



**ALAMO MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB**

www.amlgc.org

# **SMOKE SIGNAL**

NEWSLETTER

March-April 2018



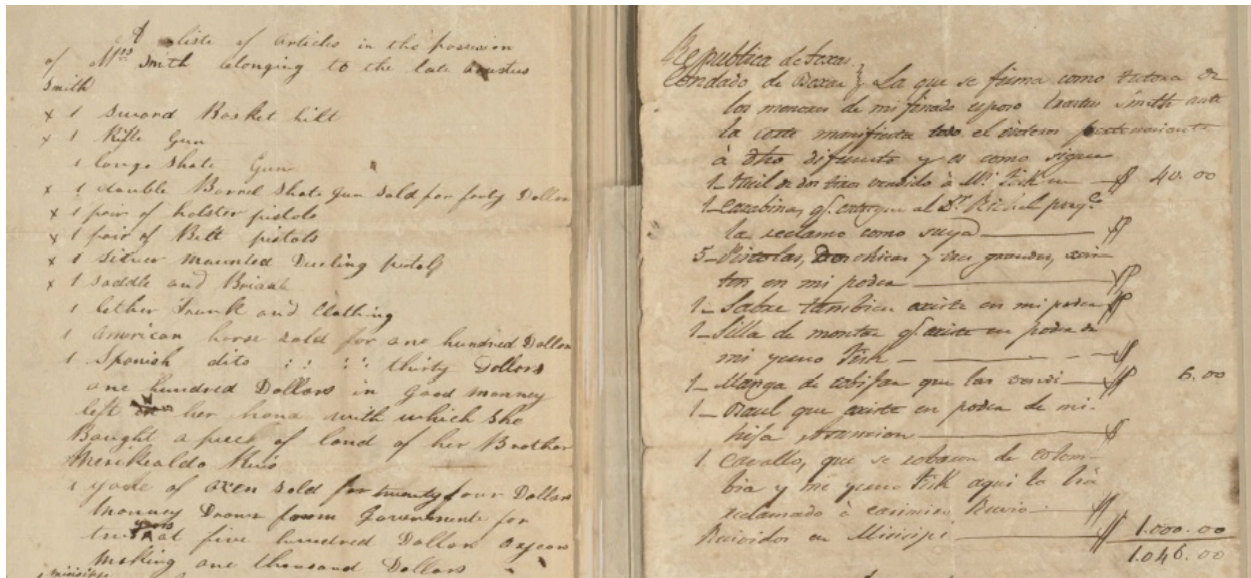
1 April: APRIL FOOLS!—Ha!

**Happy FIESTA! Thursday 19 April –  
Sunday 29 April 2018!**

**RIFLE RAFFLE TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!**

*Some lucky person is going to win the Ruger 10/.22 take-down and carrying case come July!*

*Contact John Burke, Sr.—Treasurer of the AMLGC for tickets!*



Above: a portion of the inventory of the (1796-1837) “Texas Spy” Erastus “Deaf” Smith’s property in his will, in English and Spanish:

“1 sword Basket hilt, 1 Rifle Gun, 1 large Shote Gun [*sic, shotgun*], 1 double Barrel shote gun sold for forty dollars, 1 pair of holster pistols, 1 pair of Belt pistols, 1 silver mounted Dueling pistol, 1 saddle and bridle, 1 lether Trunk and Clothing, 1 American horse sold for one hundred Dollars, 1 Spanish ditto :: :: thirty Dollars, one hundred Dollars in Good money left in her hand with which she Bought a piece of land of her Brother Henrikaldo [*sic, Henrick Arnold*] Ruis. ... 1 certificate for one league and labour of land ...

## Range News

Rifle Raffle—There are still some tickets remaining for the Ruger 10/.22 take-down self-loading rifle with its carrying case left! The drawing is in July! You do not need to be present to win. If interested, contact AMLGC Treasurer John A. Burke, Sr. for additional tix.

