon on Commerce street whose walls were decorated with many deer antlers.

In 1880, the club changed the location of its shooting grounds to Dreiss Hill on eight acres of land. There they built a hall measuring some 40 x 60 ft. in size. The club remained at that location until 1893, when they purchased eleven acres of land on River Avenue south of Alamo Heights. There they constructed one of the most completely equipped shooting ranges in the South. The clubhouse alone was built at a cost of \$3,000.

The club membership boasted some of the finest shots, among them Dr. Adolph Herff, Messrs. Louis Heuermeann, Rudolph Aue, and one Adolph Topperwein. Messrs. Hermann, Aue, and Dr. Herff all do shooting on the wing with the rifle. Mr. Aue has a record of breaking 41 out of 50 glass balls thrown into the air. Mr. Topperwein makes the following shots: He can hit a one-inch bull's eye in fourteen different positions at a distance of thirty feet. Another remarkable shot he makes is to place a walnut on his watch and shoot it off with his back towards the walnut while looking into a mirror. His intimate acquaintances have such faith in his skill that many of them have permitted him to shoot the ash from their cigar which was held in their mouth. That shot is made at a distance of thirty feet. He has on many occasions put out candles and parlor matches held in the hands of friends.

Source: San Antonio Express, August 5, 1894
- Beans Ahgin

GUN SHOW SCHEDULE

Local Shows



May 1st – 3rd, 2026
The San Antonio Gun Show
Alzafar Shriners
901 N Loop 1604 W
San Antonio, TX 78258
(210) 844-9599



Area Gun Shows

May 2nd – 3rd, 2026
The Hill Country Veterans Center Show
Hill Country Veterans Center
411 Meadow View Lane
Kerrville, TX 78028
(830) 315-3100

May 15th – 17th, 2026
MIKULSKI HALL KC HALL
509 Schertz Pkwy.
Schertz, TX 78154
(830) 399-5955

May 30th – 31st, 2026
The New Braunfels Gun Show
New Braunfels Civic/Convention Center
375 S Castell Ave
New Braunfels, TX 78130
(817) 732-1194

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

To pre-register for the **May 2, 2026** match , you can reply to this Newsletter
and sign up for the match, email STXPMatch@gmail.com

with the following information:

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

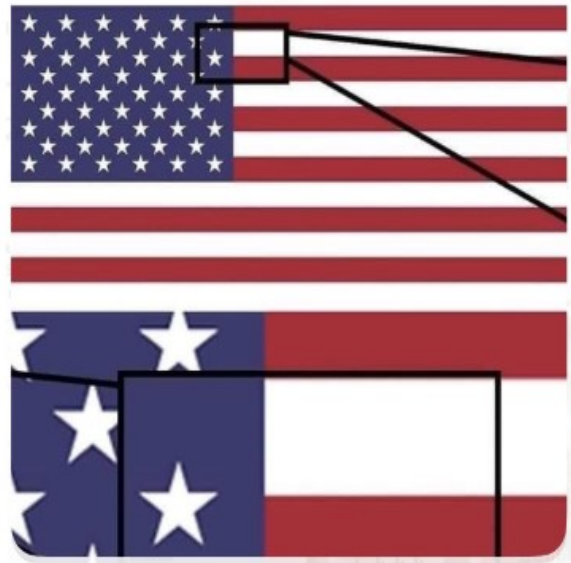
If you experience difficulties with registration, please contact
Caprock Kid at STXPMatch@gmail.com

