



ALAMO MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB SMOKE SIGNAL NEWSLETTER

April 27th, 2026 (Revised, May 3rd, 2026)

www.amlgc.org

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Editor – Alex M.

Most members undoubtedly are aware by now that construction began on the natural gas pipeline across our property on April 15th. As of this writing (April 26) we will have one more week of closure for pipeline construction. Of course, this is contingent upon many factors and if additional closure time is required members will be notified by email and posting to our website and Facebook page. Our club was able to negotiate that construction only occur Monday through Friday allowing AMLGC events and matches to continue during this time period. Once this initial phase of construction is complete, we should be able to reopen to normal operations with the understanding that it may be necessary to close the range for shorter periods for maintenance as the gas line goes into service. I would like to thank the members of our pipeline committee Bill K., Wendy P. and Dennis R. (before leaving the board in January) that logged many hours researching background information for our legal team and travelled many miles attending meetings and hearings often after taking vacation time from work to do so. Thank you.



I would anticipate this entire process will be nearing its end once construction is complete and I thank the membership for its patience and cooperation.

As always, shoot straight, be safe and look out for one another.

Alan P., AMLGC President

Round Ball Match (April 12th)

The round ball competition was held on the second Sunday of April (first Sunday was Easter) and was well-attended with eleven rifle shooters. Most round ball matches at AMLGC have four stages with a total of 20 rounds, but the April match was the yearly 40 shot silhouette match. The rifle competition consisted of eight stages, with two stages at each distance of 25, 50, 75, and 100 yards. Silhouettes at each distance were squirrels, pigs, turkeys, and rams, respectively. Awards were presented for aggregate scores.

Silhouette Aggregate Scores			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Class A	Gareth H. 110	Wes L. 110	Alex M. 95
Class B	Greg D. 65	Alan P. 35	Gary Q. 25



Figure 1: View from the 100 yard line (turkeys at 75 yards on left, rams at the 100 yards on right)



Figure 2: Gareth H., 1st Place 'A' Rifle



Figure 3: Greg D., 1st Place 'B' Rifle (& Wes 2nd place, A)



Figure 4: View from the 100 yard line (turkeys at 75 yards on left, rams at the 100 yards on right)



Figure 5: Firing line pictures, right to left; Wes, Richard, Alex, Terry

Skirmish Regionals (April 10-12th)

Six members of the AMLGC recently traveled to Briarfield Ironworks State Park in Alabama to participate in a three-day Civil War skirmish hosted by the Deep South Region of the North South Skirmish Association (NSSA). The Six members attending were Greg D., Clif D., Wendy P., Alan P., Bill K. and Steve Short.

Skirmishing is a shooting competition using period correct firearms, either original firearms or reproductions, in timed events shooting at breakable targets. Individual and team events take place at a skirmish. Teams take the name of actual Civil War units. The AMLGC skirmishers are members of Terry's Texas Rangers, a famous cavalry unit that served with distinction throughout the war. You can see a statue of a Terry's Ranger on the grounds of the State Capitol in Austin.

While at the skirmish, team members shot in individual matches as well as team events. Team events included smoothbores, carbines, and muskets. Team members stand shoulder to shoulder and shoot at a variety of breakable targets, such as clay pigeons, and work together to hit all the targets in the fastest possible time.



Figure 6: Steve S., Cliff D., Greg D., Bill K., Alan P., and Wendy P.

While the team did not win any team medals (who cares, we had fun!), two members won some hardware for their individual efforts. Alan P. placed 2nd in the musket/ carbine aggregate, 3rd in 25 yard smoothbore and 3rd in 100 yard carbine. He also was one of only two skirmishers to hit the target in a special event held at the end of the regular match. Called the Breastplate Challenge, a medal breastplate badge was affixed to a 3 liter bottle of Coke and hung at 100 yards. You not only had to hit the bottle, you had to hit the Breastplate as well. Alan hit the breastplate in 71 seconds. Unfortunately, the winner hit it in 14 seconds (must have been his first shot) and took home an engraved sword. But Alan has the breastplate as a trophy as a great memento of his efforts.



Figure 7: Alan in the closely contested Breastplate Challenge

Bill K. placed 1st in the 25 yard smoothbore and 1st in the smoothbore aggregate. He also placed 3rd in the 50 yard smoothbore. He placed 2nd in the 50 yard musket and 3rd in the musket/carbine aggregate.

The AMLGC, in association with the Texas Skirmish Association, holds skirmishes at the AMLGC throughout the year. The next skirmish will be on April 18th, starting at 9:00 AM. Anyone interested in civil war firearms is invited to attend to either shoot or watch and learn. If you never fired a firearm from the period, this is your chance to take a shot at a breakable target.

22 LR Fun Shoot (April 26th)

A 22 LR fun shoot was held on April 26th. The turnout was excellent with 14 rifle shooters including 2 juniors and 9 pistol shooters with 1 junior. Of the rifle shooters, 10 shot scope class including one junior shooter and 4 short iron sights including 1 junior shooter.

Fun Shoot			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Rifle (scope)	Pat H. 41	Jonathan K. 37	Clif D. 30
Rifle (iron sights)	Alan P. 14	Richard B. 11	Gary Q. 8
Jr. Rifle (scope)	Gunnar H. 25		
Jr. Rifle (iron sights)	Whitley H. 36		
Pistol	Jonathan K. 21	Pat H. 8	Mike L. 8

Safety Minute

We had another safe month with no incidents. Thank you for your continued dedication to safety!