**Safety alert!—Our club member who cuts the grass and weeds reported an encounter with a rattle snake! So watch out for venomous snakes, particularly down range!**

Volunteers needed to “do lunch” in the summer months! If interested, please contact Ian Straus, the entertainment chair on the Board. You can submit your receipts for reimbursement from the Club Treasurer.

Attention center-fire rifle shooters! Rich Beardsley and the Match committee are organizing another center-fire rifle match in August! Details will be forthcoming and on Facebook. We’ll have an email notification as a reminder too. This time it

will probably use the same categories, but also have the opportunity for club member guests to participate too.

Congratulations to all of the 4-H club members on their competitive shoots in the month of March!

On the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> the AMLGC had a two day silhouette shoot, which was a lot of fun. Congratulations and kudos to participants!

Saturday 14 Apr there was a smooth-bore skirmish match, with about three participants per team. Beautiful weather, although the wind was often stiff enough to wreak havoc on some scores at 50 yards from the muskets. The following day, 15 April there was the team rifle musket match, with outstanding weather. The next skirmish will be in July, and since the weather is likely to be rather hot, uniforms need not be worn. Drink plenty of water too!

The club match on Sunday 6 May will be a "blanket shoot" so bring a prize worth about ten dollars to put on the trade blanket, and also bring out your patched round ball rifle and pistol to shoot "nightmare & fur-de-lac targets @ 25 yards and deer and bear targets at 50 yards. 4-H will use the club's range at 2pm. They'll call the line.

Forthcoming events:

12 May: Silhouette shoot at 25 & 50 yards—20 shots total.

27 May: Black powder cartridge rifle match

3 June: cross-sticks match with 2-bull, 5-bull @ 50 yards, a buffalo at 100 yards, and a 25-yd. pistol match.

10 June: A .22 fun shoot—bring out your .22 rifle, any sights.

24 June: A black powder cartridge rifle match.

\*5<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> June: The State Muzzle Loading championships!

1 July: Watermelon shoot (you win watermelons), with various animal targets—gopher/woodchuck/marmot/nutria/muskrat/squirrels/whatever critter at 25 and 50 yards, followed by a 25-yard pistol match.

No black powder sales in Bexar County? With the closure of Don's Gun Shop off Loop 410 N. at Fredericksburg, Rd., there is no longer any store-front/brick-and-

mortar business in Bexar County! Members of the AMLGC report contacting Bass Pro with inquiries about powder availability, and were informed that the shop does not sell actual black powder, just various substitute propellants. For the time being, it would seem that AMLGC members and black powder enthusiasts will have to share orders from one or another mail order vendors.

March scores (April and May scores will appear together on next month's newsletter).

#### RIFLE—

##### A Class

1<sup>st</sup> Dennis Rich 185 5x

2<sup>nd</sup> Rich Beardsley 180 2x

3<sup>rd</sup> Clif Denny 130

##### B Class

1<sup>st</sup> Greg Delk 151

2<sup>nd</sup> John Burke, Sr. 118

3<sup>rd</sup> Ian Straus 114

##### C Class

1<sup>st</sup> Deirdre McDonald 73

2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Carlson 44

#### Yearly scores to March date

Dennis Rich	494	5x
Clif Denny	443	3x
Rich Beardsley	438	3x
Mike Lowe	400	1x
Greg Delk	349	1x
John Burke, Sr.	348	
Ian Straus	313	1x
Gary Quandt	250	1x
Dave Carlson	203	
Deirdre McDonald	201	



#### ROYAL ARMOURIES

*Source:* The National Firearms Ctr. UK in Leeds has this example of a Swedish dog-lock "flintlås änterbill" from the many wars Sweden fought against Russia and Denmark. Space is always at a premium aboard ships, and with rowed warships like galleys used along the coasts of the Baltic, space was only more restricted. So with the constituent parts of "lock" and "barrel" added to a boarding axe as the "stock" the result could be used as a fire-fighting tool, a boarding axe, a short stabbing weapon like a pike, and also as a sort of blunderbuss or pistol.