THE FUN GALLERY



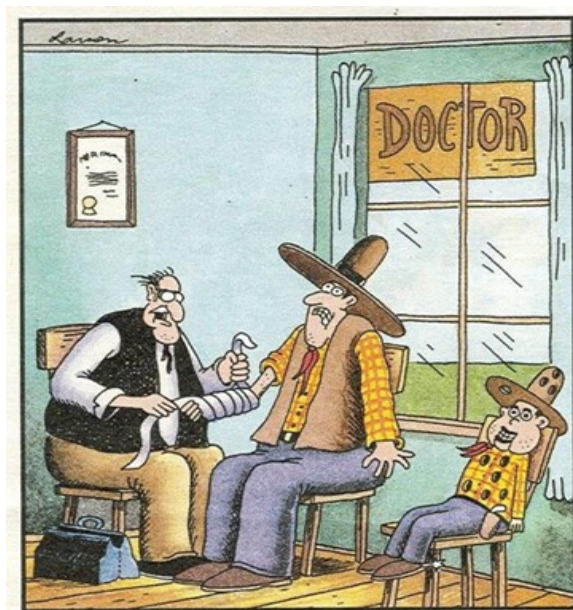
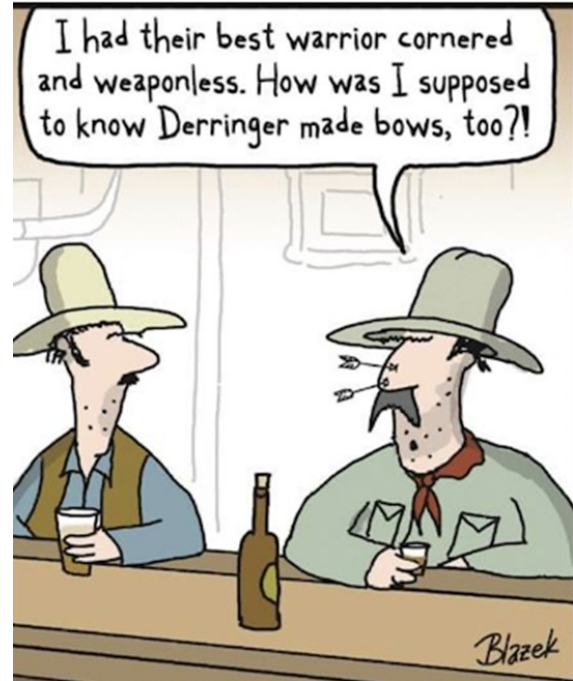
Vacationing from their jobs of terrorizing young teenagers, zombies will often relax at a Western dead ranch.

FACT: A TINY TEXAS FLAG FLIES OVER EVERY STATE AND FEDERAL BUILDING IN THE USA

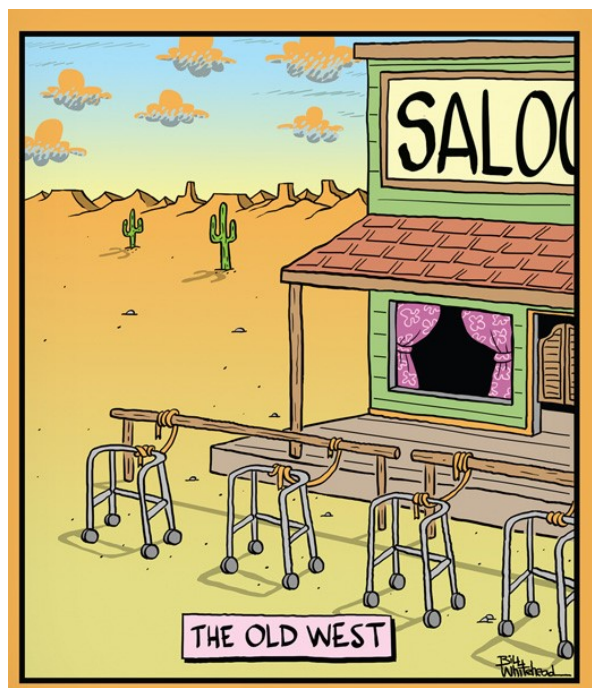


THE FUN GALLERY

What do you call a
retired cowboy?



"You're gonna be OK, mister, but I can't say the same for your little buddy over there. ...The way I hear it, he's the one that mouthed off to them gunfighters in the first place."





Howdy ya'll,

This is just a quick reminder that it is time to renew your membership with South Texas Pistoleros. Membership forms can be mailed to the address on at the top of the application with your check payable to South Texas Pistoleros.

As you probably know, there is a scheduled shoot on May 2, 2026. If you bring your application on that day, please use correct change or a check.

For making life easier, an application is available at the end of the this newsletter,

Thanks,
Natalia Sue

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 this newsletter or pick up a copy early at the shoot.

The yearly dues for individual are \$36.00 and for family \$48.00

Natalia Sue
Secretary



South Texas Pistoleros

"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 # _____

NRA Member: Yes No NRA # _____

TSRA Member: Yes No TSRA # _____

Can we include you in our directory Yes ___ No ___

Check if applicable Range Officer Certification
SASS RO I
SASS RO II
SASS WB RO
Other _____

South Texas Pistoleros

Membership Release

I, the undersigned, do hereby release and discharge the **South Texas Pistoleros** and their representatives, agents, servants, directors, employees and or any land owner or operating facility associated with the **South Texas Pistoleros**, 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, 2027 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).