Also, while the work on the 200 yard baffle system has been finished, the 200 yard range is still closed until a full safety evaluation has been conducted. Once the effectiveness of the baffle system has been verified, the 200 yard range will be open. The board of directors is working on revised rules for shooting at the 200 yard range. The 300 and 400 yard ranges will remain closed.

Match Guidelines

All First Sunday matches will be shot with a 14 lb. maximum weight rifle, any metallic sights. Projectile will be a patched round ball only for rifle matches. NMLRA, TMLRA, NRA, and local club rules will apply for all matches. Matches will start at 9:00 a.m. Arrive and set-up by 8:30 if you want to practice. We will have 4 to 6 relays for the rifle matches. Pistol matches may use round ball or conical bullets. Revolvers must use coated / treated wads or grease to prevent chain fires, or only load one chamber at a time. Shooters will have to make 6 shoots to qualify for awards in rifle and 3 shoots to qualify for awards in pistol. There will be 2 floating classes; 1/3 will be A-class and 2/3 will be B-class. Classes are fixed after the September match. If a shooter misses a match because he/she attended a conflicting TMLRA or N/SSA match, there will be an opportunity to make up a match, on request. The make-up will be scheduled before the next club match on a date set by the match committee. A member of the board will be present to witness the shoot.

22lr Silhouette Fun Shoot: 22lr silhouettes will be shot off-hand with chickens and turkeys at 25yd and pigs and rams at 50yd. There will be a scope and iron sight class. 4H or underage shooters will shoot in a Jr. class and may shoot from the kneeling position. Ammunition shall be standard velocity and empty chamber flags will be required to be inserted any time the shooter comes off of the line.

Match Scoring Guidelines

- At the January First Sunday match, shooters are divided into 2 classes, A & B, using previous December placement.
- New shooters are placed in A class.
- The top 1/3 are A class and the bottom 2/3 are B class based on average score per target cumulative for the year.
- The shooters' ranking in class may change after each match.
- For Jan – Sept, shooters are re-ranked in class each month based on average score per target cumulative for the year.
- Ranking in class is locked from Oct – Dec.
- If a shooter misses a match because he/she was competing in a TMLRA or N-SSA event with conflicting date, they may request to shoot a makeup for the AMLGC match.
- A shooter serving as Range Safety Officer for a first Sunday match may request to shoot a makeup for the AMLGC match.

- A makeup is scheduled each quarter.
- A board member must be present to witness the makeup score.
- Shooters must compete in 6 rifle matches and 5 pistol matches at first Sunday shoots to qualify for individual awards.
- Standings for rifle and pistol will be posted in the club newsletter starting with Jan scores. Scores based on raw cumulative scores.
- Match scores including fun shoots are reported to the newsletter editor each month to be published in the Smoke Signal.

Rifle A/B Class

- Top 1/3 in A, balance 2/3 in B class based on cumulative avg/target. Class is fixed after Sept match.
- 10-places for each class
- Raw Agg 6 matches min
- No scores dropped

Pistol A/B Class

- Top 1/3 in A, balance 2/3 in B class based on cumulative avg/target. Class is fixed after Sept match.
- 10-places for each class
- Raw Agg 5 matches min
- No scores dropped

Grand Aggregate

- 10-places - first place TX style plaque, 2-10 place smaller plaque.
- Raw Agg - Rifle+Pistol
- 6 Rifle and 5 Pistol matches to qualify
- No scores dropped

Standings as of April 2026

AMLGC - March Standings Rifle				
1	Wes L.	491	1	X
2	Alex M.	479	5	X
3	Clif D.	441	3	X
4	Gareth H.	438	2	X
5	Terry W.	410	2	X
6	Greg D.	352	1	X
7	Richard F.	301	2	X
8	John B. Jr.	300	3	X
9	Mike L.	214	2	X
10	Alan P.	206	2	X
11	John B. Sr.	205	1	X
12	Bill K.	176	1	X
13	Gary Q.	174	1	X
14	Johnny L.	100	3	X
15	Richard. B.	91	0	X
16	Dale H.	79	0	X
17	Billy B.	66	0	X
18	Dennis R.	65	0	X
19	Tristan C.	60	0	X

AMLGC - March Standings Pistol				
1	Alex M.	174	0	X
2	Wes L.	160	0	X
3	Alan P.	156	0	X
4	Clif D.	143	1	X
5	Richard F.	115	0	X
6	John B. Sr.	114	0	X
7	Greg D.	112	0	X
8	Terry W.	107	0	X
9	John B. Jr.	101	0	X
10	Gareth H.	63	0	X
11	Tristan C.	60	0	X
12	Dennis R.	40	0	X
13	Gary Q.	17	0	X
14	Bill K.	0	0	X
15	Richard. B.	0	0	X

Other News

- A .22 pistol relay will be added to future .22LR fun shoots.
- 4-H dates & times have been added to the fall event schedule beginning in September. Remember, we can all still shoot then, but 4-H will call the range hot and cold.
- Please volunteer to prepare lunches at the 1st-Sunday shoots for 2026. Contact John B. Jr.